



# Information Fusion Centre

Colombo - Sri Lanka


## IFC Monthly Report


May 2023

 Naval Headquarters, Colombo 01, Sri Lanka

 ifc@navy.lk

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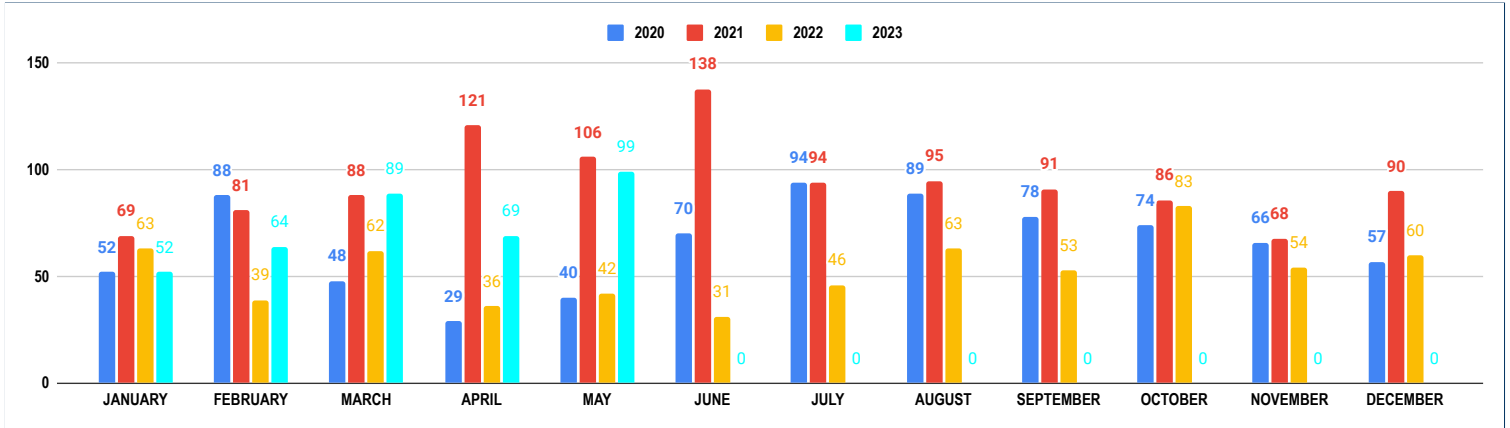
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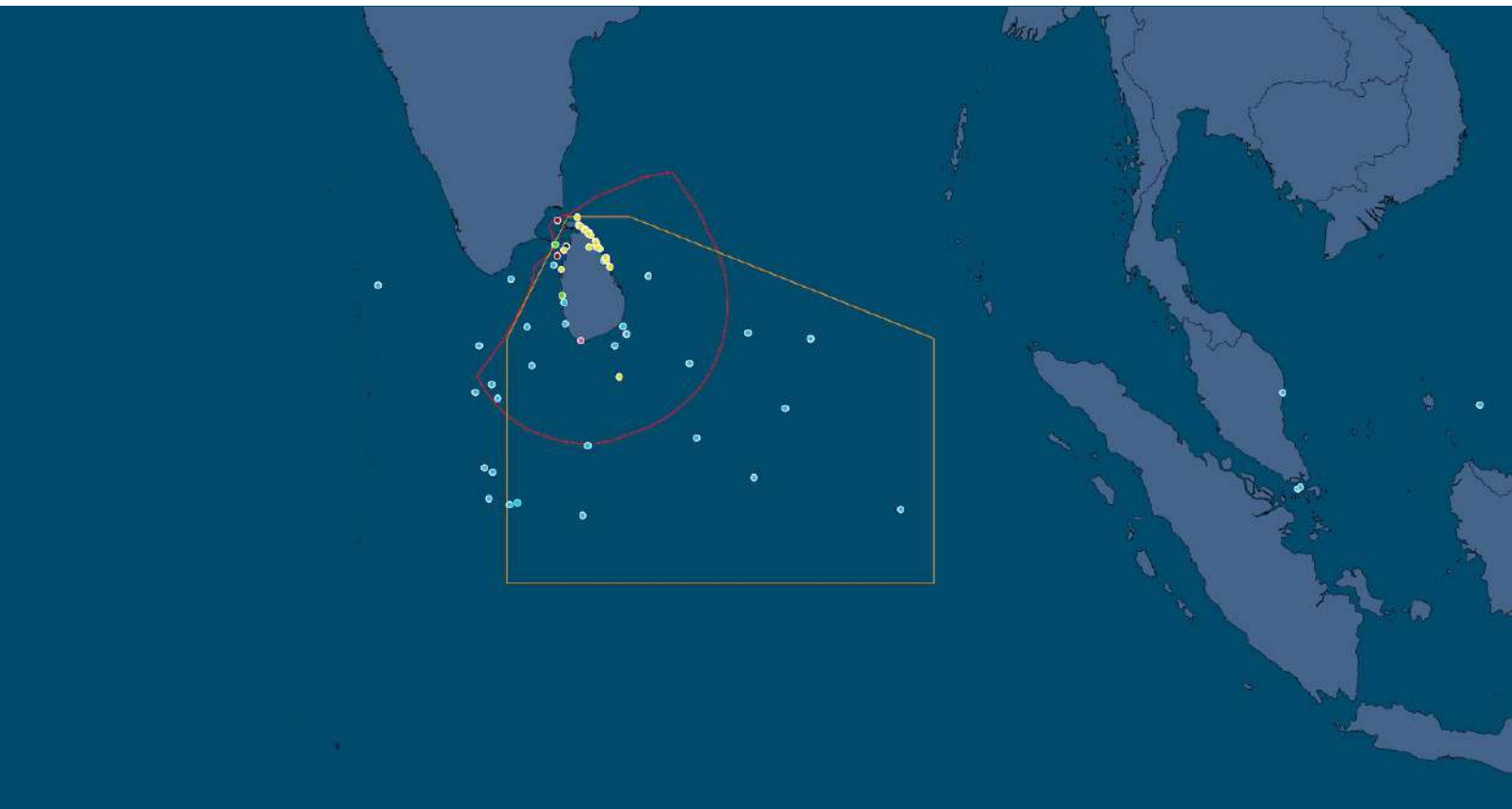
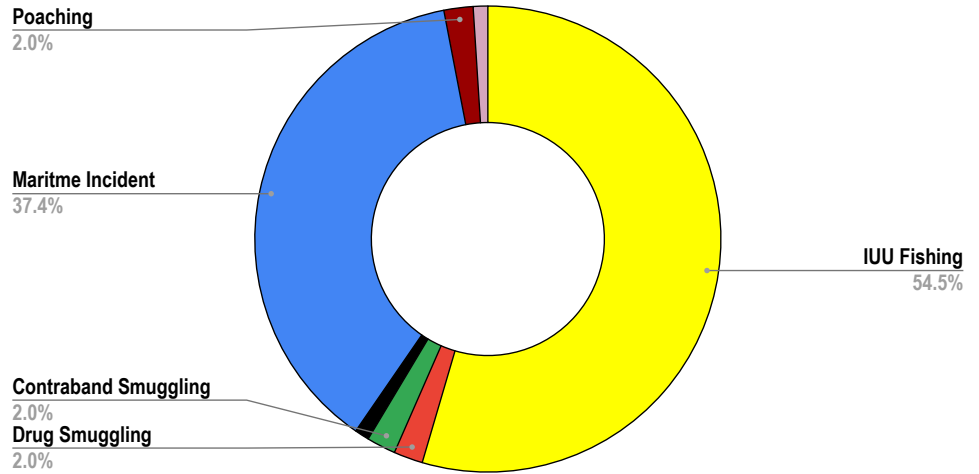
### OVERVIEW

#### MARITIME SECURITY INCIDENTS (2020-2023)



#### INCIDENTS IN BRIEF

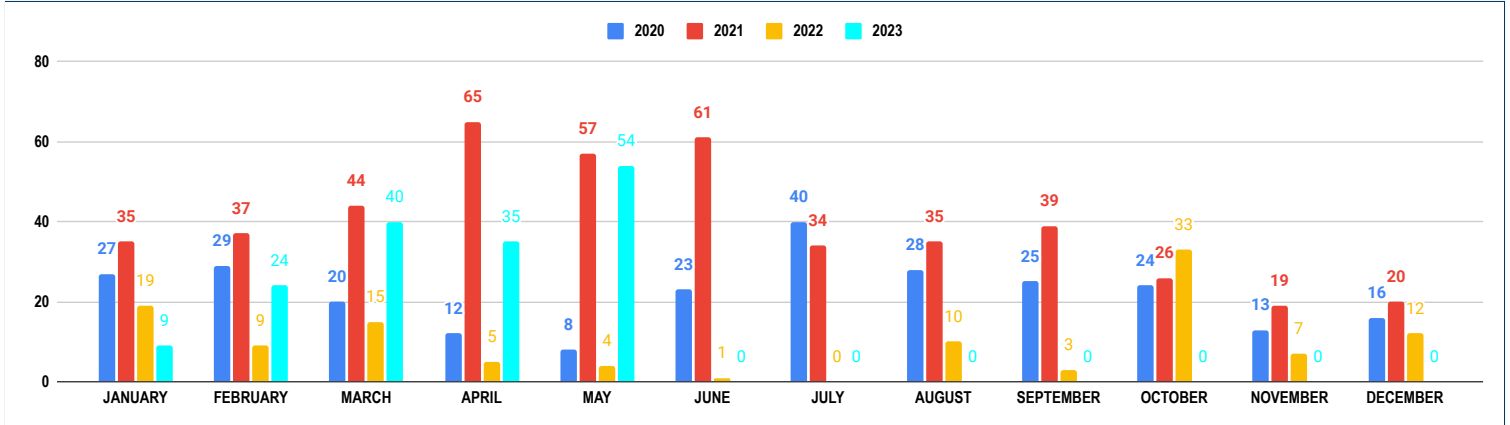
INCIDENT TYPE	MAY 2022	MAY 2023	TOTAL 2023
IUU Fishing	4	54	162
Drug Smuggling	1	2	19
Contraband Smuggling	6	2	17
Human Smuggling	10	1	3
Maritime Incident	21	37	146
Poaching	0	2	25
Explosive and Firearms	0	1	1





