

DAILY MARITIME INCIDENT UPDATE

Information Fusion Center-Colombo



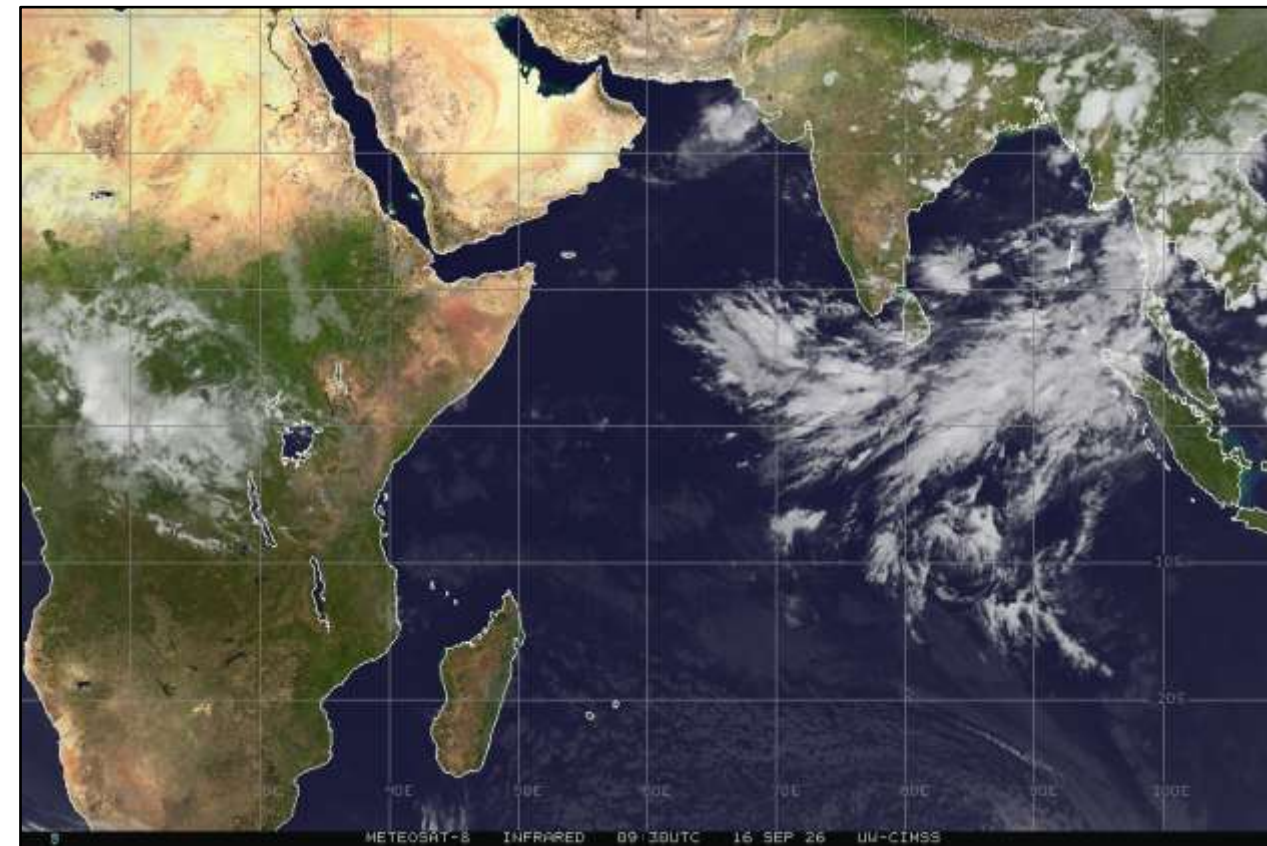
Information Fusion Center
Colombo
Sri Lanka

Date 2026.09.18

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: 2026.09.16/1400UTC to 2026.09.17/0600UTC

Issued at 1200UTC on 2026.09.16

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

Shear line is approximately along: 03N 60E, EQ 70E, 01S 80E, 1N 90E, 1N 100E.

Weather:

OCNL Showers / T'Showers in sections: 10, 15, 25, 30, 35.

