

DAILY MARITIME INCIDENT UPDATE

Information Fusion Center-Colombo



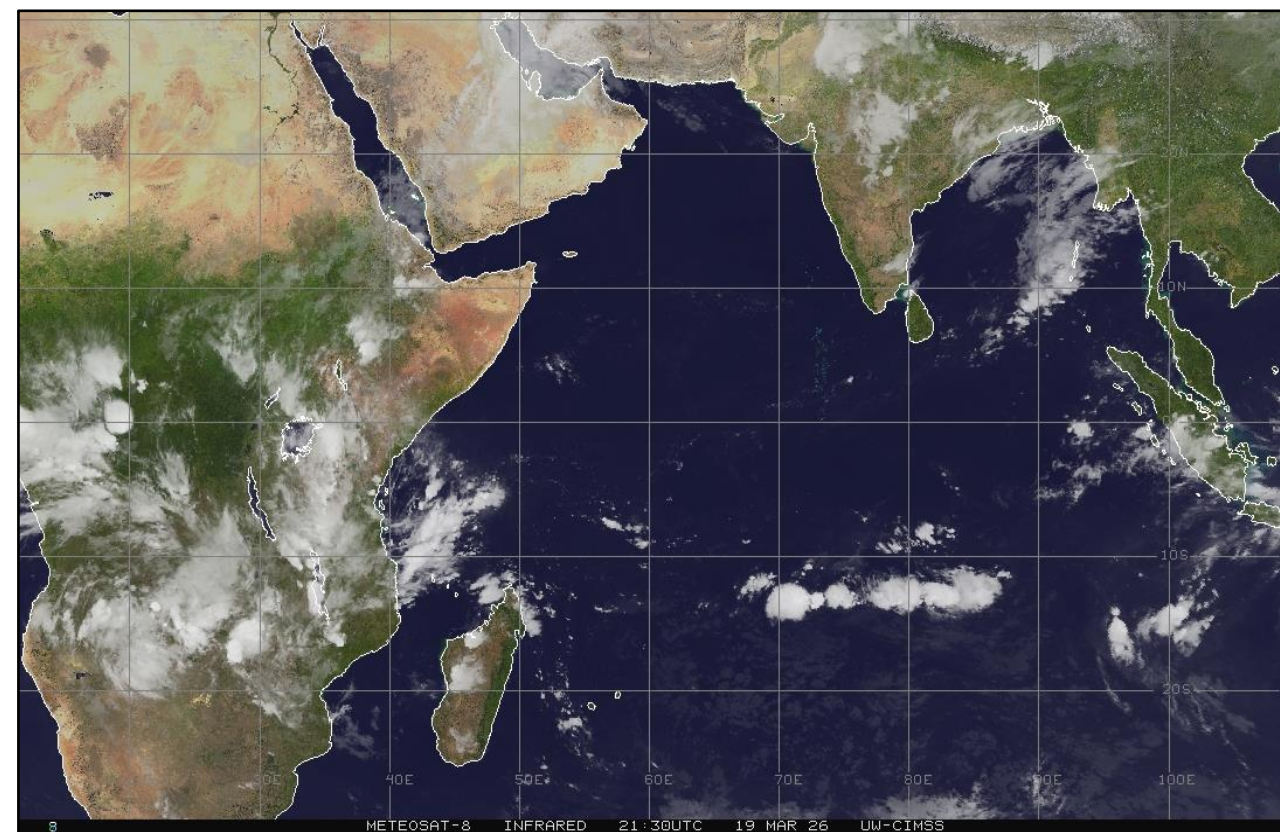
Information Fusion Center
Colombo
Sri Lanka

Date 2026.03.20

WEATHER FORECAST



Weather Forecast for next 24 hrs



FLEET FORECAST

Fleet Forecast for Area - E

Issued by the National Meteorological Center, Department of Meteorology Sri Lanka.

Valid period: 2026.03.20/0600UTC to 2026.03.20/1400UTC

Issued at 0000UTC on 2026.03.20

To: CBO Radio/Fisheries/SL Navy/CBO Port/Coast Guard

Shear line is NOT VISIBLE

ITCZ is NOT VISIBLE

Weather:

OCNL Showers / T>Showers in sections : 75, 80, 85

SCT Showers / T>Showers in sections : 20, 25, 35, 40, 60, 65, 70

ISOL Showers / T>Showers in sections : 10, 15, 30, 50

Mainly fair weather elsewhere

Winds:

North of 05S:

NE'ly to E'ly / (05-15)kts: Gusting up to 20 kts in sections 00, 20, 40

In-between 05S and 10S:

NE'ly or VRB / (05-15)kts.