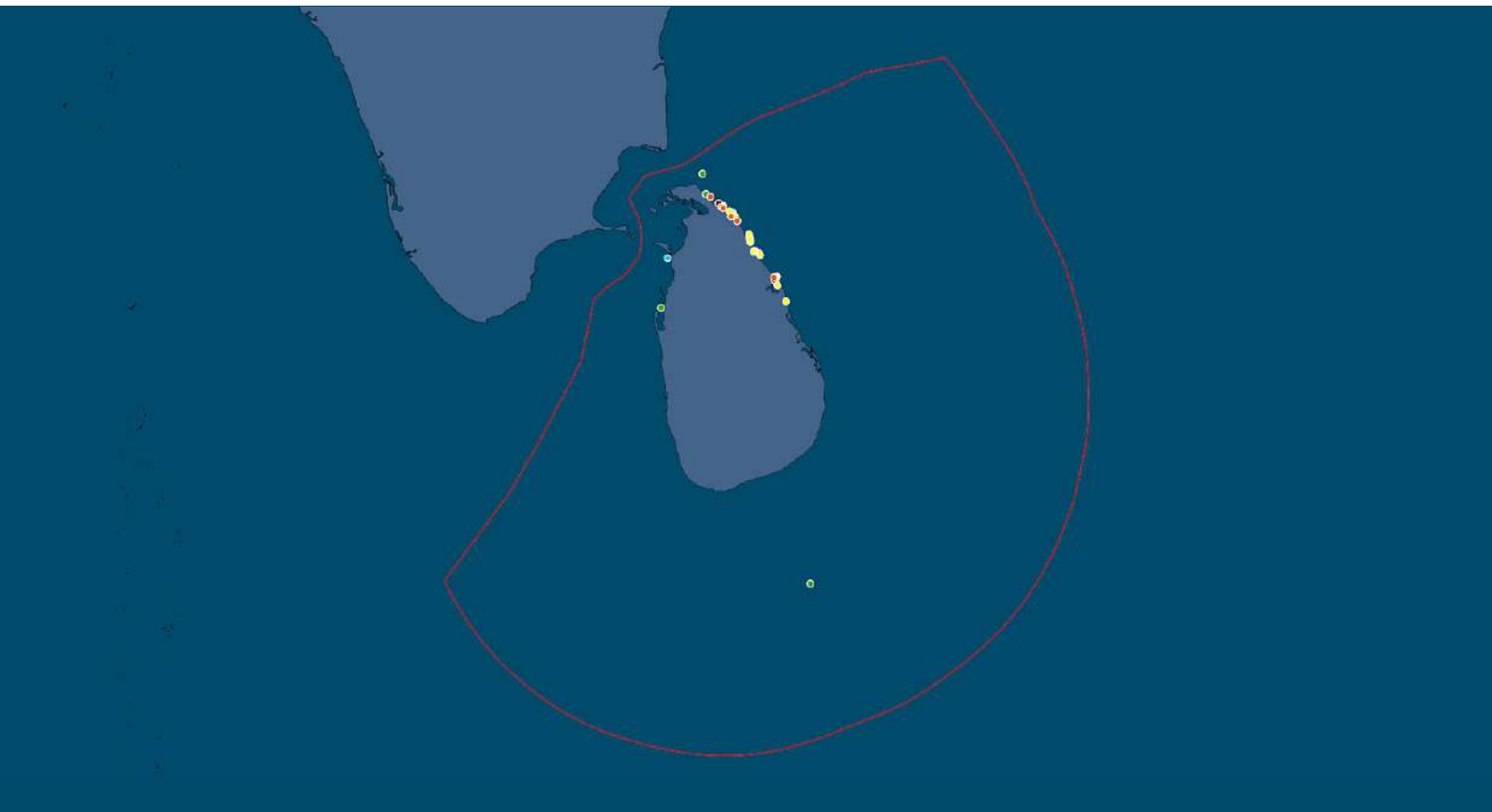
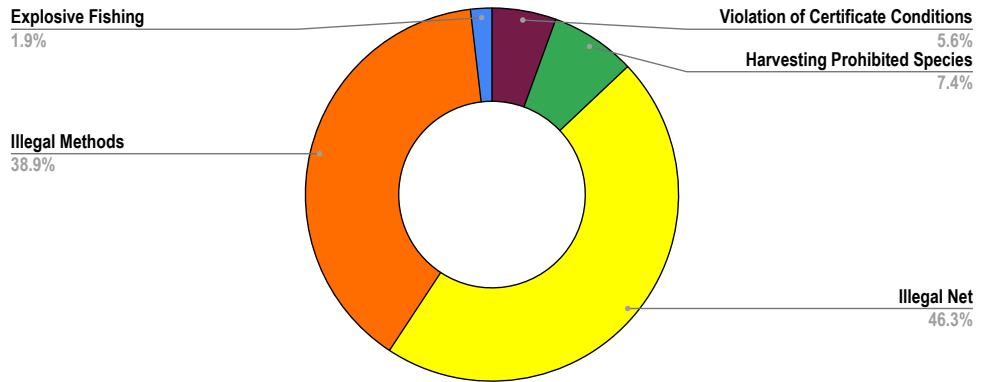
### IUU FISHING

#### MARITIME SECURITY INCIDENTS (2020-2023)



#### INCIDENTS IN BRIEF

INCIDENT TYPE	MAY 2022	MAY 2023	TOTAL 2023
Violation of Certificate Conditions	0	3	9
Harvesting Prohibited Species	1	4	59
Illegal Net	1	25	48
Illegal Methods	1	21	43
Explosive Fishing	1	1	3



