



Information Fusion Centre

Colombo - Sri Lanka


IFC Monthly Report


June 2023

 Naval Headquarters, Colombo 01, Sri Lanka

 ifc@navy.lk

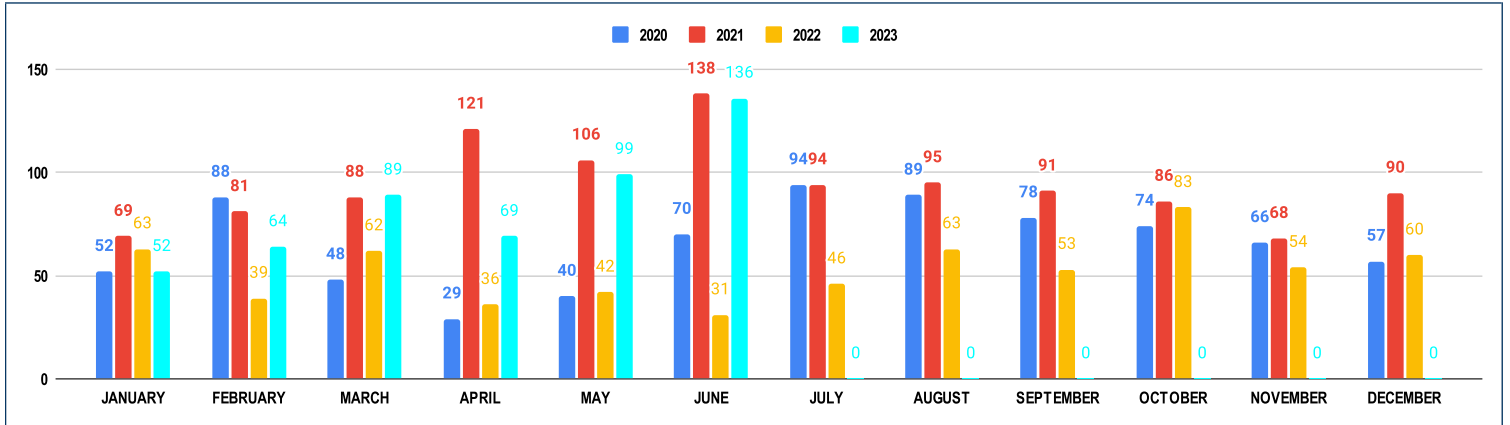
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OVERVIEW

MARITIME SECURITY INCIDENTS (2020-2023)



INCIDENTS IN BRIEF

INCIDENT TYPE	JUN 2022	JUN 2023	TOTAL 2023
IUU Fishing	1	81	243
Drug Smuggling	2	2	21
Contraband Smuggling	2	0	17
Human Smuggling	6	0	3
Maritime Incident	15	32	178
Poaching	5	21	46
Explosive and Firearms	0	0	1

Poaching

15.4%

Maritime Incident

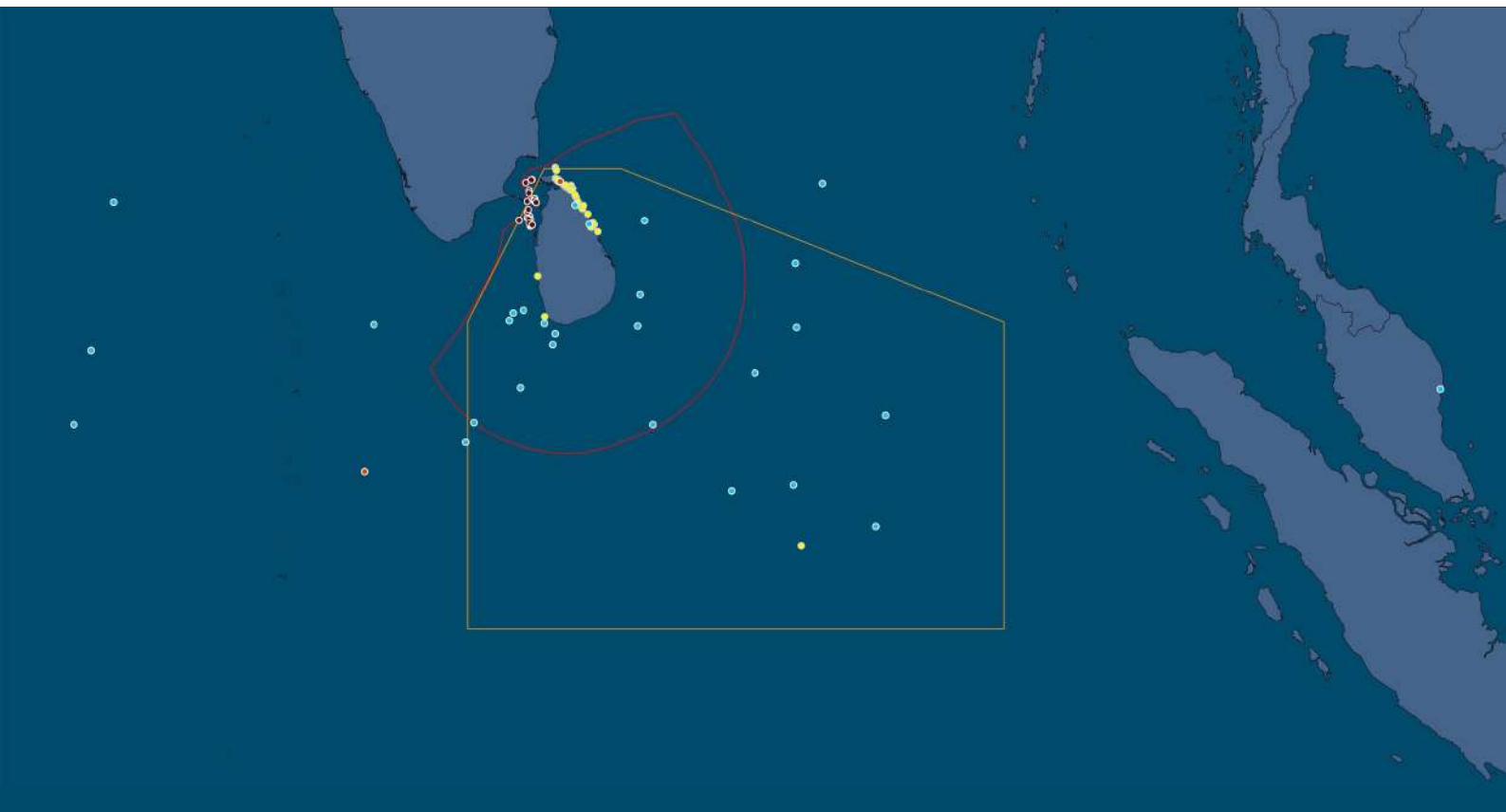
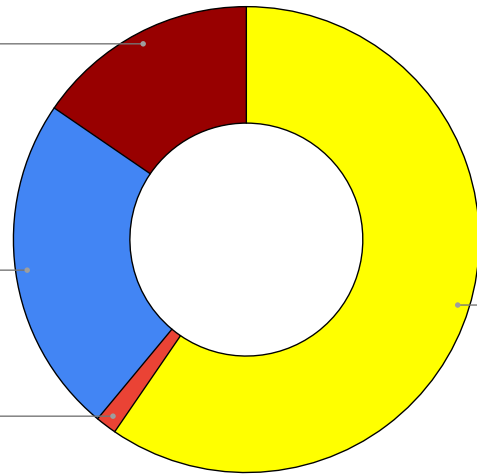
23.5%