South of 10S:

SE'ly/ (10-20)kts: Gusting up to 25 kts in sections 80, 85

Seas:

Moderate, fairly rough at times in sections: 80, 85

Moderate in sections : 00, 20, 40, 60, 75

Slight to Moderate elsewhere.

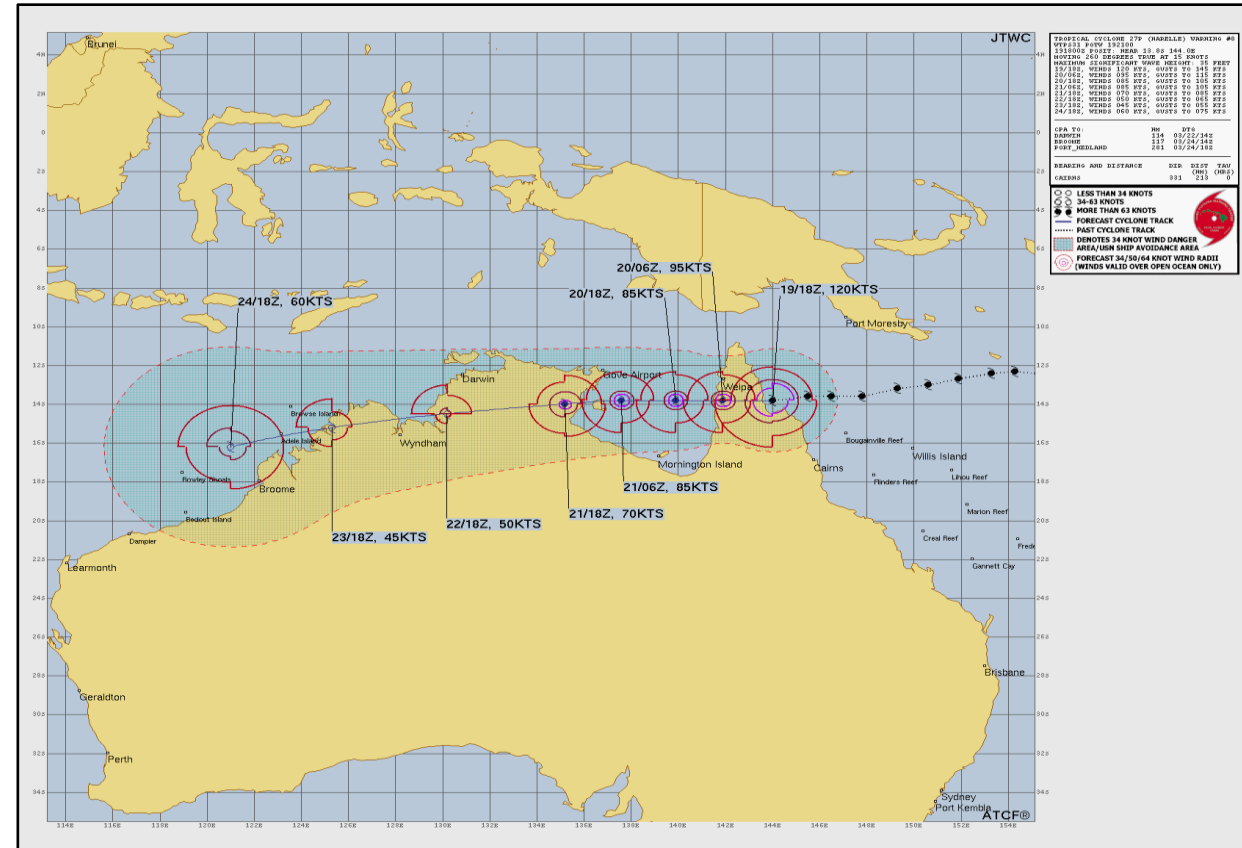
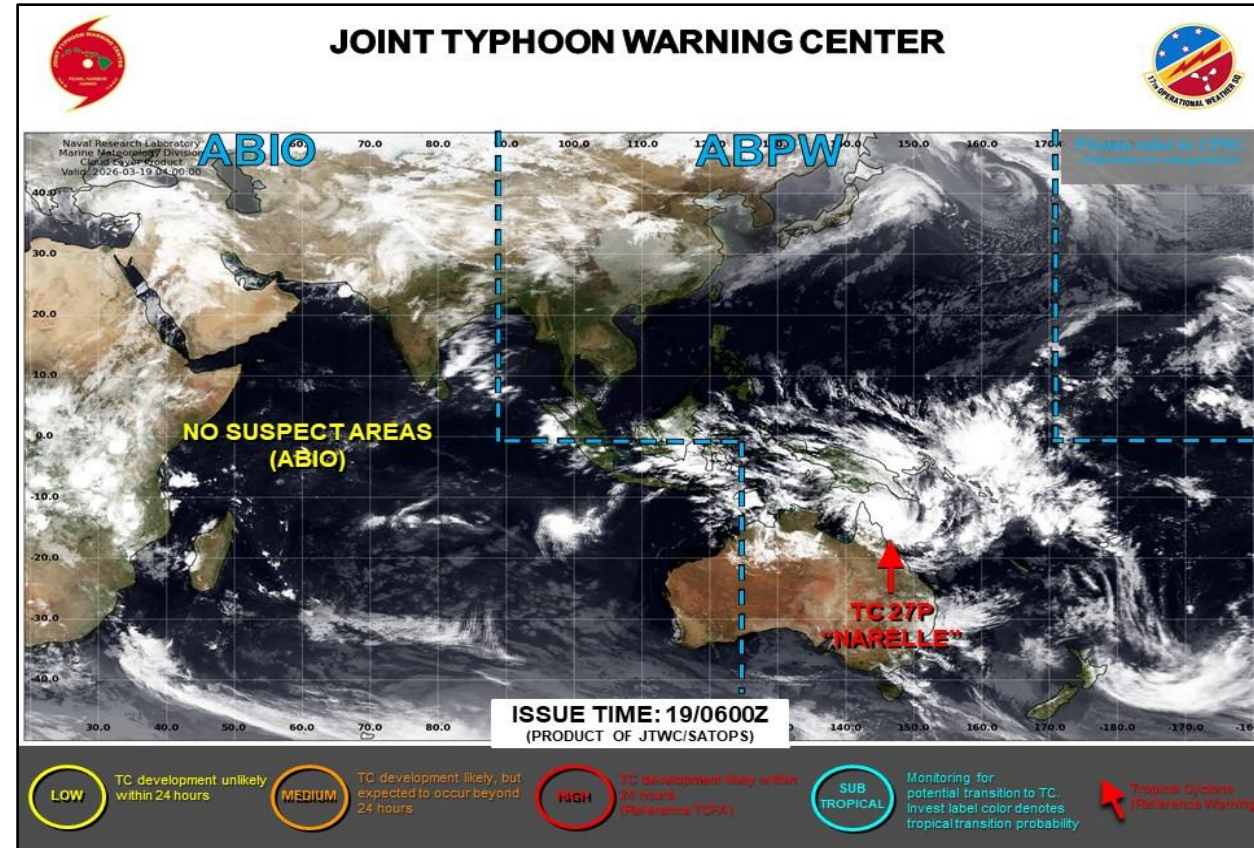
NOTE: Seas can be temporarily very rough during thundershowers.