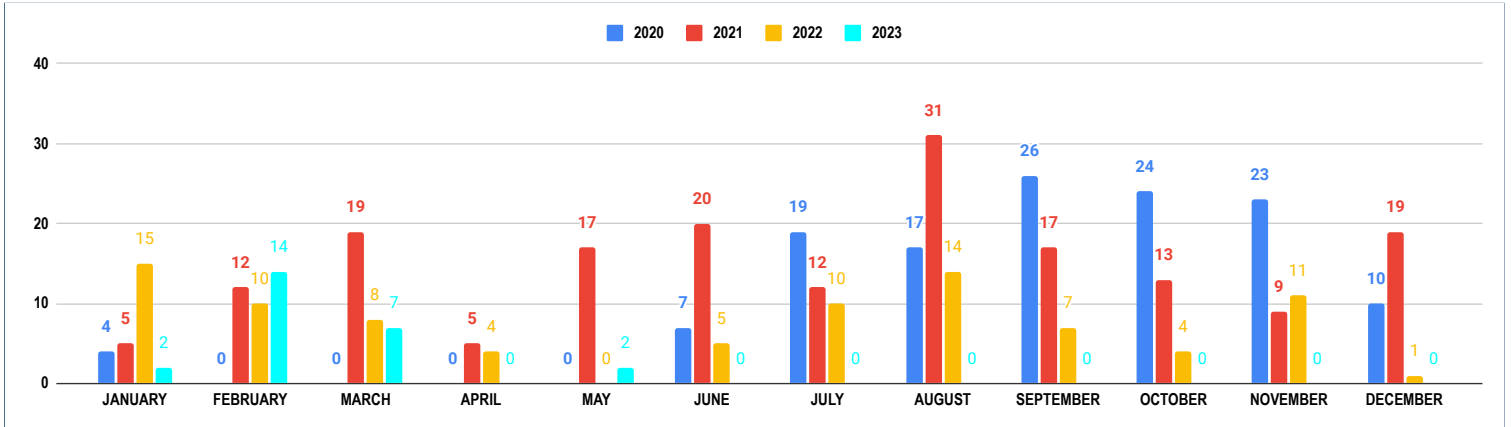


# IFC COLOMBO SRI LANKA

## MARITIME INCIDENT BULLETIN MONTHLY MAP MAY 2023

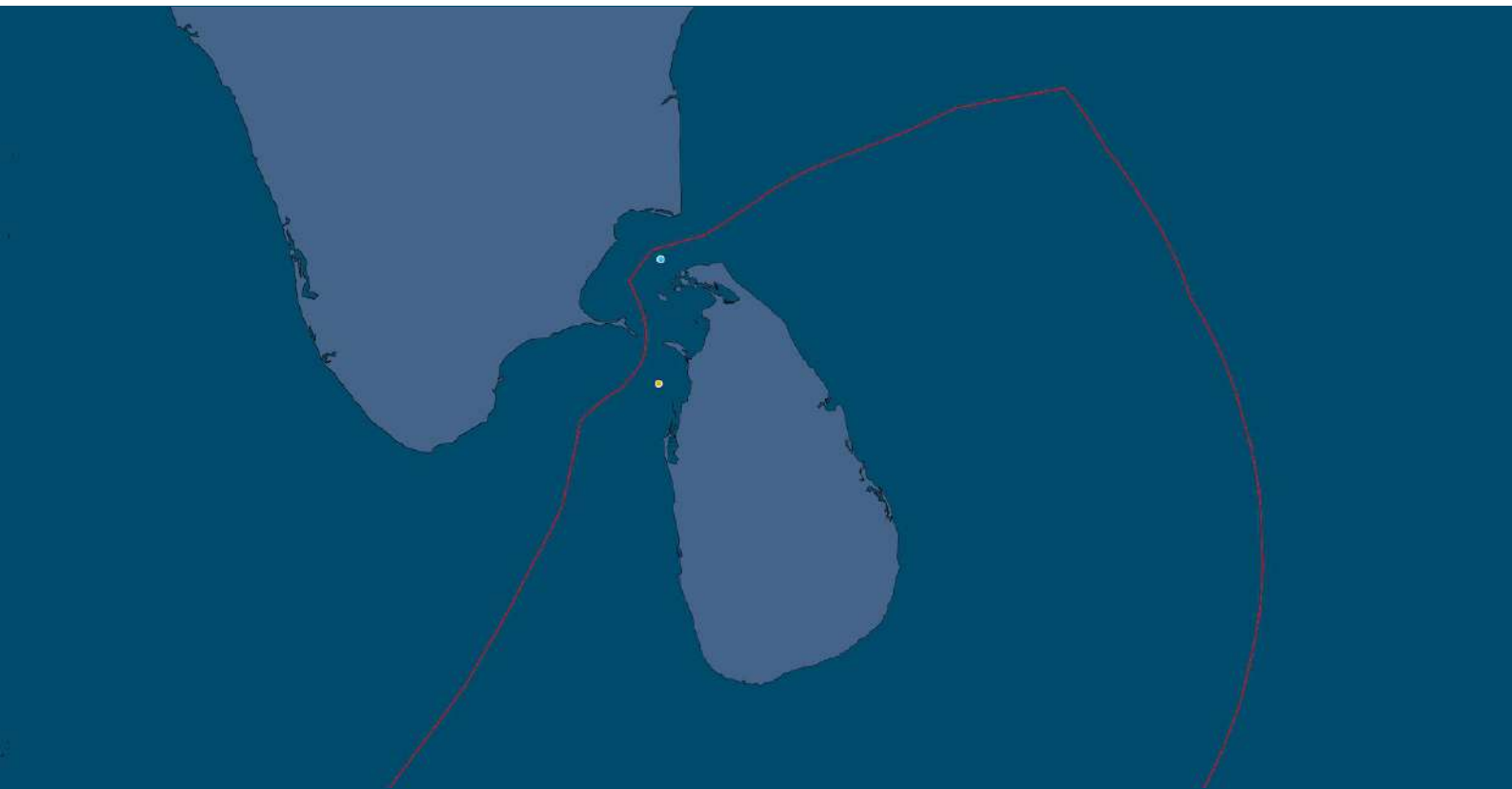
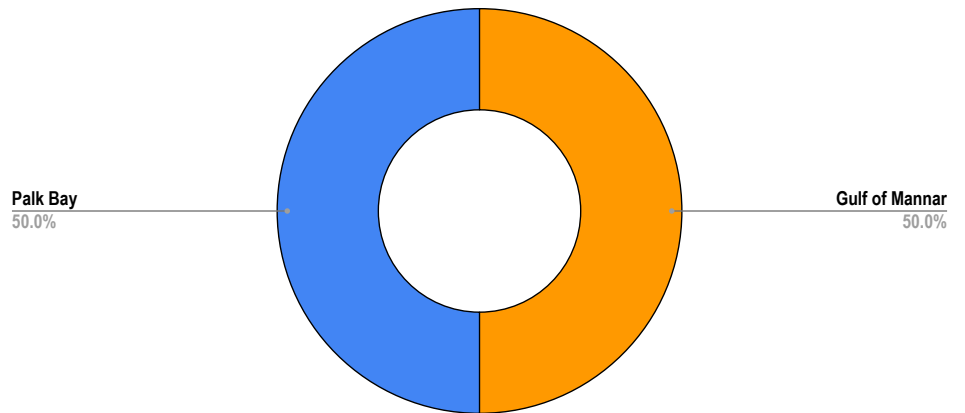
### POACHING

#### MARITIME SECURITY INCIDENTS (2020-2023)



#### INCIDENTS IN BRIEF

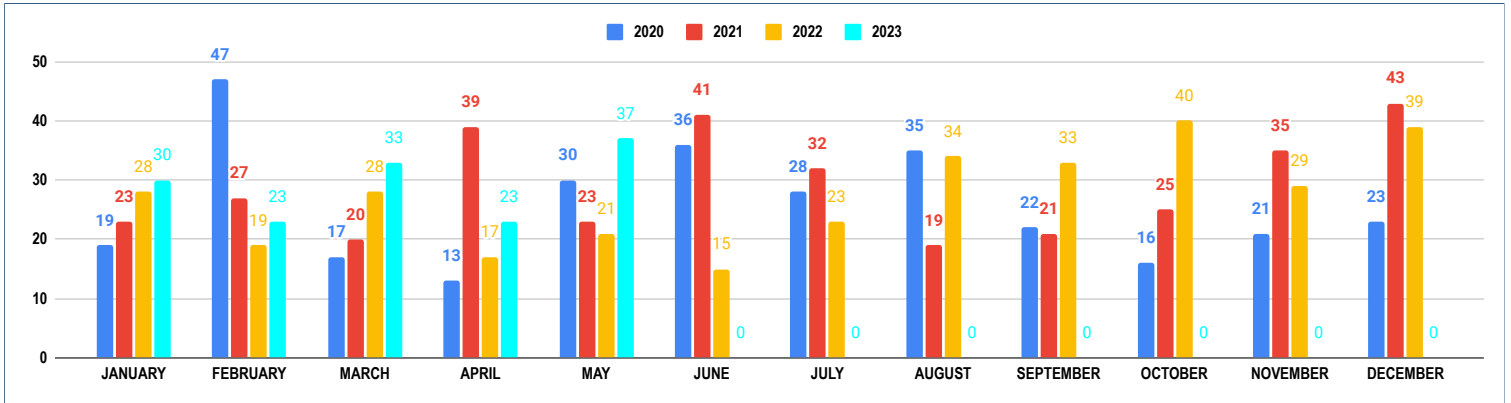
INCIDENT TYPE	MAY 2022	MAY 2023	TOTAL 2023
Eastern Coast	0	0	4
Palk Strait	0	0	3
Gulf of Mannar	0	1	5
Palk Bay	0	1	13
Other	4	0	1





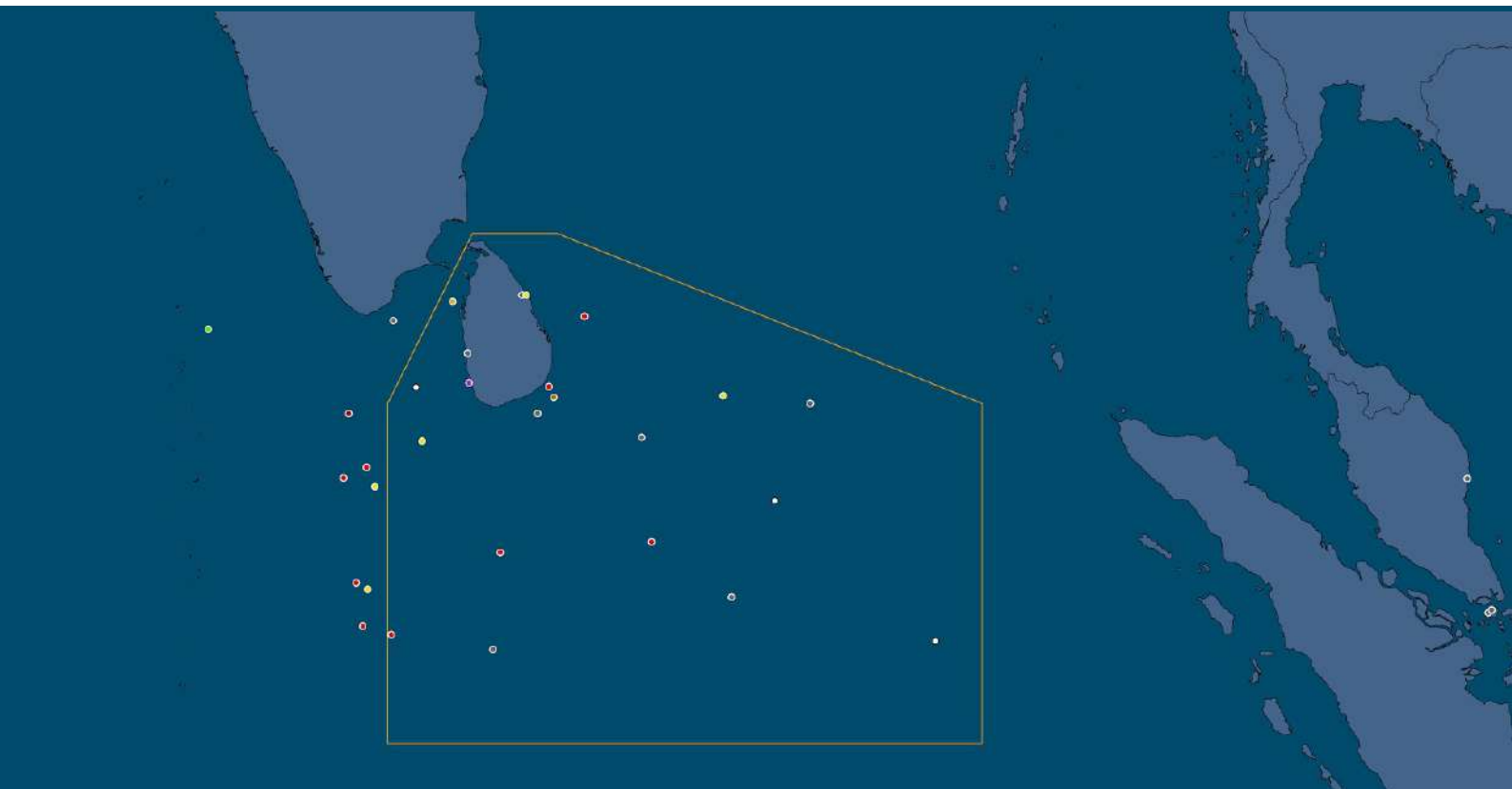
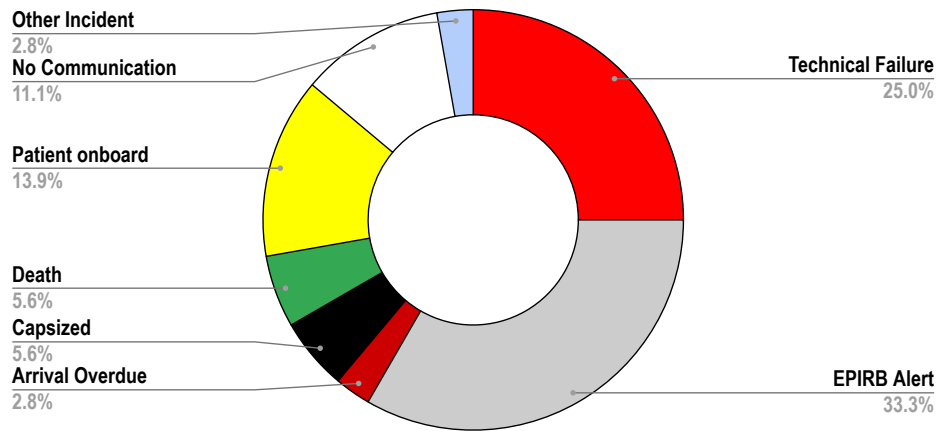
### MARITIME INCIDENTS