Drug Smuggling

1.5%

IUU Fishing

59.6%



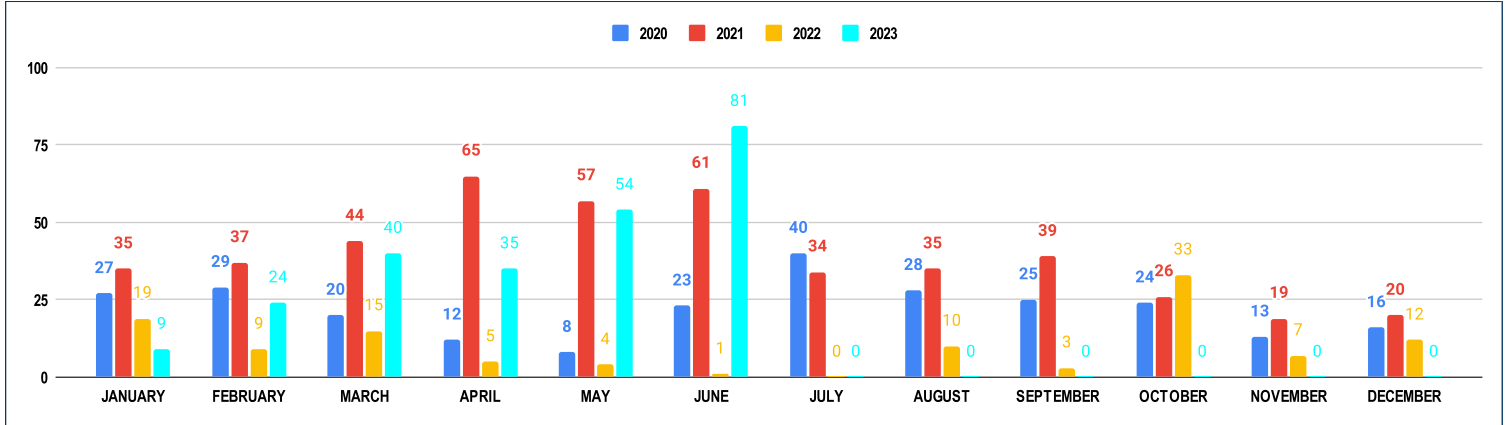


IFC COLOMBO SRI LANKA

MARITIME INCIDENT BULLETIN MONTHLY MAP JUNE 2023

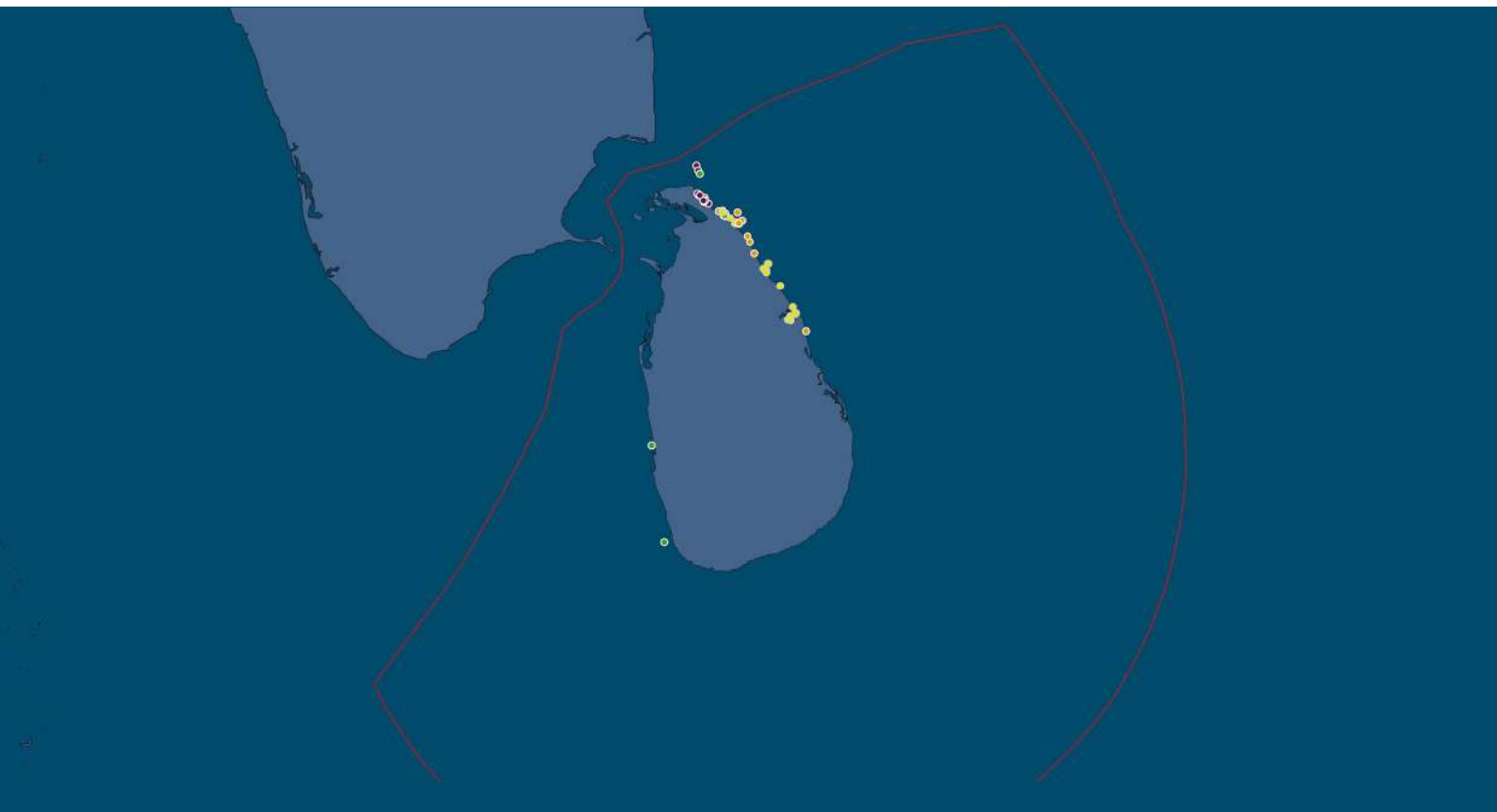
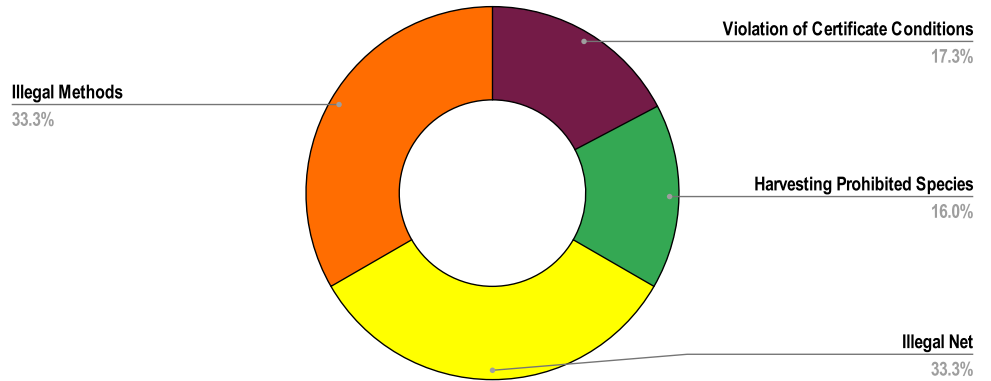
IUU FISHING

