

# DAILY MARITIME INCIDENT UPDATE

Information Fusion Center-Colombo



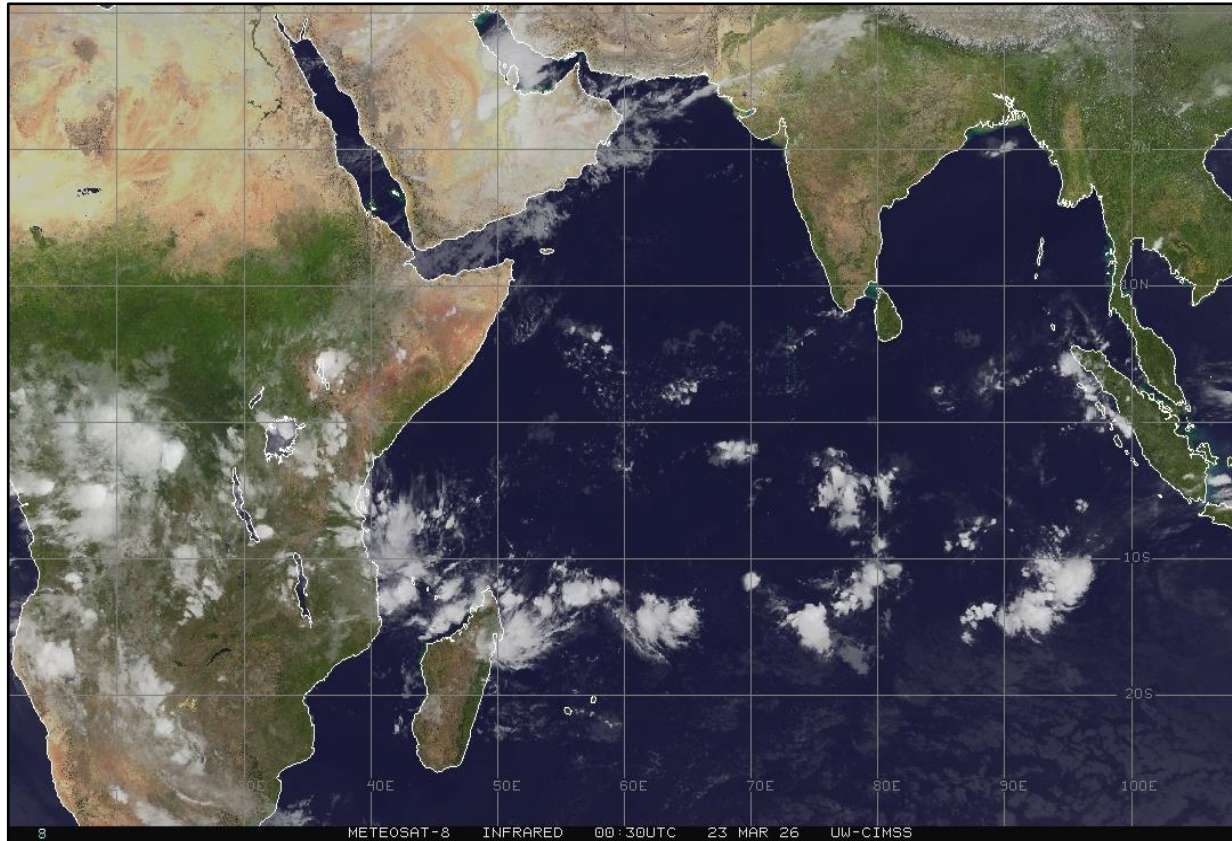
Information Fusion Center  
Colombo  
Sri Lanka

Date 2026.03.23

# 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: 2026.03.23/0600UTC to 2026.03.23/1400UTC

Issued at 0000UTC on 2026.03.23

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

Shear line is NOT VISIBLE

ITCZ is NOT VISIBLE

### Weather:

SCT Showers / T'Showers in sections : 20, 45, 65, 75, 80, 85

ISOL Showers / T'Showers elsewhere.