#### MARITIME SECURITY INCIDENTS (2020-2023)



#### INCIDENTS IN BRIEF

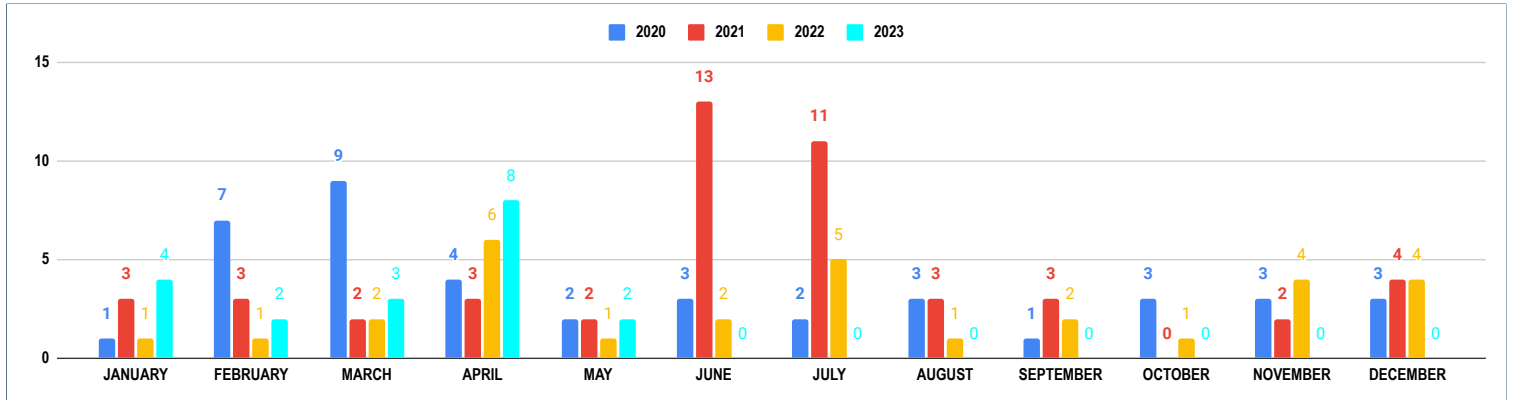
INCIDENT TYPE	MAY 2022	MAY 2023	TOTAL 2023
Technical Failure	18	9	58
Fire onboard	0	0	0
EPIRB Alert	1	12	47
Man Over Board	0	0	1
Arrival Overdue	0	1	1
Capsized	0	2	2
Ground	0	0	1
Death	0	2	6
Patient onboard	2	5	15
Collision	0	0	0
No Communication	0	4	10
Other Incident	0	1	3





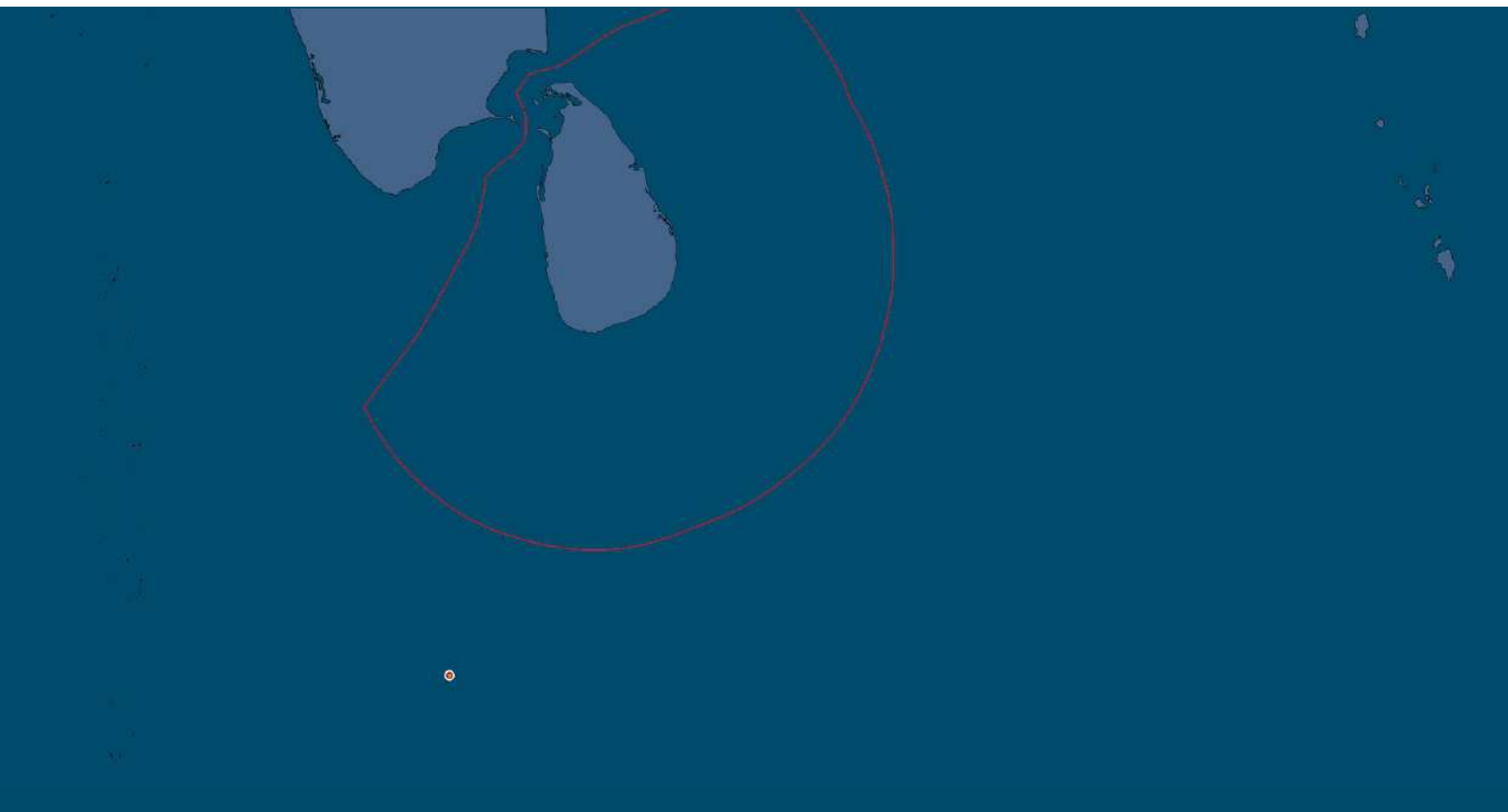
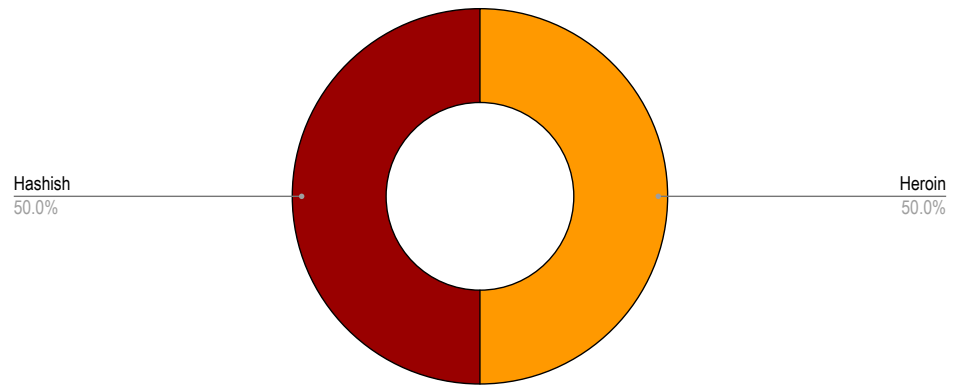
### DRUG SMUGGLING

#### MARITIME SECURITY INCIDENTS (2020-2023)



#### INCIDENTS IN BRIEF

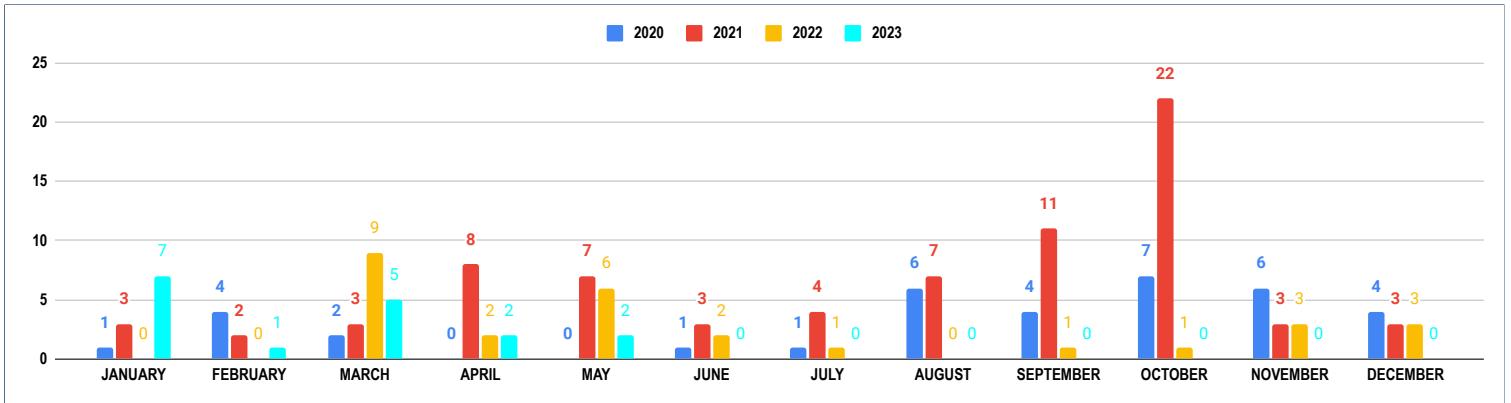
Drug Type	MAY 2022	MAY 2023	TOTAL 2023
Heroin	0	1	3
Kerala cannabis	1	0	13
Ice	0	0	1
Tablets	0	0	0
Hashish	0	1	2
Local cannabis	0	0	0