SCT Showers / T'Showers in sections : 05, 45, 50, 60, 65, 70, 85 .

ISOL Showers / T'Showers elsewhere.

Winds:

North of Shear line:

West of 70E : SW'ly to NW'ly / (10-15) kts.

From 70E to 80E : NW'ly to SW'ly / (10-20) kts; gusting up to 25 kts in sections 05, 25.

East of 80E : SW'ly / (10-20) kts; gusting up to 30 kts in sections 10, 30.

South of Shear line:

SE'ly / (15-20) kts; gusting up to 25 kts in sections 60, 65, 70 and gusting up to 30 kts in sections 80, 85.

Seas:

Fairly rough, rough at times in section : 10, 30, 80, 85.

Moderate, fairly rough at times in sections : 05, 15, 25, 60, 65, 70.

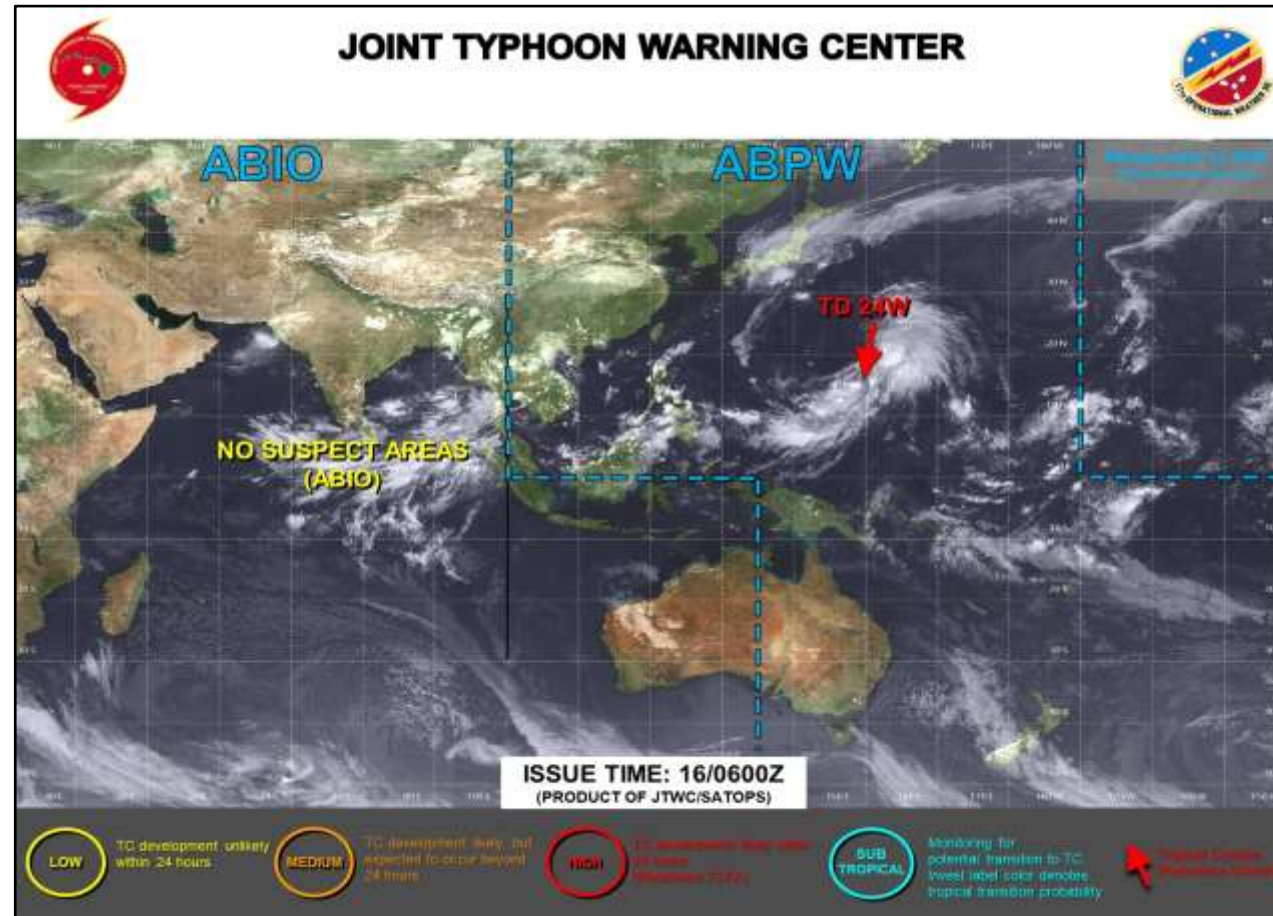
Moderate in sections : 55, 75.