MARITIME SECURITY INCIDENTS (2020-2023)



INCIDENTS IN BRIEF

INCIDENT TYPE	JUN 2022	JUN 2023	TOTAL 2023
Violation of Certificate Conditions	0	14	23
Harvesting Prohibited Species	0	13	72
Illegal Net	0	27	75
Illegal Methods	1	27	70
Explosive Fishing	0	0	3



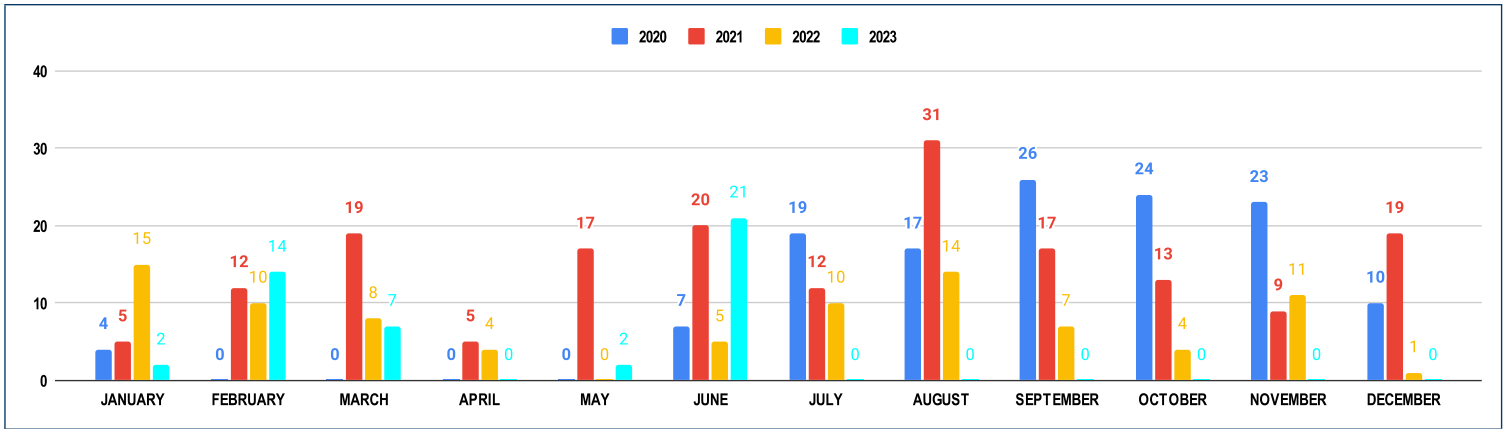


IFC COLOMBO SRI LANKA

MARITIME INCIDENT BULLETIN MONTHLY MAP JUNE 2023

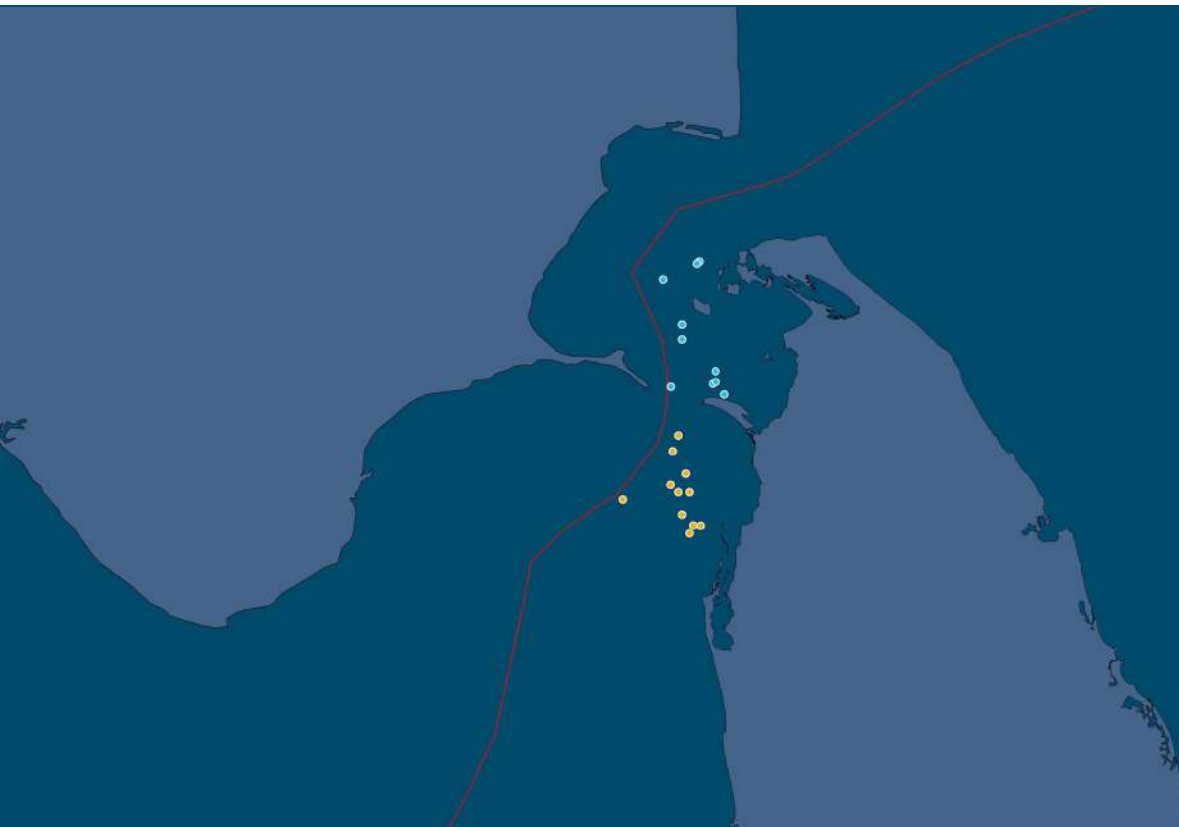
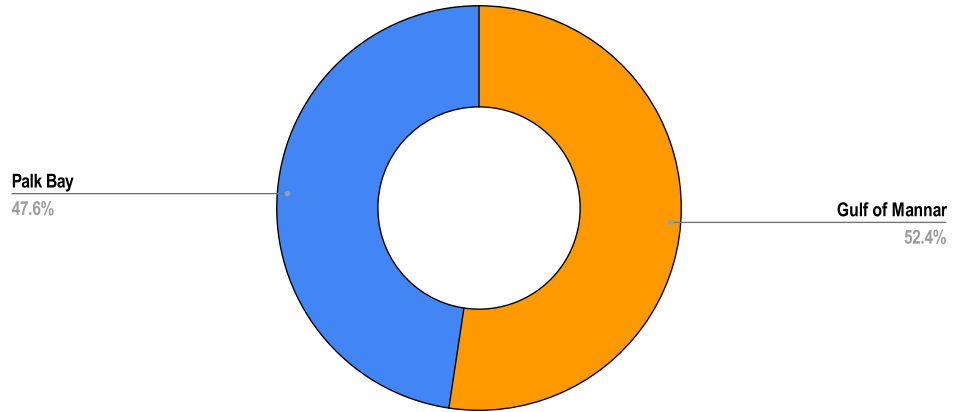
POACHING