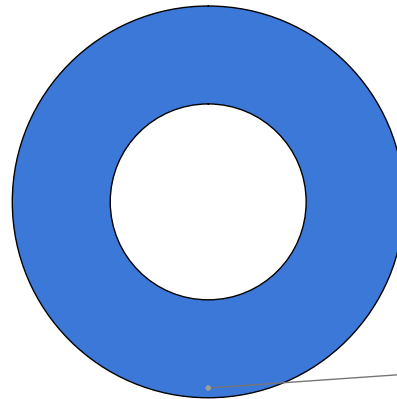
### CONTRABAND SMUGGLING

#### MARITIME SECURITY INCIDENTS (2020-2023)

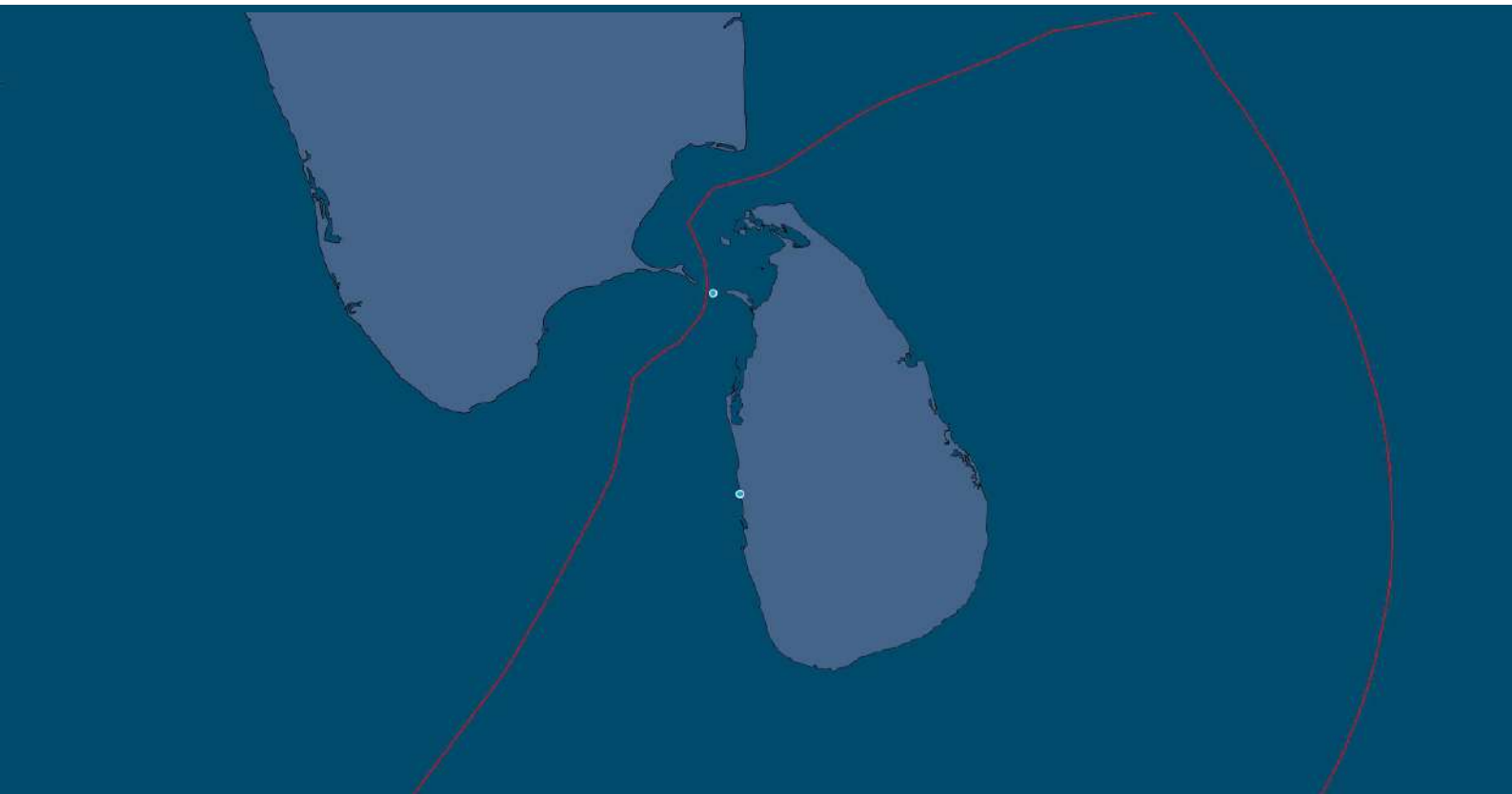


#### INCIDENTS IN BRIEF

INCIDENT TYPE	MAY 2022	MAY 2023	TOTAL 2023
Cardamom	0	0	1
Glyphosate	0	0	0
Gold	1	0	0
Kendu leaves	1	2	13
Other	4	0	1
Turmeric	0	0	2



Kendu leaves  
100.0%

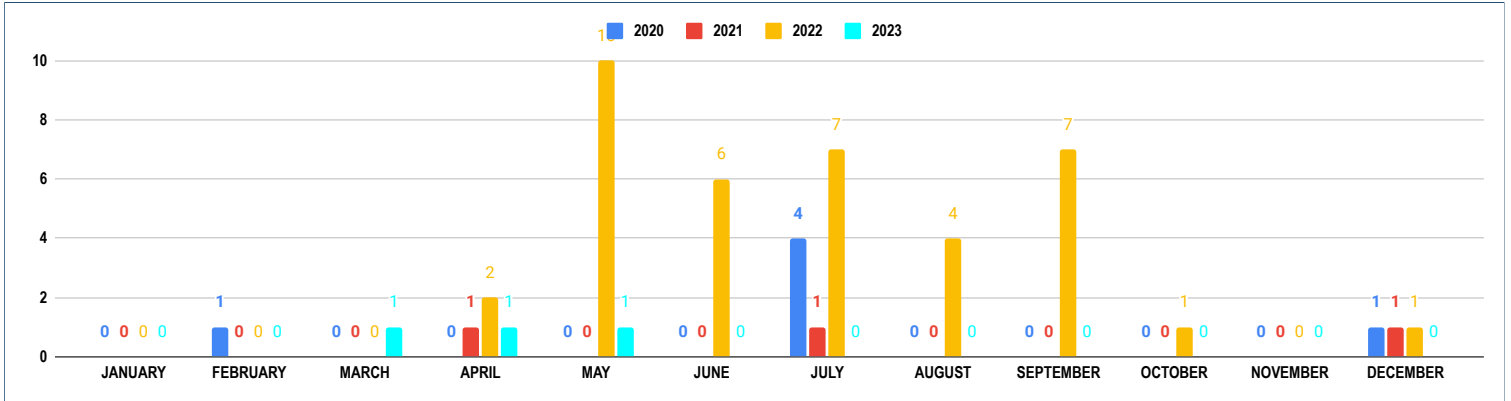


■ Cardamom 
 ■ Glyphosate 
 ■ Gold 
 ■ Kendu leaves 
 ■ Turmeric 
 ■ Other



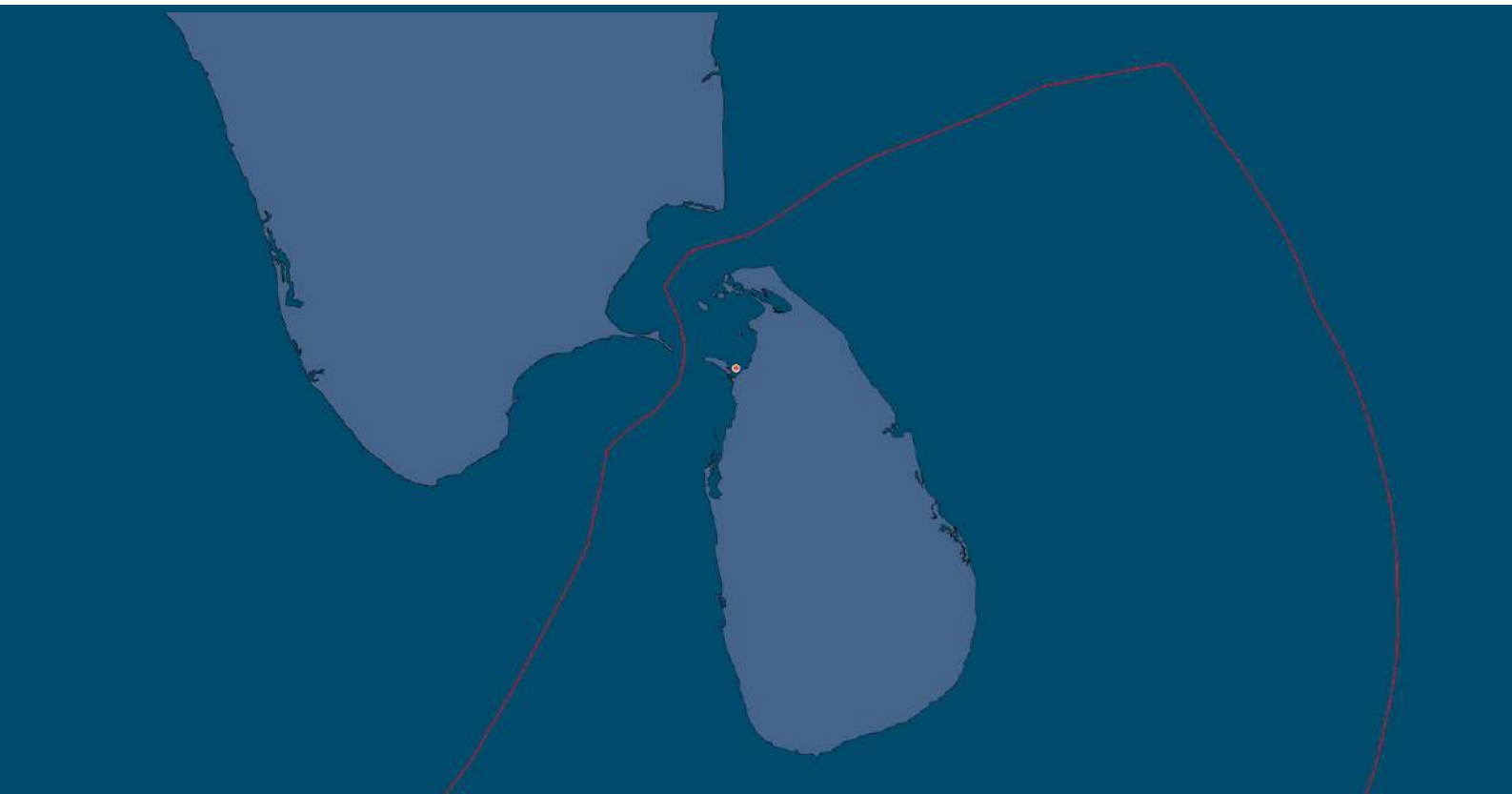
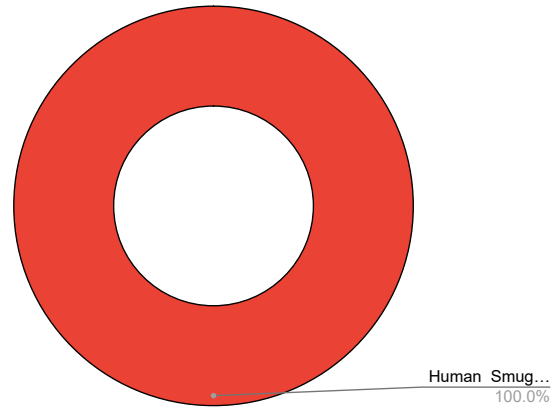
### HUMAN SMUGGLING