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



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



TROPICAL CYCLONE "TWENTYFOUR"



SUMMARY (MARITIME INCIDENT)



CATEGORY	NO
 Maritime Incidents	02
 Piracy & Armed Robbery	01
 Smuggling	NIL
 IUU Fishing	01
 Narcotic	NIL
 Irregular Human Migration	NIL
 Marine Environment Pollution	NIL
 Other	02
Total Incidents	06

MARITIME INCIDENTS



18 Sep/Missing Crew Member From Hercules Star Attack Found Dead/UAE

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.09.18	UAE	off UAE	Missing	Name-Hercules Star Type - Tanker	Peninsula reported that all surviving crew members from the Hercules Star have been repatriated. This tanker has been attacked twice during the US-Iran war, with the first incident occurring on March 1, causing onboard fire but no crew injuries, located 17 nautical miles northwest of Mina Saqr, UAE.

A second seafarer has been confirmed dead following the attack on the bunker tanker Hercules Star off the UAE on 9 Sep 26. Peninsula Petroleum announced that the previously missing crew member has been found deceased. This marks the second confirmed fatality in the incident, with the first death resulting from the vessel being struck by an unknown projectile while at anchor off Dubai.



Source -: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/security/missing-crew-member-from-hercules-star-attack-found-dead>

MARITIME INCIDENTS



17 Sep/ Japan, Korea, and Russia Coordinate to Rescue Three North Korean Seafarers/ North Korean

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.09.17	North Korean	125 miles from Pohang City.	Search and Rescue (SAR)	-	On 17 Sep 26, the Japan Coast Guard found three missing individuals, with two conscious and one unresponsive. A fourth person is still missing, prompting ongoing search efforts. Acting Chief of the East Sea Korea Coast Guard, Lee Jong-wook, emphasized their prompt response, aligned with international and humanitarian principles aimed at saving lives

In a rare instance of maritime cooperation, three North Korean seafarers were rescued from a sinking boat while a search for a fourth person continues. The incident occurred in international waters, around 65 miles from Japan's Oki islands. The South Korean Navy reported that four individuals were aboard the boat, prompting South Korea to organize a search with assistance from Japan and Russia. South Korean Coast Guard dispatched patrol boats and aircraft, and Japan joined the efforts with its own vessels and aircraft.



Source -: <https://maritime-executive.com/article/japan-korea-and-russia-coordinate-to-rescue-three-north-korean-seafarers>

PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY



17 Sep/IRGC Claim Attack the Togo-flagged Oil Tanker in Strait of Hormuz/ Iran

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.09.17	Iran	Strait of Hormuz	Attacked in High-Risk Areas	Name- TREND Type- Oil Products Tanker Flag- Togo	IRGC Claims Attack on Togo-Flagged Tanker TREND in Strait of Hormuz

The Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) claimed on 17 September that it attacked the Togo-flagged oil products tanker TREND while it was transiting the Strait of Hormuz. The vessel reportedly caught fire and was brought to a halt. The IRGC stated that the vessel was targeted for allegedly making an illegal passage through the Strait of Hormuz. The condition of the crew and cargo was not disclosed. A separate security incident reported by UKMTO near Khasab, Oman, may or may not be related to the TREND incident.