### Winds:

North of EQ:

West of 80E: E'ly to NE'ly / (10-20)kts

East of 80E: NE'ly / (05-15)kts

South of EQ:

West of 75E: SE'ly / (10-20)kts

East of 75E: SE'ly or VRB / (05-15)kts

### Seas:

Moderate in sections : 00, 05, 20, 40, 80, 85

Slight to Moderate elsewhere.

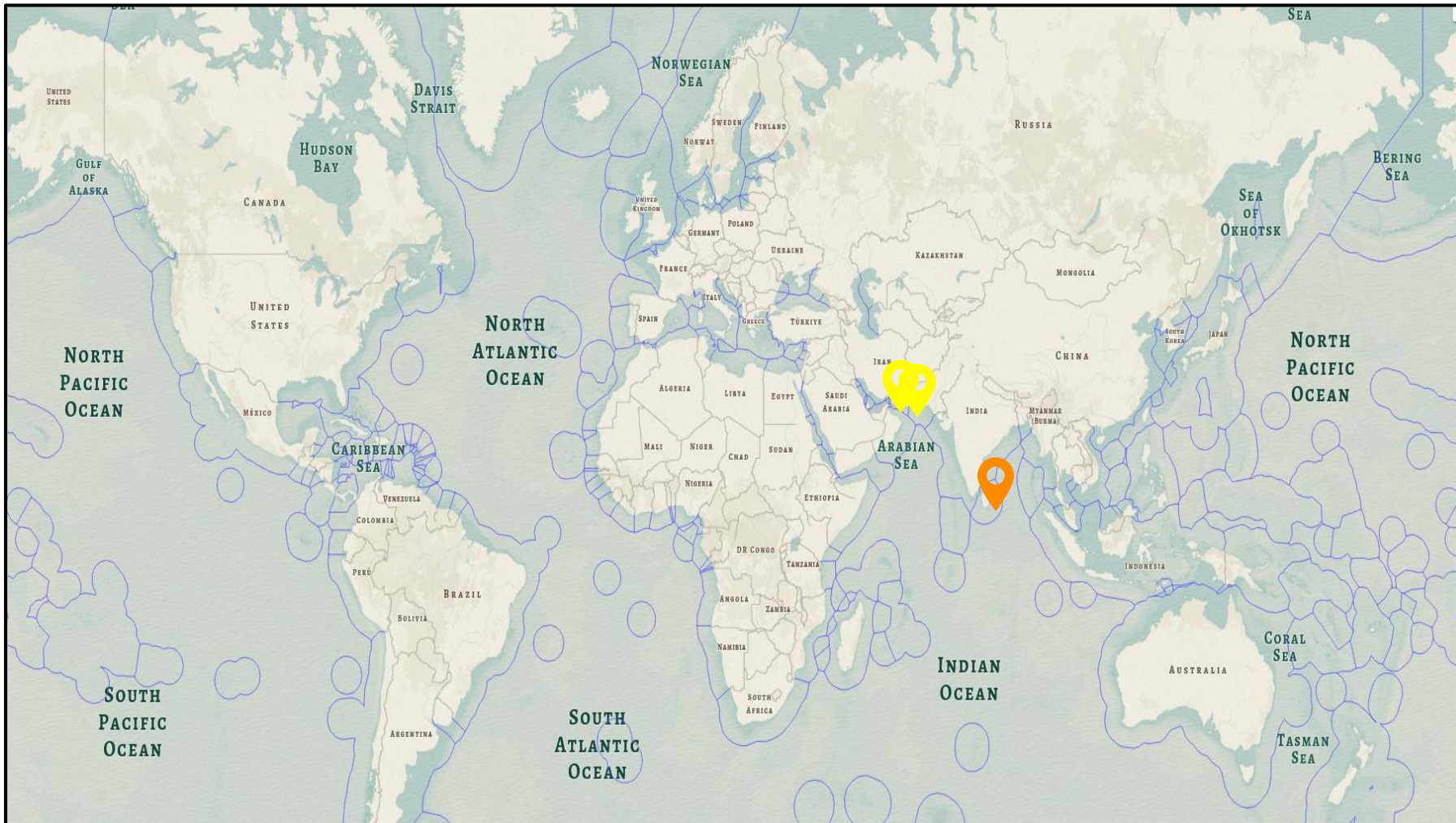
NOTE: Seas can be temporarily very rough during thundershowers.