#### MARITIME SECURITY INCIDENTS (2020-2023)



#### INCIDENTS IN BRIEF

INCIDENT TYPE	MAY 2022	MAY 2023	TOTAL 2023
Human Smuggling	0	1	3



Human Smuggling



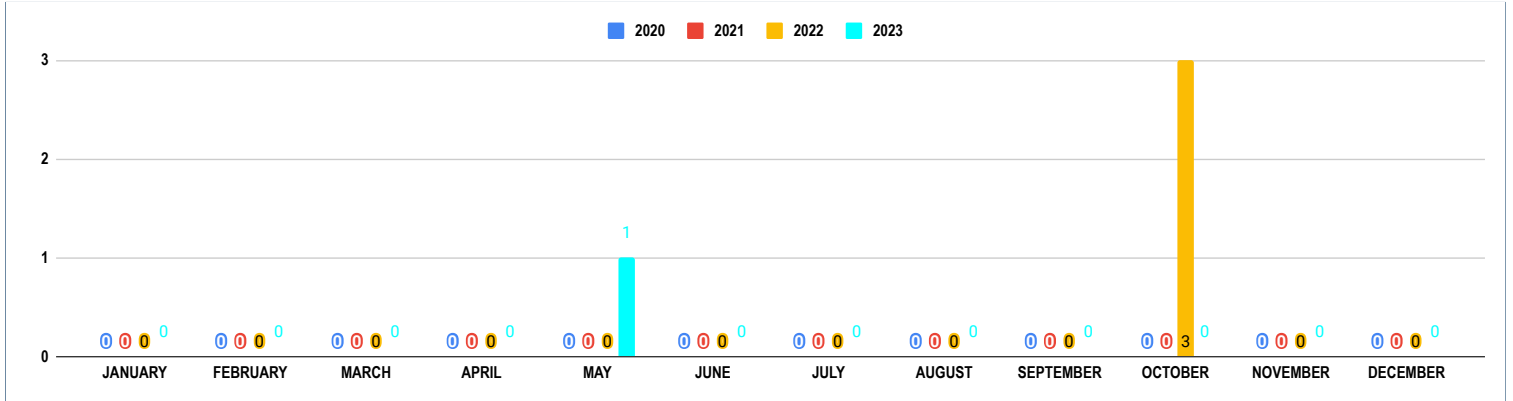


# IFC COLOMBO SRI LANKA

## MARITIME INCIDENT BULLETIN MONTHLY MAP MAY 2023

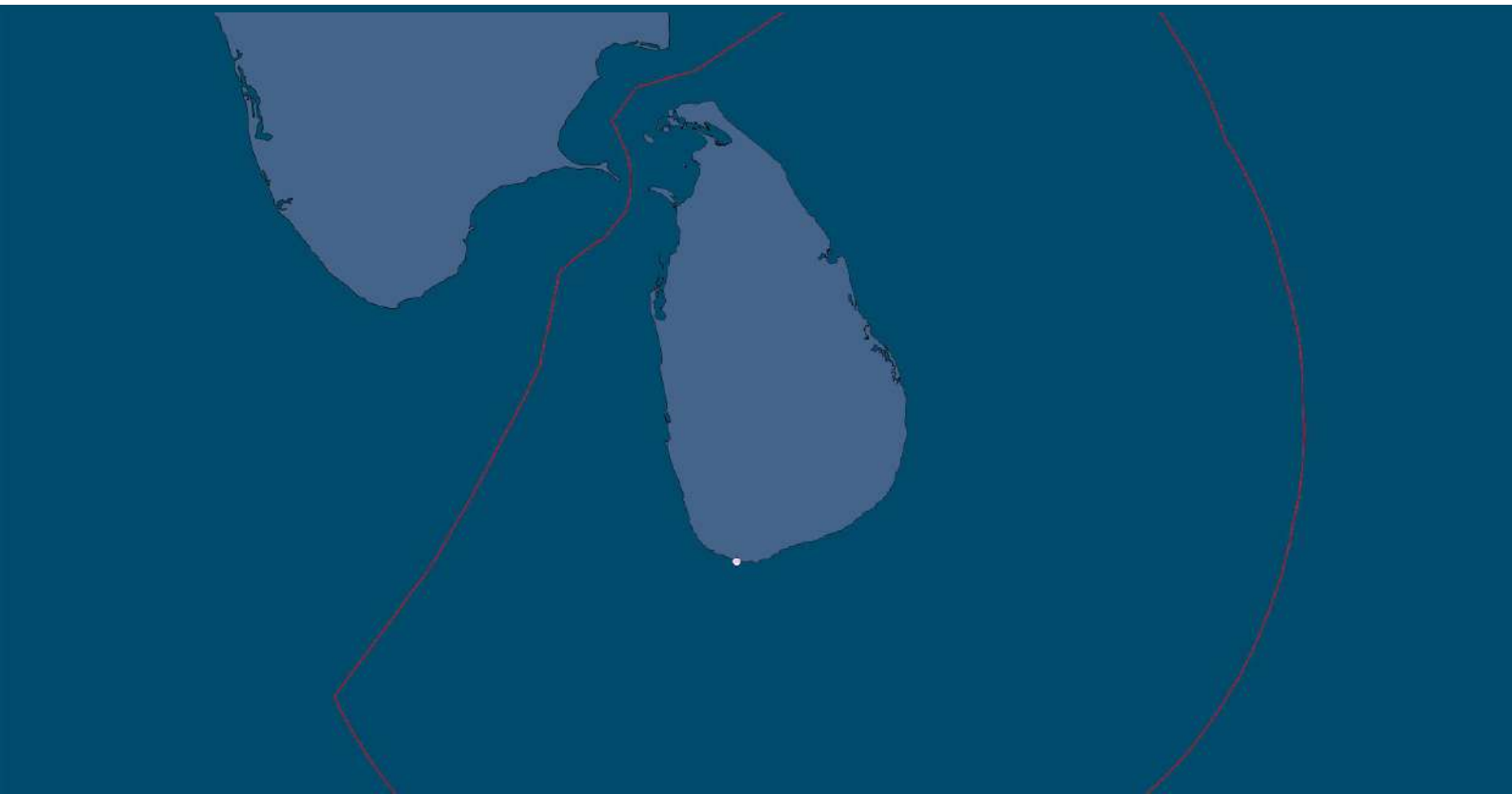
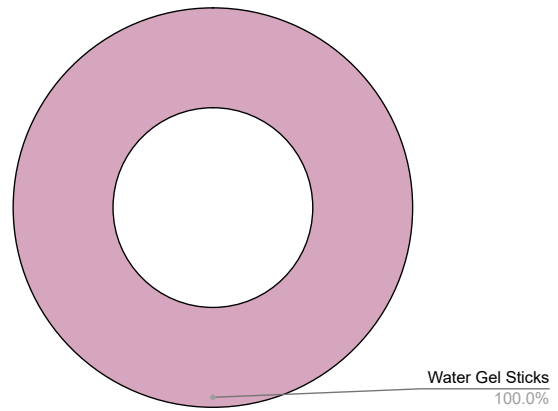
### EXPLOSIVE AND FIREARMS

#### MARITIME SECURITY INCIDENTS (2020-2023)



#### INCIDENTS IN BRIEF

INCIDENT TYPE	MAY 2022	MAY 2023	TOTAL 2023
Water Gel Sticks	0	1	1



Explosive and Firearms

## EVENTS

01. 02<sup>nd</sup> May 2023

### Navy apprehends 25 persons engaged in illegal fishing in eastern seas

The Navy apprehended 25 persons who engaged in illegal fishing, during a special search operation conducted in the sea area of Coral Cove, Trincomalee on 02nd May 2023. The operation also led to the seizure of 05 dinghies and unauthorized fishing equipment used for the illegal act.