Source -: <https://www.marinetraffic.com/pl/maritime-news/15/maritime-security/2026/13251/irgc-claim-attack-the-togo-flagged-oil-tanker-in-strait-of-h>

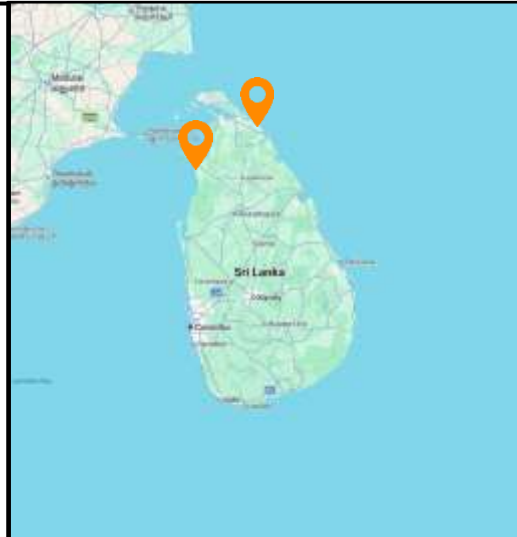
IUU FISHING



16 and 17 Sep/ Seven Apprehended With Illegally Harvested Sea Cucumbers/ Sri Lanka

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.09.17	Sri Lanka	Mannar and Jaffna	Unreported catch	-	The Sri Lanka Navy captured seven suspects and seized 1,400 sea cucumbers and three boats during separate operations in Mannar and Jaffna on 16 and 17 Sep 26.

Naval personnel from SLNS Buwaneka intercepted a boat in Nachchikuda on 16 Sep 26, leading to the apprehension of 3 suspects with 550 illegally transferred sea cucumbers. The following day, the Northern Naval Command detained 4 individuals at Kudarippu beach for illegal night diving and seized 2 boats and 850 sea cucumbers.



Source -: [https://news.navy.lk/operations-news/2026/september/seven-\(7\)-apprehended-with-illegally-harvested-sea-cucumbers.html](https://news.navy.lk/operations-news/2026/september/seven-(7)-apprehended-with-illegally-harvested-sea-cucumbers.html)



18 Sep/ Deepen Ties to Expand Maritime Security/ Australia

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.09.18	Australia	-	Foreign affairs	-	The Philippines and Australia are enhancing their strategic partnership through increased cooperation in maritime security to improve their capacity to address maritime challenges and foster stability in the Indo-Pacific region.

The partnership between the Philippines and Australia points out the importance of maritime security for both nations. As an archipelago, the Philippines relies heavily on its waters for its economy, food supply, and national security, while Australia views Southeast Asian maritime security as crucial for regional collaboration. Established in 2023, their Strategic Partnership expands upon decades of defense and security cooperation, encompassing areas such as maritime security, counterterrorism, humanitarian assistance, and transnational crime. A key aspect is the collaboration between their maritime agencies, with Australia providing funding and technical support to enhance the Philippines' civil maritime capabilities.



Source -: <https://dailyasianage.com/news/358102/philippines-australia-deepen-ties-to-expand-maritime-security>



17 Sep/ At least 20 Potentially new Species discovered in the Indian Ocean/ Singapore

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.09.17	Singapore	Eastern Indian Ocean	Geography Activities	Name- OceanXplorer Type – Research/ Survey Vessel Flag - Marshall Island	Researchers are examining crustaceans, fish, sponges, and sea anemones, alongside analyzing environmental DNA from water and sediment. Preliminary findings have identified organisms not included in the physical samples and suggest a higher species diversity for certain groups based on genetic data.

Scientists have identified at least 20 potential new species during a 24-day expedition in the eastern Indian Ocean's Monsoon Rise chain. The team mapped 6,050 square kilometers of seabed and collected over 2,000 samples. The expedition, led by the National University of Singapore and OceanX, utilized the research vessel OceanXplorer and its remotely operated vehicle Chimera, which dives over 6,000 meters. Observations included corals, cnidarians, and crustaceans on the seafloor.



Source -: <https://ua.news/en/world/u-indiiskomu-okeani-viiavili-shchonaimenshe-20-imovirno-novikh-vidiv-channel-newsasia>



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.

The Officer Incharge
Information Fusion Centre
Colombo 01,
Sri Lanka.
+94 11 719 4806
+94 74 120 4829
ifccolombo@navy.lk
ifc.cbo@gmail.com