- Source: 1. <https://meteo.gov.lk> 2. <https://www.srilankaview.com/weather.htm>

CYCLONE



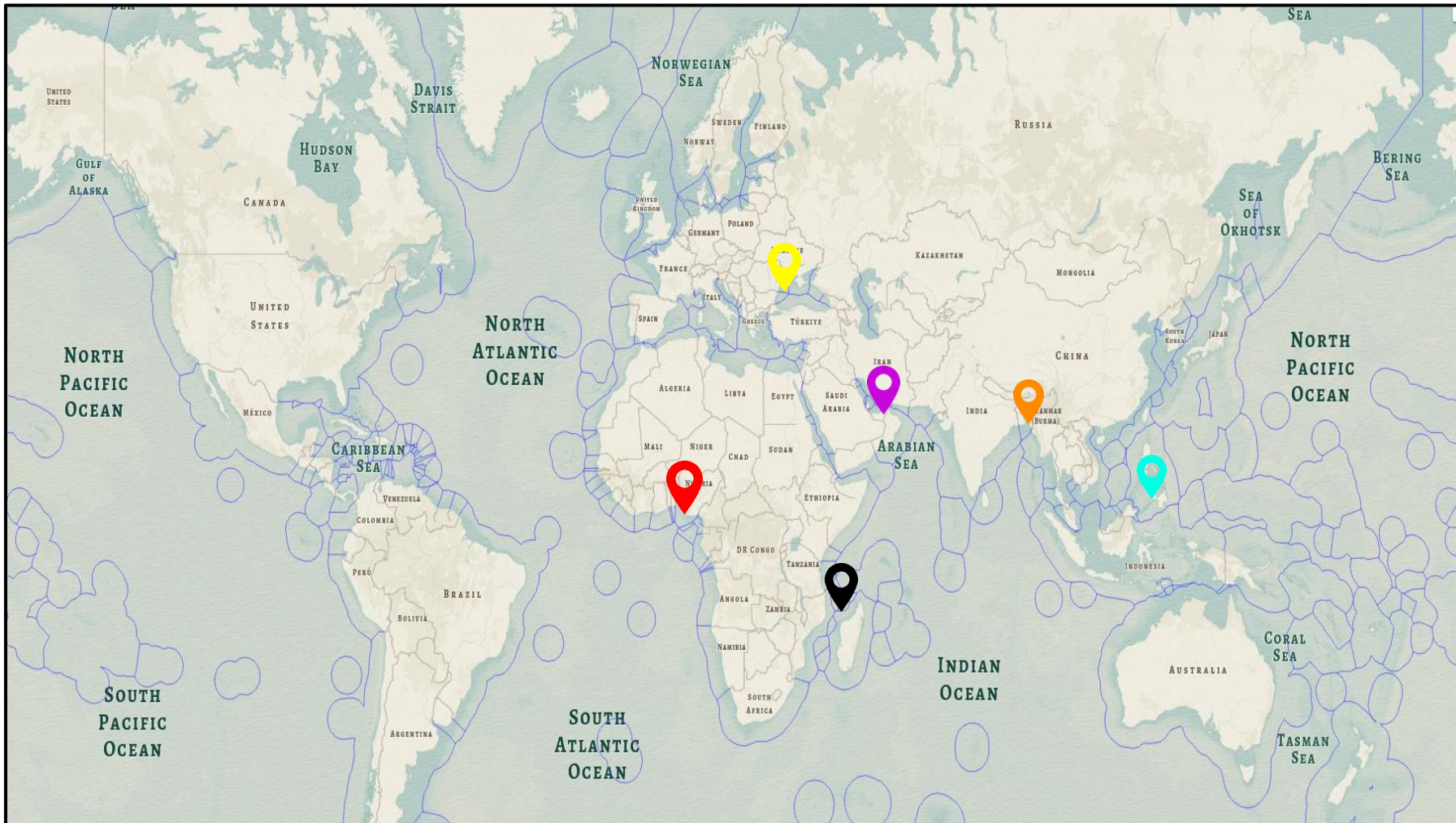
"Narelle"



• Source: <https://www.metoc.dc3n.navy.mil/jtwc/jtwc.html>



SUMMERY (MARITIME INCIDENT)



CATEGORY	NO
Maritime Incidents	01
Piracy & Armed Robbery	01
Smuggling	01
IUU Fishing	01
Narcotic	NIL
Irregular Human Migration	01
Marine Environment Pollution	NIL
Other	01
Total Incidents	06

MARITIME INCIDENTS



18 Mar/ Tug Boat Sinks in Midia Port. All Crew Feared Dead/ Romania

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.03.18	Romania	Midia Port	Capsizing /Sinking	Tub Boat	The incident occurred during assistance maneuvers for unloading a tanker at the offshore terminal.

One individual was recovered from the water but, despite resuscitation efforts, was pronounced dead. There are suspicions regarding the potential deaths of four other persons aboard, although this has not been officially confirmed. The Romanian Naval Authority has indicated that search and rescue operations are still in progress.



Source -> <https://spotmedia.ro/en/news/news/tugboat-sinks-in-midia-port-all-crew-feared-dead>

PIRACY & ARMED ROBBERY



18 Mar/ Robbers Attack Vessel at Apapa Eko Support Terminal/ Nigeria

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.03.18	Nigeria	Apapa Port, Lagos	Assault violations	Name - MV ZY JU HE	On Sunday at approximately 0400hrs , theft occurred on the MV ZY JU HE at Eko Support Terminal, resulting in the loss of five tins of paint and a crew member's mobile phone. Preliminary observations suggest that the thieves likely accessed the vessel without a ladder, and poor lighting may have aided the security breach.