MARITIME SECURITY INCIDENTS (2020-2023)



INCIDENTS IN BRIEF

INCIDENT TYPE	JUN 2022	JUN 2023	TOTAL 2023
Eastern Coast	1	0	4
Palk Strait	0	0	3
Gulf of Mannar	1	11	16
Palk Bay	3	10	23
Other	1	0	1



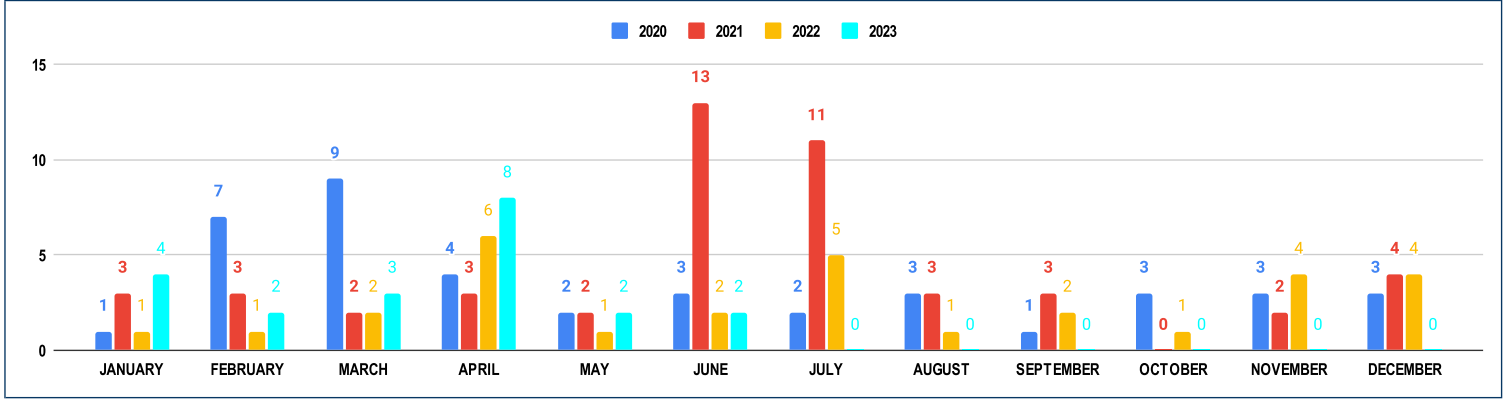


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MARITIME INCIDENT BULLETIN MONTHLY MAP JUNE 2023

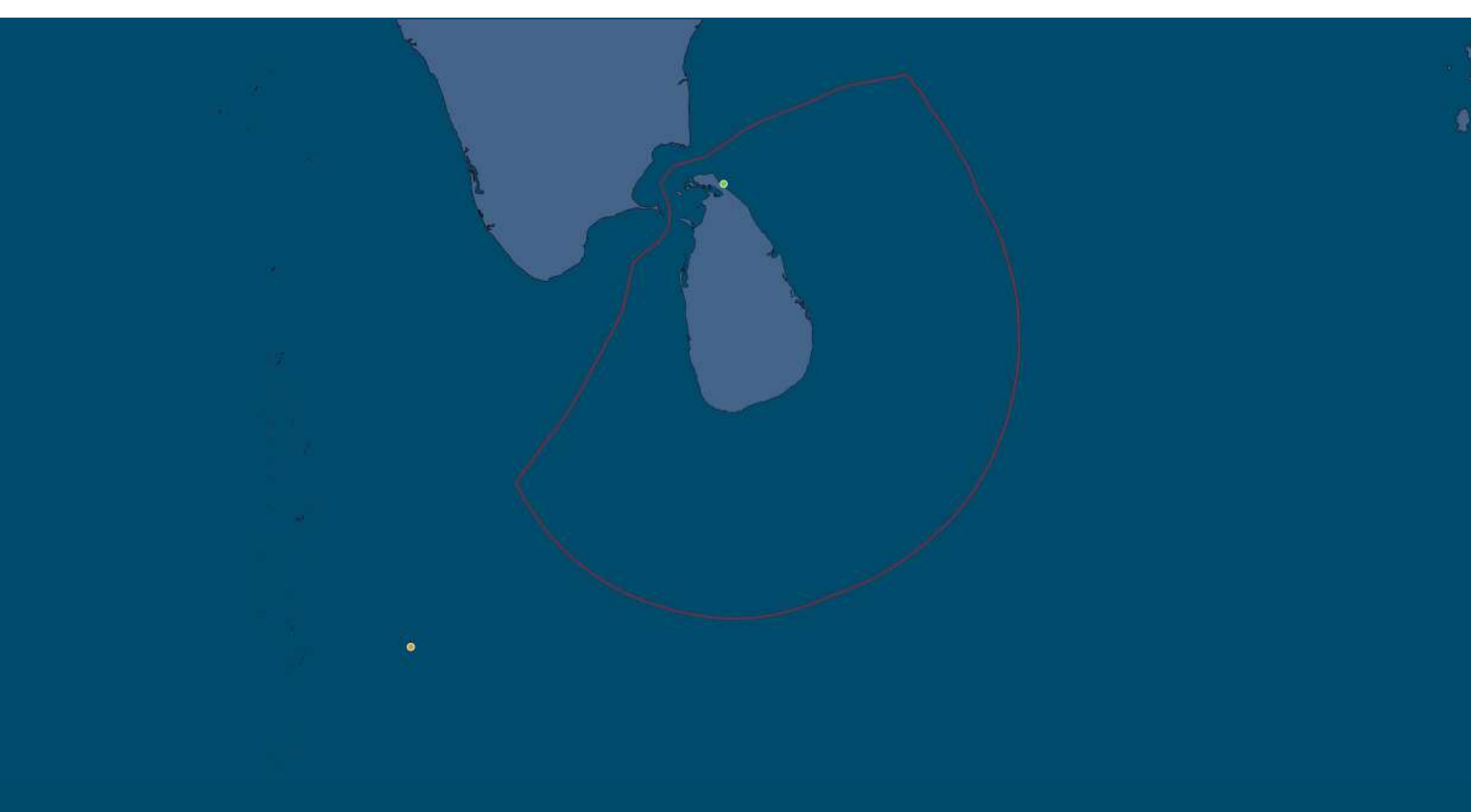
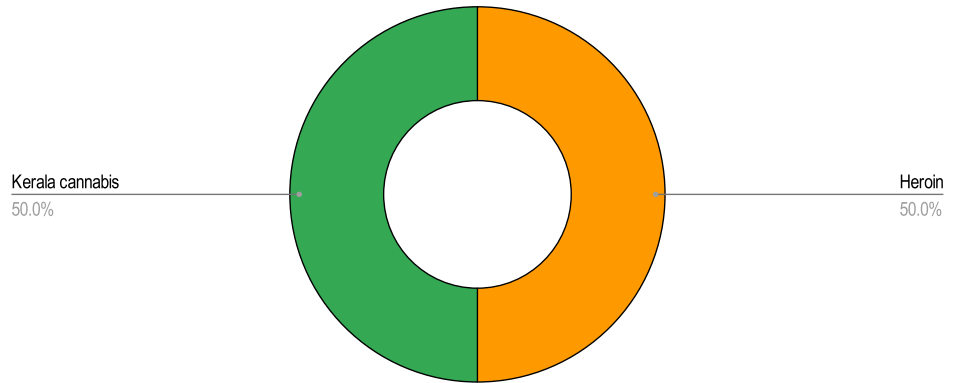
DRUG SMUGGLING