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





# SUMMERY (MARITIME INCIDENT)



CATEGORY	NO
Maritime Incidents	02
Piracy & Armed Robbery	NIL
Smuggling	NIL
IUU Fishing	01
Narcotic	NIL
Irregular Human Migration	NIL
Marine Environment Pollution	NIL
Other	NIL
<b>Total Incidents</b>	<b>03</b>

# MARITIME INCIDENTS



## 22 Mar/ Search and Rescue Operations Underway After Helicopter Crash in Territorial Waters/ Qatar

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.03.22	Qatar	Territorial Waters	Search and Rescue (SAR)	-	The Ministry of Interior is conducting search and rescue operations in the country's territorial waters after a reported helicopter crash, according to the Ministry of Defense.

Qatar's Ministry of Interior has confirmed that specialized teams are conducting search and rescue operations in its territorial waters following a helicopter crash reported by the Ministry of Defense. A coordinated response effort is underway to locate survivors and assess the situation, involving multiple units skilled in maritime emergencies.



Source -> <https://www.latestly.com/agency-news/world-news-search-and-rescue-operations-underway-after-helicopter-crash-in-territorial-waters-in-qatar-7363635.html/amp>

# MARITIME INCIDENTS



## 21 Mar/ Massive Explosion Near Sharjah Sends Shockwaves Through UAE Waters – Crew Safe/ UAE

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.03.22	United Arab Emirates	Coast of Sharjah	Fire/Folding/Explosion	Bulk carrier	The incident underscores rising security risks for maritime trade in the UAE coastal waters, especially the Strait of Hormuz, a key area for global shipping. Recent years have seen multiple similar attacks amid escalating tensions in the Middle East, primarily targeting international vessels and prompting concerns over the safety of regional maritime routes

On 21 Mar 26, an explosion from an unknown projectile occurred near a bulk carrier off the coast of Sharjah, UAE, prompting immediate action from maritime authorities. The UK Maritime Trade Operations (UKMTO) officially reported that the crew was unharmed. An advisory was issued on 22 March 2026, urging vessels to exercise caution and report any suspicious activity, highlighting ongoing regional security concerns in the Arabian Gulf.



Source -: <https://www.travelandtourtworld.com/news/article/massive-explosion-near-sharjah-sends-shockwaves-through-uae-waters-crew-safe-authorities-issue-urgent-warning/>

# IUU FISHING



## 03 to 18 Mar/ Navy Apprehends 53 Individuals for Illegal Fishing Practices/ Sri Lanka

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.03. 03 to 18	Sri Lanka	Island's waters	Illegal fishing apparatus /Illegal Methods	Fishing Boat	The apprehended individuals and unauthorized items were transferred to relevant authorities including the Iluppukadawai Police Special Task Force, Fisheries Inspectors in multiple locations, and the Coast Guard in Galle.

In response to the need for sustainable fishing practices, the Sri Lanka Navy conducted operations from March 3 to 18, resulting in the arrest of fifty-three individuals involved in illegal fishing. The Navy seized thirteen dinghies and four tractors used in these activities. The arrested were engaging in prohibited practices like using banned nets, explosives, and unauthorized night diving, among others. Operations spanned various naval commands, targeting coastal areas across the island, including locations in Mannar, Puttalam, Vakarai, Jaffna, Trincomalee, and Galle.



Source -: <https://news.navy.lk/operation-news/2026/03/20/202603201600/>



# 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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