The Maritime Workers Union of Nigeria (MWUN) reported a robbery incident involving the vessel MV ZY JU HE at Eko Support Terminal, Apapa Port, Lagos, on 15 Mar 26. Union media head John Ikemefuna stated that the assailants attacked around 0400 hrs and escaped in a speedboat after the vessel's alarm was triggered. The attackers stole five tins of paint and a crew member's mobile phone before fleeing.



Source -: <https://thesun.ng/robbers-attack-vessel-at-apapas-eko-support-terminal/?amp>

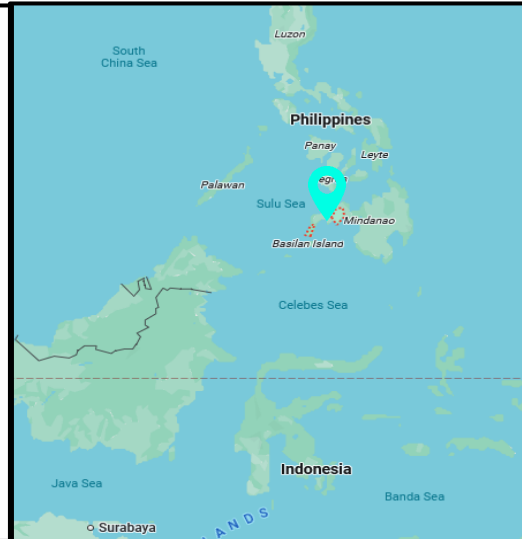
SMUGGALING



17 Mar/P40-M Smuggled Cigarettes Seized in Maguindanao, Zamboanga del Sur/ Philippines

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.03.17	Philippines	Zamboanga del Sur	Contraband /Goods smuggling	One Boat	Upon inspecting the boat, soldiers discovered a haul of cigarettes without tax stamps.

Authorities in Zamboanga del Sur and Maguindanao del Norte seized over P40 million in allegedly smuggled cigarettes during law enforcement operations on Tuesday. The Army's 53rd Infantry Battalion along with local police and customs authorities found an abandoned motorised boat (jungkong) containing cigarettes in Barangay White Beach Pagadian City. The vessel was discovered stranded due to engine trouble and was subsequently towed by the Zamboanga del Sur Maritime Police who notified the Bureau of Customs for inventory.



Source -> <https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/2198218/p40-m-smuggled-cigarettes-seized-in-maguindanao-zamboanga-del-sur>

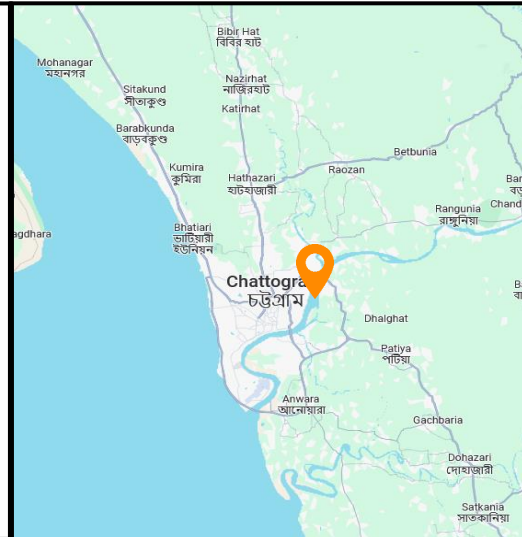
IUU FISHING



18 Mar/ Huge Illegal Fishing Nets Seized in Ctg/ Bangladesh

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.03.18	Bangladesh	Halda River	Illegal Methods	-	Hathazari Upazila Senior Fisheries Officer Md Shawkat Ali confirmed the drive and said that such drives will continue to protect fish resources.

The Department of Fisheries confiscated around 9,000 meters of illegal fishing nets valued at Tk 5 lakh during an anti-poaching operation in the Halda River Chattogram Hathazari Upazila. The operation occurred on Monday morning with officials recovering 11 charghera nets from various locations including near the Porakopoli sluice gate and IDF Hatchery.



Source -> <https://observerbd.com/news/569899>



18 Mar/ At Least 17 Migrants Dead in Boat Tragedy /Comoros

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.03. 18	Comoros	Off Comoros	Illegal Migrants boats capsizing	One Boat	The minister said that the survivors have been taken to the hospital, and the coast guard continues search operations.