MARITIME SECURITY INCIDENTS (2020-2023)



INCIDENTS IN BRIEF

Drug Type	JUN 2022	JUN 2023	TOTAL 2023
Heroin	0	1	4
Kerala cannabis	1	1	14
Ice	0	0	1
Tablets	1	0	0
Hashish	0	0	2
Local cannabis	0	0	0



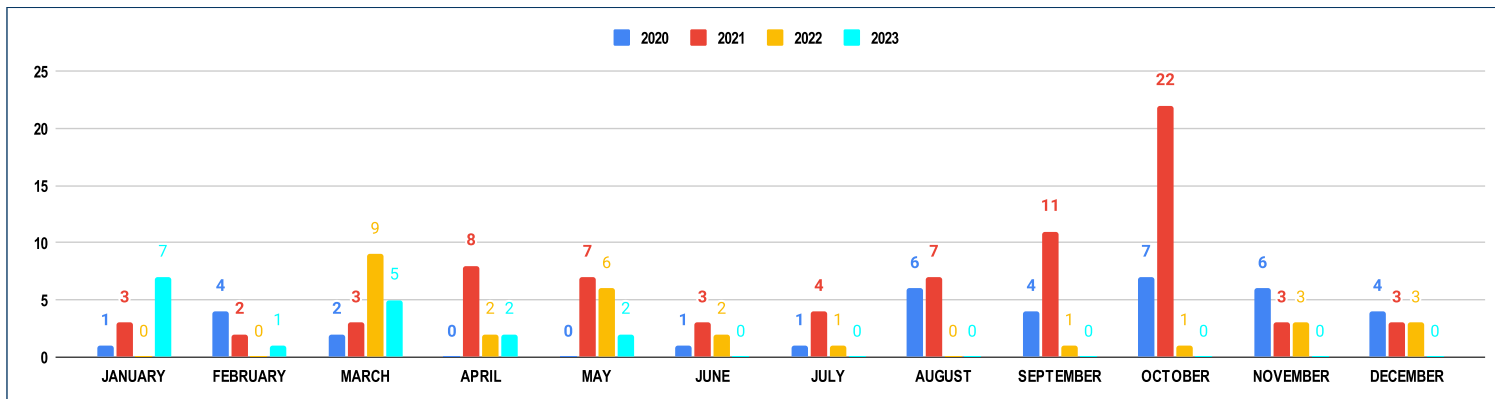


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MARITIME INCIDENT BULLETIN MONTHLY MAP JUNE 2023

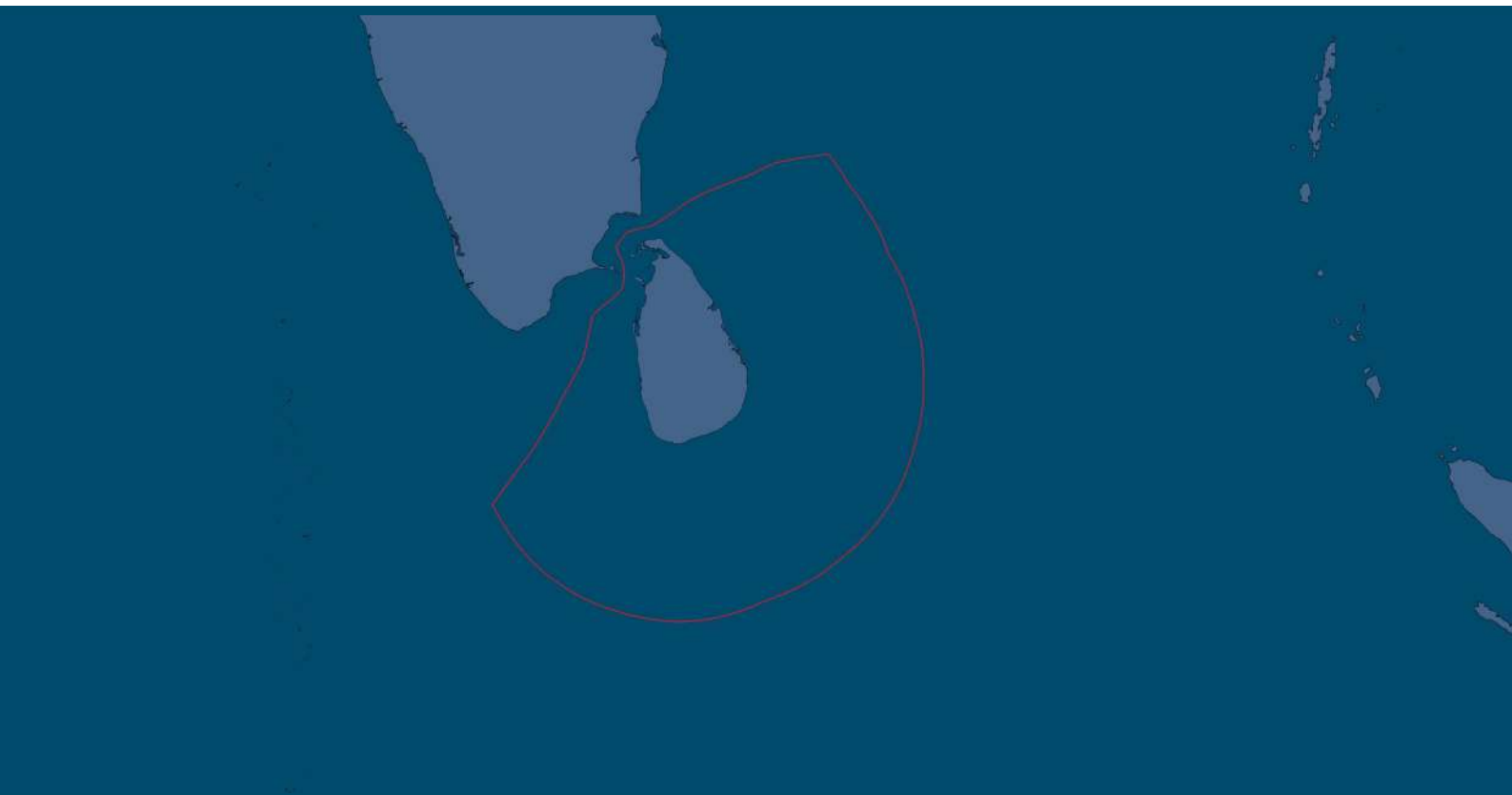
CONTRABAND SMUGGLING

MARITIME SECURITY INCIDENTS (2020-2023)