The Navy carries out regular operations in the coastal and sea areas around the island, with a view to prevent illegal fishing practices which threaten the sustainability of fish populations. As an extension of these efforts, the search operation was mounted by the Naval Dockyard, Trincomalee in the Eastern Naval Command, by deploying its Inshore Patrol Craft off Coral Cove on 02nd May. The search operation led to the apprehension of 25 individuals along with 05 dinghies and fishing gear for engaging in illegal fishing using unauthorized fishing nets.

The Individuals held in this operation are residents of China Bay, Kinniya and Muthur, from 18 to 57 years of age. The 25 persons along with their belongings were handed over to the Fisheries Inspector in Cod Bay, Trincomalee for onward legal proceedings.



## **Forty – one (41) illegal immigrants held by Australian Border Force deported back to Sri Lanka**

The Australian Border Force on 02nd May 2023 held 41 Sri Lankan nationals at the Australia's maritime border, while they were attempting to illegally migrate to Australia via sea. A special flight, carrying the group of 41 Sri Lankans deported by Australian authorities, arrived at the Bandaranaike International Airport (BIA) on 09th May 2023.

The Sri Lankan Navy, partnering with other stakeholders who use the Indian Ocean Region, conducts regular patrols and operations to prevent human smuggling to foreign countries via sea routes.

Reportedly, the group of illegal immigrants set off the sea voyage from Valaichchenai, Batticaloa on 10th April 2023 by a multiday fishing trawler and had been held by Australian Border Force on 02nd May. The apprehended individuals are residents of Colombo, Valaichchenai, Batticaloa, Ottamawadi, and Kalawanchikudi areas. The group of deportees consists of 34 males and 03 females as well as 04 individuals below 18 years of age. Onward investigation into the incident will be conducted by the Department of Immigration and Emigration.

Including this group of people, deported back to Sri Lanka on 09th May, a total of 43 illegal immigrants were returned to Sri Lanka by Australian authorities in 2023. In the same vein, 1314 persons who attempted to cross the maritime borders of Australia from 2012 to 2022 had been deported, upon being held by Australian authorities.

As the Sri Lanka Navy and the Sri Lanka Coast Guard make a valiant effort to thwart illegal immigration to Australia by boats, in close coordination with the Australian Border Force, there is no room for illegal migration to Australia by sea. Therefore, the Navy urges people not to involve in such sea voyages, and be victims of people smugglers.



## Navy foils illegal immigration attempt and apprehends 06 persons in Mannar

The Sri Lanka Navy apprehended 06 persons suspected of illegal immigration to a foreign country via sea. The apprehension was made during a search operation conducted off Erukkulampiddi, Mannar on 05th May 2023. The operation also led to the seizure of a dinghy used for this illegal act.

The Navy often conducts search operations in the coastal areas surrounding the island as illegal immigration poses serious consequences for the safety and security of the countries involved. As an extension of these operations, SLNS Gajaba in the North Central Naval Command made this apprehension, having spotted a suspicious dinghy in the sea area of Erukkulampiddi. The dinghy was carrying 06 individuals and among them were 02 males (including the boat skipper), 01 female and 03 children.

The suspects are identified as residents of Vavuniya and Mannar areas. The group of individuals were handed over to the Mannar Police for onward legal proceedings.



## Navy apprehends 20 persons engaged in illegal fishing in eastern seas

The Navy apprehended 20 persons for fishing using unauthorized nets and engaging in light-coarse fishing, during a special operation conducted in Kokilai on 05th May 2023. The operation also led to the seizure of 08 dinghies and unauthorized fishing equipment used for the illegal acts.

The Navy carries out regular operations in the coastal and sea areas around the island, with a view to prevent illegal fishing practices which threaten the sustainability of fish populations. As an extension of these efforts, SLNS Gotabaya apprehended 04 persons and 03 dinghies in the sea area of Kokilai, whilst engaging in light-coarse fishing. Meanwhile, SLNS Ranweli nabbed 16 suspects along with 05 dinghies and fishing gear, for fishing using unauthorized nets and engaging in light-coarse fishing in the lagoon of Kokilai.

The individuals held in this operation are residents of Pulmudei, Trincomalee, Kokilai, Mannar, Madurankuliya, Rotawewa, Negombo, Katuneriya and Matara, from 19 to 59 years of age. The suspects along with their belongings were handed over to the Fisheries Inspector in Kuchchaweli for onward legal proceedings.



## Navy recovers over 85kg of Kerala cannabis in Jaffna

A search operation conducted by the Navy in the South beach area of Mandaitivu Island, Jaffna this morning (08th May 2023) led to the recovery of over 85kg (wet weight) of Kerala cannabis.

The Navy often conducts patrols and search operations in the coastal and sea areas of the island, with a view to preventing smuggling acts and other illegal activities stemming from sea routes.

During a search operation carried out by SLNS Welusumana in the Northern Naval Command this morning, the recovery of 03 sacks of Kerala cannabis was made from shrubs nearby South beach area of Mandaitivu Island, Jaffna. The sacks contained 22 packages stuffed with Kerala cannabis weighing about 85kg and 450g, which were taken into naval custody.

Meanwhile, the gross street value of the stock of Kerala cannabis held in this search operation is believed to be over Rs. 28 million. The consignment of narcotic substance has been kept in the naval custody until it is handed over to authorities for onward legal action.



## Navy apprehends 07 suspects in Mannar seas for possession of Water Gel sticks

The Sri Lanka Navy apprehended 07 individuals who were preparing to engage in fishing with explosive, during a search operation conducted off Vankalai, Mannar on 08th May 2023. The search operation also led to the seizure of 10 Water Gel sticks - a type of commercial explosive, 18 non-electric detonators, diving gear and 01 dinghy.

The use of explosives for fishing poses a serious threat to marine life and can cause long-lasting damage to the marine ecosystems. Thus, the Sri Lanka Navy has been conducting regular operations to crack down on explosive fishing and other illegal fishing practices in the country's waters.

The special operation was conducted by SLNS Pussadewa in the North Central Naval Command in the sea area of Vankalai on 08th May. During the operation, naval personnel intercepted a suspicious dinghy in the sea area and nabbed 07 persons who were preparing to engage in blast – fishing. In addition the Navy also took into custody 10 Water Gel sticks, 18 non-electric detonators, a 2.5 foot - long safety fuse, diving gear and the dinghy.

The apprehended suspects are residents of Mannar area, from 28 to 43 years of age. The suspects along with the dinghy and explosive items were handed over to the Vankalai Police for onward legal action.



## **Navy seizes multiday fishing trawler with approx. 121kg of heroin and hashish valued about Rs. 2800 Mn and nabs 06 suspects in southern seas**

Based on information derived from a coordinated intelligence operation conducted by the State Intelligence Service and Sri Lanka Navy, a local multiday fishing trawler carrying about 111kg and 606g of heroin (including packages) and about 10kg and 254g (including packages) of hashish was intercepted by SLNS Vijayabahu on 13th May 2023. The special operation mounted about 413 nautical miles (about 764km) off Dondra, South of Sri Lanka, also led to the apprehension of 06 suspects involved in this illegal act. The Commander of the Navy, Vice Admiral Priyantha Perera, arrived at the Colombo Harbour this morning (18th May) to personally inspect the seized consignment.

During this dedicated operation led by the Naval Intelligence and State Intelligence Service, the Offshore Patrol Vessel SLNS Vijayabahu intercepted the local fishing trawler on suspicion and discovered a staggering amount of illegal drugs on board. The haul of narcotics included about 111kg and 606g (including packages) of heroin which were in ninety nine (99) parcels stuffed in five (05) sacks and about 10kg and 254g (including packages) of hashish in 09 packages. Meanwhile, the Navy also nabbed 06 Sri Lankan nationals aboard. The street value of the seized consignment of drugs is believed to be around Rs 2800 million.

On the sidelines of this operation, the Navy, State Intelligence Service and Police Narcotic Bureau (PNB) are conducting further operation to apprehend another group of suspects in connection to the ground network of this drug-racket.

The suspects apprehended in this operation have been identified as residents of Negombo, Iranawila, Andigama and Minuwangoda areas from 29 to 58 years of age. The suspects and the stock of heroin will be handed over to the Police Narcotic Bureau for onward legal action.

At the directives of the President, Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe and under the guidance of the Secretary of Defence General Kamal Gunaratne (Retd), the Navy has effectively conducted several successful drug raids by coordinating intelligence services, aligning them towards a shared objective. It is in this backdrop, the Navy continues its relentless efforts, under the able leadership of the Commander of the Navy, Vice Admiral Priyantha Perera.

Including the latest seizure, the Sri Lanka Navy has held drugs with a gross street value of over Rs. 7603 million during operations mounted in 2023. Sri Lanka Navy - the country's First Line of Defence is committed to coordinating with other law enforcement authorities, to carry out anti-drug operations of this nature in order to foil drug smuggling attempts being made in the guise of fishing.





**08. 14<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

## **Navy and Coast Guard rescue 06 fishermen aboard distressed fishing trawler off Beruwala**

A dedicated search and rescue operation mounted this morning (14th May 2023) by the Sri Lanka Navy and Coast Guard led to the rescue of 06 fishermen aboard a local multiday fishing trawler in distress off Beruwala. Reportedly, the fishing trawler was at the risk of sinking due to seeping of sea water following adverse weather, whilst it was at sea about 08 nautical miles (about 15km) off the Beruwala Lighthouse. The rescue was made by Sri Lanka Coast Guard Craft CG 208.

Upon receipt of information to the Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre (MRCC) Colombo located in the Navy Headquarters, through the owner of the multiday fishing trawler (IMUL-A-438-CHW), the Navy rushed CG 208 to the scene for the rescue of the fishermen. Having retrieved those desperate fishers from the sinking traveler, they are being brought ashore as of now by the Coast Guard craft.

The Sri Lanka Navy and Coast Guard are on constant alert to provide relief to the maritime and fishing community in distress within the Search and Rescue Region of Sri Lanka, coordinated by MRCC Colombo.