Of the 51 migrants brought by boat only 30 are alive. Eight bodies were recovered on Wednesday night and nine more on Thursday morning while four individuals remain missing. The survivors are believed to be from the Democratic Republic of the Congo and were reportedly heading to Mayotte. This incident marks the first occurrence of such a high death toll in the country with two babies among the victims.



Source -: <https://news.az/news/at-least-17-migrants-dead-in-boat-tragedy-off-comoros>

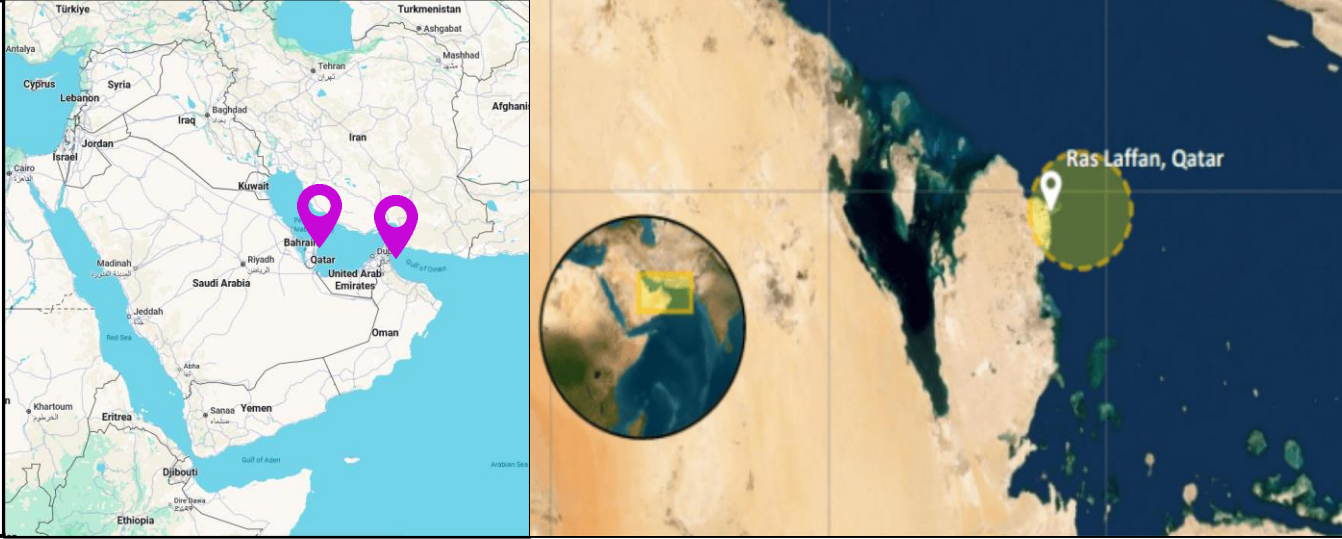


OTHER

18 And 19 Mar/ Devastation from War in Gaza Spreads Through Mediterranean Waters/UAE And Qatar .

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.03.18/19	UAE And Qatar	Khawr Fakkan And East of Ras Laffan	Other Military /Coastguard activities	-	The incident comes amid heightened tensions in the Strait of Hormuz, where Iran has been linked to a series of recent maritime incidents.

On 18 and 19 Mar 26 the UKMTO Centre reported two incidents involving commercial vessels in the Gulf region that were struck by unknown projectiles. The first incident occurred on 18 March, about 11 NM east of Khawr Fakkan, UAE, resulting in a fire onboard. The second incident happened on 19 Mar 26 approximately 4 NM east of Ras Laffan, Qatar, with all crew members reported safe.



Source -: <https://www.marinetraffic.com/en/maritime-news/15/maritime-security/2026/12778/two-ships-struck-by-unknown-projectiles-near-uae-and-qatar>



Information Fusion Center Colombo Sri Lanka

DISCLAIMER

The information in this report has been sourced from various internal and external parties, including international and local stakeholders, maritime agencies, and open sources. The report analyzes incidents to identify trends and discrepancies, aiming to improve the safety and security of mariners and seafarers. While efforts have been made to ensure data accuracy, users should exercise due diligence. Some incident locations may be approximate. IFC-Colombo requests stakeholders' cooperation in reporting incidents for more accurate analysis of maritime threats. The views expressed in this report do not reflect those of the Sri Lanka Navy or Government of Sri Lanka.

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