INCIDENTS IN BRIEF

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



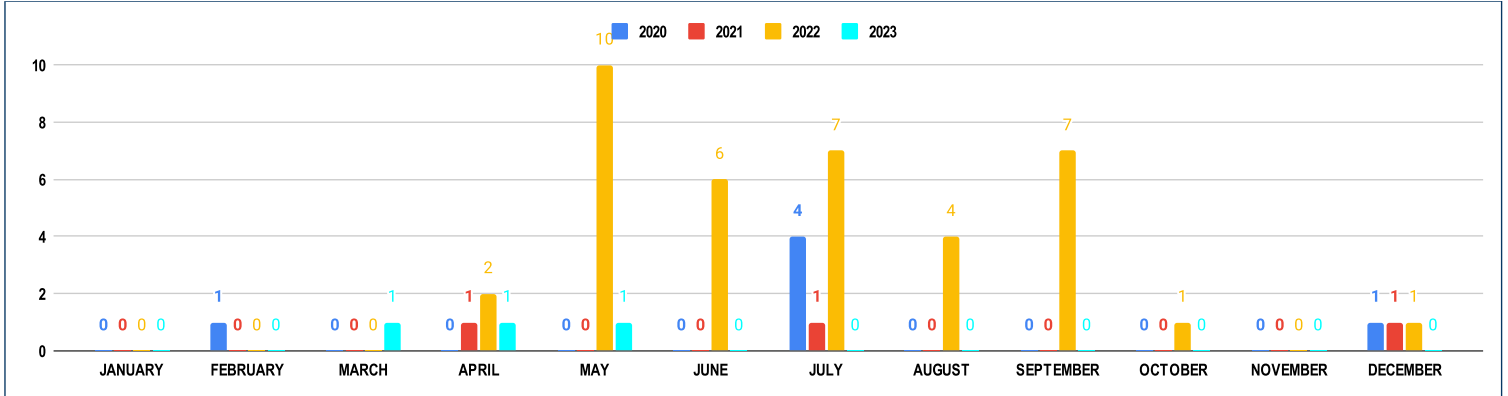


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MARITIME INCIDENT BULLETIN MONTHLY MAP JUNE 2023

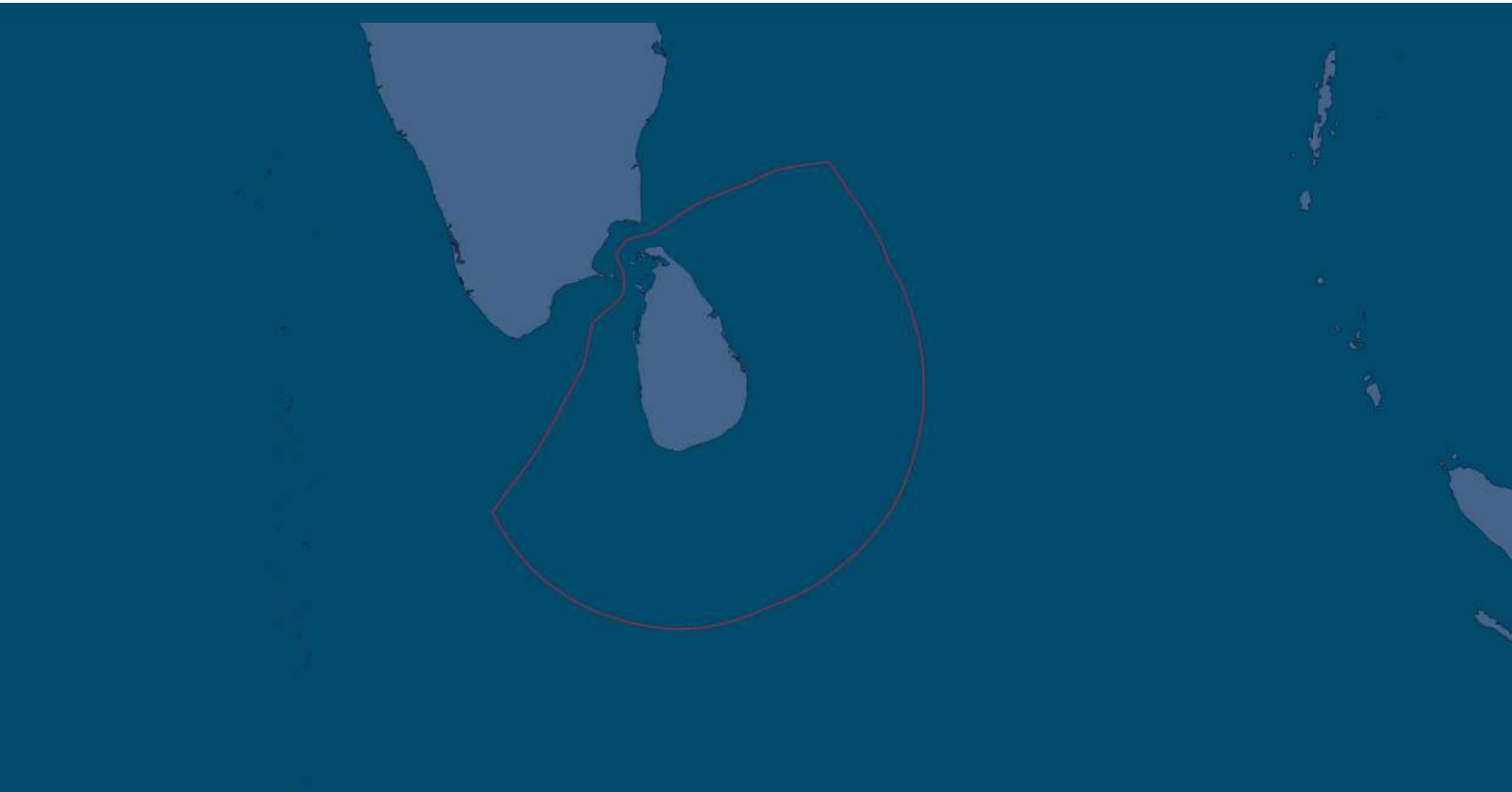
HUMAN SMUGGLING

MARITIME SECURITY INCIDENTS (2020-2023)