## Navy takes hold of smuggled dried sea cucumber and contraband in Kalpitiya seas

A search operation conducted by the Sri Lanka Navy off Sinnaarichchalai, Kalpitiya on the night of 18th May 2023, led to the apprehension of 02 suspects with about 193kg (wet weight) of dried sea cucumber and several other contraband items being smuggled. The Navy also seized a dinghy used by the suspects, for this illegal act.

The Navy carries out regular search operations and patrols in the coastal and sea areas around the island, with a view to preventing nefarious acts and the influx of contraband items in to the country.

As an extension of these efforts, a team of Navy Marines attached to SLNS Vijaya in the Northwestern Naval Command conducted this search using small craft in the sea area of Sinnaarichchalai on 18th May. Accordingly, naval personnel intercepted a suspicious dinghy approaching the beach and recovered the contraband items aboard. Among the recovered items were; about 193kg (wet weight) of dried sea cucumber, 33600 shampoo packets (6ml each), 198 balm vials (50g each), 1 A/C plant and 1 Voltage Stabilizer (230 V). Thus, the suspects, contraband items and the dinghy were taken into naval custody.

The 02 suspects along with the items seized during this operation were handed over to the Customs Preventive Office in Katunayake for onward legal action.



## intervention by Sri Lanka Coast Guard: thwarting the illicit sea smuggling of kendu leaves

The Sri Lanka Coast Guard personnel, stationed at Coast Guard Station Chilaw, apprehended an individual who was attempting to smuggle a shipment of 331.7 kilograms of Kendu Leaves into the country through sea routes by using Fiber Glass Dinghy.

The suspect, along with the contraband, was apprehended during a specialized search operation conducted off the Marawilla area on May 18, 2023, at approximately 9:30 am. The shipment, which consisted of 10 polythene sacks, was intercepted with the assistance of Sri Lanka Coast Guard intelligence personnel and Sri Lanka Navy Marine sailors from CGSS Maoyamoya.

The arrested individual and the confiscated items were subsequently handed over to the Customs Sub Preventive Office at Katunayake for further legal proceedings.



## Navy nabs 02 suspects with sea turtle flesh in Silawathura

The Navy apprehended 02 persons for slaughtering sea turtles, during a search operation conducted in Arippu of Silawathura in Mannar today (22<sup>nd</sup> May 2023). Along with the suspects, the Navy also found 02 live sea turtles and some turtle flesh in their possession.

Sri Lanka Navy's Coastal Observation Points established in beach areas around the island keep a watchful eye on illegal activities taking place in those areas, with a view to preventing them for the protection of marine resources.

During a search operation conducted by Coastal Observation Point Arippu of SLNS Therapuththa in the Northwestern Naval Command the suspects were apprehended, whilst they were slaughtering 04 sea turtles in the Arippu beach area. Accordingly, the 02 suspects were nabbed with about 206kg of turtle flesh and 02 live sea turtles. A small traditional craft suspected to have been used to bring turtles ashore was also held in this search operation.

The suspects have been identified as residents of Arippu, aged 26 and 37. The suspects together with 02 live sea turtles, about 206kg of turtle flesh and craft were handed over to the Office of Department of Wildlife Conservation in Mannar for onward investigation.

In order to protect sea turtles, which are an endangered animal species, the Sri Lanka Navy has launched a turtle conservation project aiming to release turtle hatchlings born from eggs preserved under this project. Through such initiatives as well as constant operations, the Navy is committed to protect the marine ecosystem.



## Navy nabs 16 persons engaged in light-coarse fishing in eastern seas

Special operations conducted by the Sri Lanka Navy in the wee hours of 22nd May 2023 led to the apprehension of 16 persons for engaging in light-coarse fishing, fishing without valid licence and fishing using unauthorized nets, in the sea areas of Nayaruru and Alampil as well as sea and lagoon areas of Kokilai in Pulmudei. During these operations the Navy also took hold of unauthorized fishing gear and 07 dinghies used for these illegal acts.

The Navy conducts regular operations in the coastal and sea areas around the island in order to suppress illegal fishing activities performed by people. As an extension of these efforts, SLNS Gotabaya in the Eastern Naval Command conducted a search operation on 22nd May off Nayaruru and Alampil in Mullaitivu and apprehended 10 persons for engaging in light-coarse fishing and fishing with unauthorized nets. The operation also resulted in the seizure of 03 dinghies and unauthorized fishing gear used for the illegal fishing practice.

On the same day, SLNS Ranweli belonging to the Eastern Naval Command conducted a special search operation in the sea and lagoon areas of Kokilai and held 06 more individuals engaged in light-coarse fishing and fishing without valid licence. The operation also led to the seizure of 04 dinghies and unauthorized fishing gear used by the suspects.

The suspects held in these operations are residents of Puttalam, Kokilai, Padavi Sri Pura, Welioya and Madurankuliya areas, from 22 to 44 years of age. The 16 individuals together with 07 dinghies and unauthorized fishing gear were handed over to the Assistant Directorate of Fisheries in Mullaitivu and Fisheries Inspector of Kuchchaweli for onward legal proceedings.



## Navy apprehends 06 persons for engaging in light-coarse fishing in northern waters

In a decisive move to combat illegal fishing activities, the Navy apprehended 06 persons who were found engaging in light-coarse fishing off Chundikulam and Chalai, Jaffna in the wee hours of today (24th May 2023). The search operations also led to the seizure of 06 dinghies and unauthorized fishing gear used by the suspects.

The Navy carries out regular operations in the coastal and sea areas around the island, with a view to prevent illegal fishing practices which threaten the sustainability of fish populations, undermine legitimate fishing industries, and damage marine ecosystems. In similar search operations conducted by the Naval Detachments Chundikulam and Chalai in the Northern Naval Command off Chundikulam and Chalai, 06 individuals were apprehended as they were practicing prohibited light-coarse fishing techniques. Naval personnel also seized 06 dinghies and unauthorized fishing equipment used for this illegal act.

The persons held in this operation are residents of Pudukuduirippu, Madurankuliya, Ganeshapuram and Mulliyar, from 23 to 65 years of age. The suspects along with dinghies and fishing gear were handed over to the Jaffna Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources for onward legal action.



## Navy apprehends 08 persons engaged in light-coarse fishing in eastern seas

A special operation conducted by the Sri Lanka Navy in the wee hours of 25th May 2023 led to the apprehension of 08 persons for engaging in light-coarse fishing and fishing using unauthorized nets in the sea area of Arisimalai, Pulmoddai. During this operation the Navy also took hold of unauthorized fishing gear and 02 dinghies used for these illegal acts.

The Navy conducts regular operations in the coastal and sea areas around the island in order to suppress illegal fishing activities performed by people. As an extension of these efforts, SLNS Ranweli in the Eastern Naval Command conducted a search operation on 25th May off Arisimalai and apprehended 08 persons with unauthorized fishing gear and 02 dinghies, for engaging in light-coarse fishing.

The suspects held in this operation are residents of Pulmoddai and Dodamgaslanda, from 33 to 61 years of age. The 08 individuals together with 02 dinghies and unauthorized fishing gear were handed over to the Fisheries Inspector of Kuchchaveli for onward legal action.





## Navy comes to aid, safely transfers ill foreign national ashore in eastern waters

In a display of swift response, the Sri Lanka Navy today (28th May 2023) stepped in to provide crucial assistance in transferring a foreign national who fell ill in the eastern waters, off the Foul Point, Trincomalee. The ill person who was aboard NERU XINRUI – an Indian Cargo Ship was rushed for medical attention, upon being brought to Trincomalee.

The Eastern Naval Command was informed that a foreign individual on board the Indian Cargo Ship NERU XINRUI, sailing from China to India, had experienced a sudden illness.

Responding to the urgent situation, the Navy directed the Inshore Patrol Craft P 115 attached to the Eastern Naval Command, to the designated sea area to bring the patient ashore. After transferring the patient from the ship to the naval craft, he was safely brought to the Trincomalee harbour today (28th May), whilst administering first aid. Subsequently, he was rushed to a private hospital in Trincomalee for medical attention.

The Sri Lanka Navy continues to exemplify its dedication and unwavering commitment to safeguarding lives at sea, serving as a beacon of hope and security for seafarers and the fishing community.



## Sri Lankan family seeking asylum arrives in Dhanushkodi

MADURAI: A three-member family from Sri Lanka seeking asylum in India arrived in Dhanushkodi area of Tamil Nadu on Friday. The marine police took them into custody after local people alerted them.

The trio have been identified as Vijayan, 46, of Jaffna, his wife Yazhini and their daughter Dibenthini, 18. They left Sri Lanka due to economic crisis in the island nation. They hired an illegal ferry to reach Dhanushkodi.

The family was investigated by Q branch and intelligence bur would be lodged in Mandapam refugee camp, said officials.



## Navy apprehends 09 persons engaged in illegal fishing in northern seas

Special operations conducted by the Sri Lanka Navy in the wee hours of 30th May 2023 led to the apprehension of 09 persons for engaging in several illegal fishing activities in the sea areas of Chundikulam, Chalai, and Nagar Kovil in Veththalakerni. During these operations, the Navy also took hold of unauthorized fishing gear and 05 dinghies used for these illegal acts.

The Navy conducts regular operations in the coastal and sea areas around the island in order to suppress illegal fishing activities performed by people.

As an extension of these efforts, the Naval Deployment Veththalakerni in the Northern Naval Command on 30th May mounted search operations deploying naval personnel attached to the Naval Detachments of Chundikulam, Chalai and Nagar Kovil. The search operation led to the apprehension of 02 individuals and 02 dinghies off Chundikulam for practicing light-coarse fishing, another 04 persons with fishing gear and 02 dinghies while engaging in fishing using unauthorized fishing nets off Chalai as well as 03 persons with a dinghy and 110 sea cucumbers for harvesting sea cucumber without license in Nagar Kovil sea area.

The suspects held in these operations are residents of Mulliyan, Pudumathalan, Mullaitivu, Mulliwaikkal, Pudukudiirippu, Mannar and Mamunai from 18 to 52 years of age. The 09 individuals together with 05 dinghies and unauthorized fishing gear and sea cucumber were handed over to the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, Jaffna for onward legal action.