INCIDENTS IN BRIEF

INCIDENT TYPE	JUN 2022	JUN 2023	TOTAL 2023
Human Smuggling	0	0	3



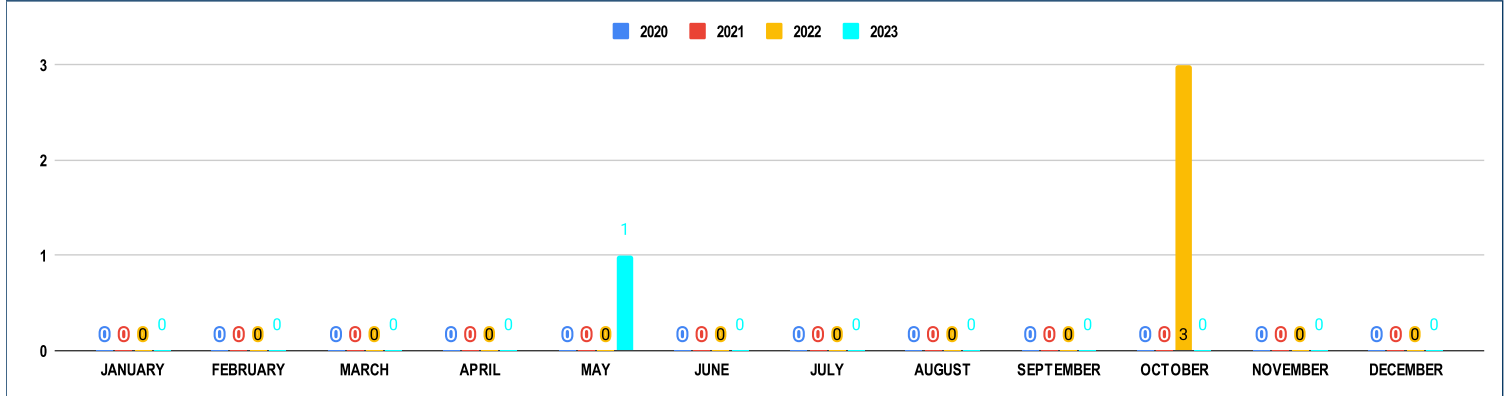


IFC COLOMBO SRI LANKA

MARITIME INCIDENT BULLETIN MONTHLY MAP JUNE 2023

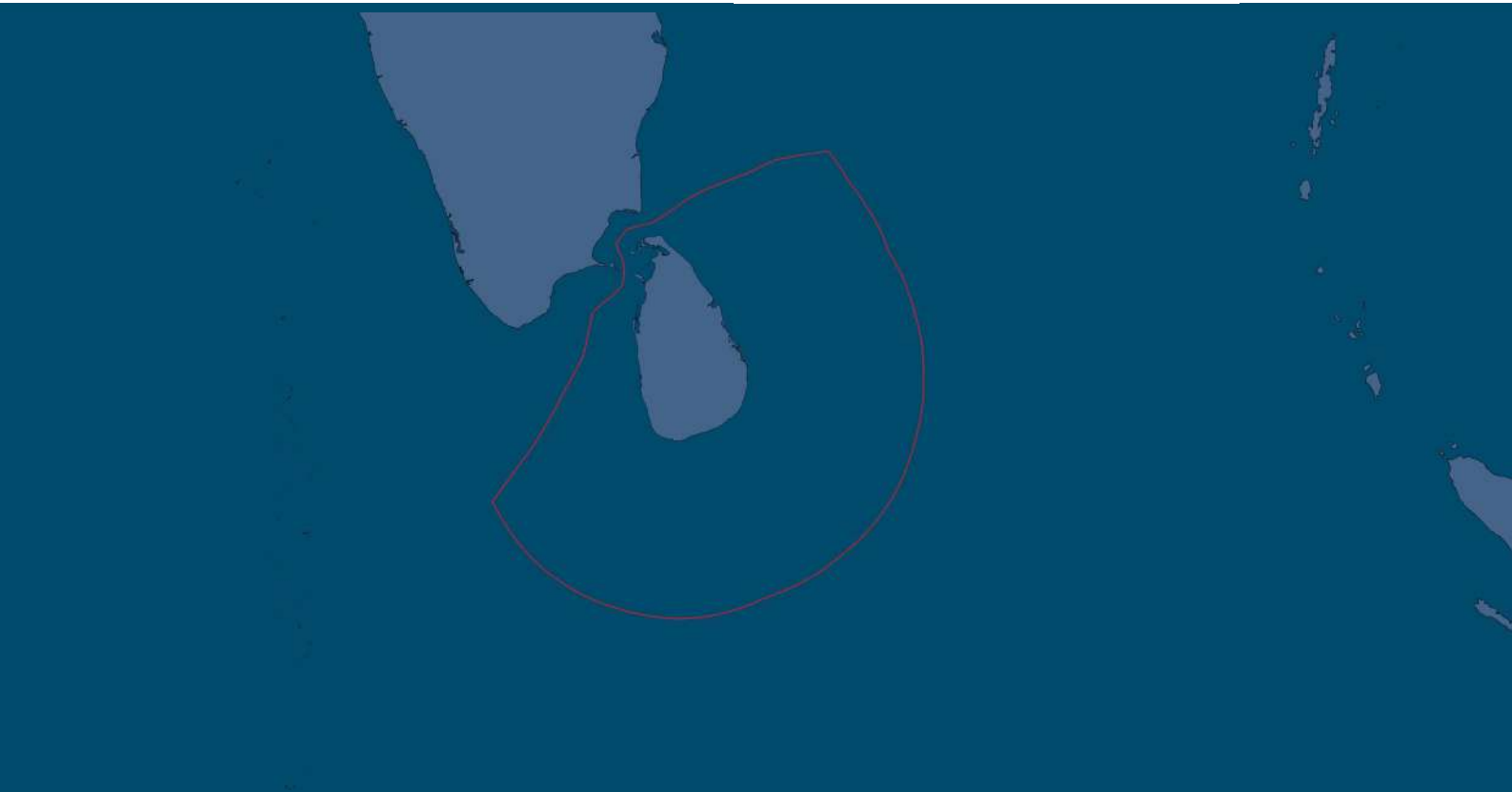
EXPLOSIVE AND FIREARMS

MARITIME SECURITY INCIDENTS (2020-2023)



INCIDENTS IN BRIEF

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



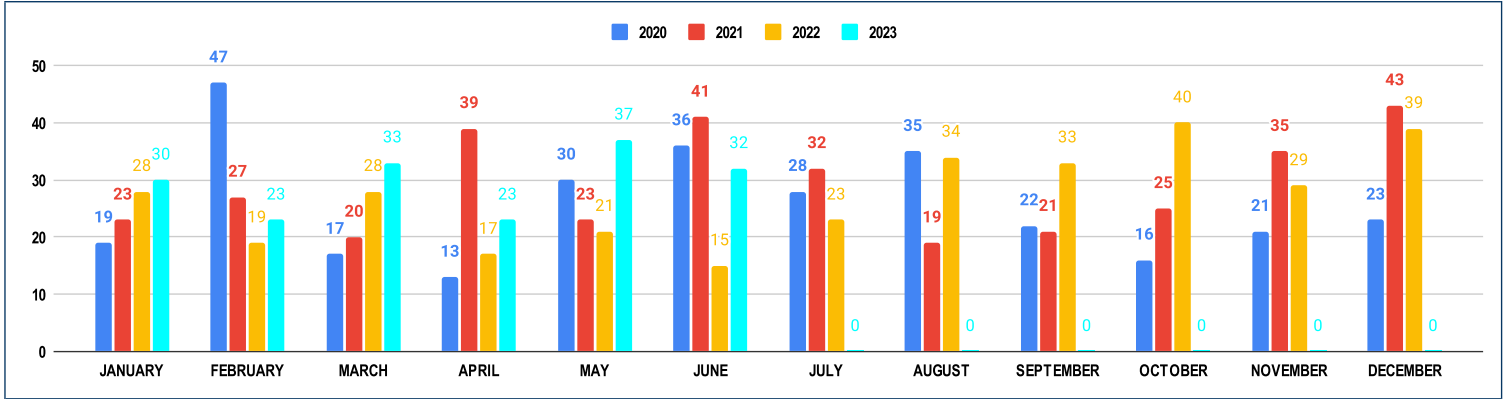


IFC COLOMBO SRI LANKA

MARITIME INCIDENT BULLETIN MONTHLY MAP JUNE 2023

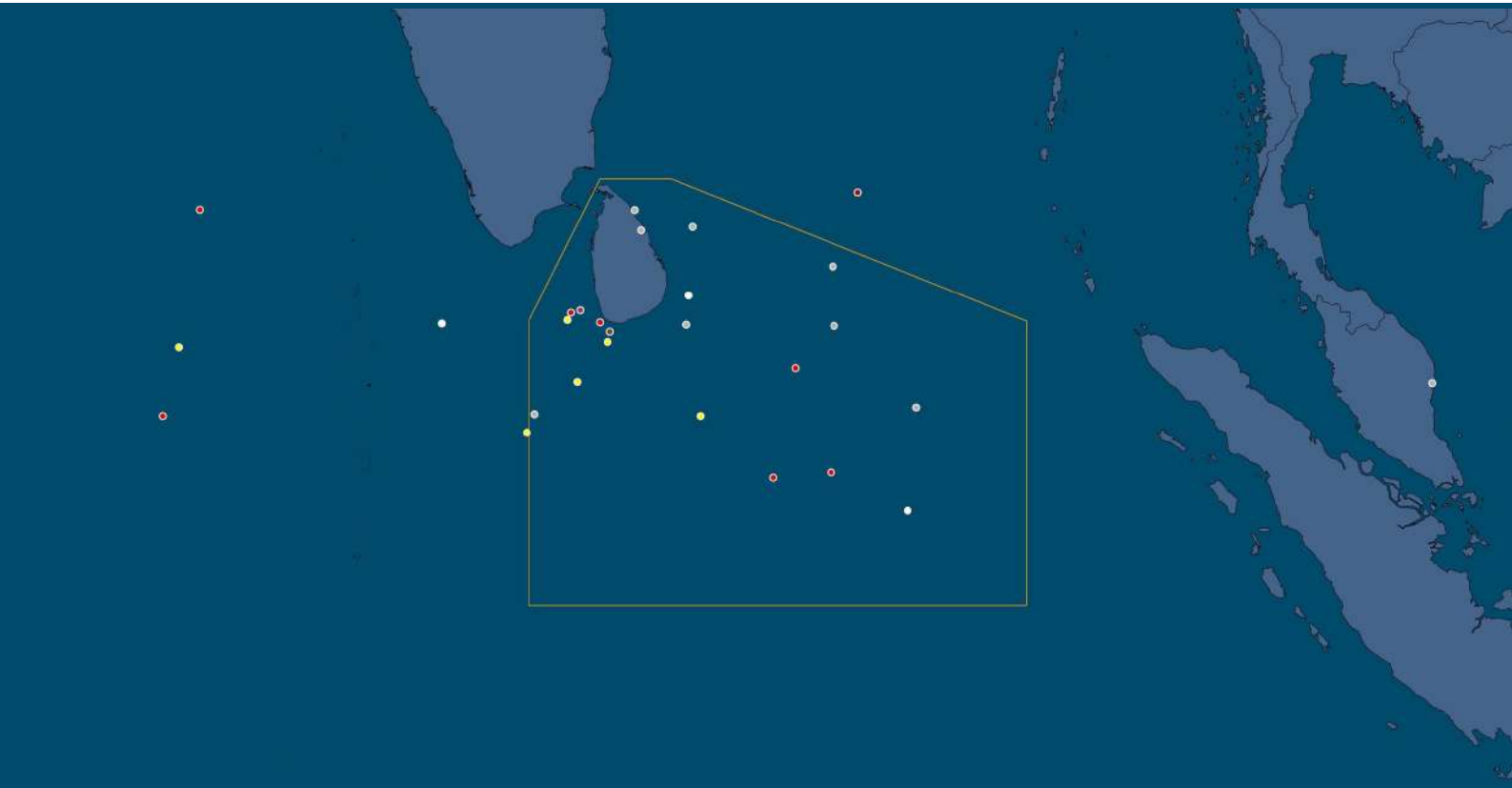
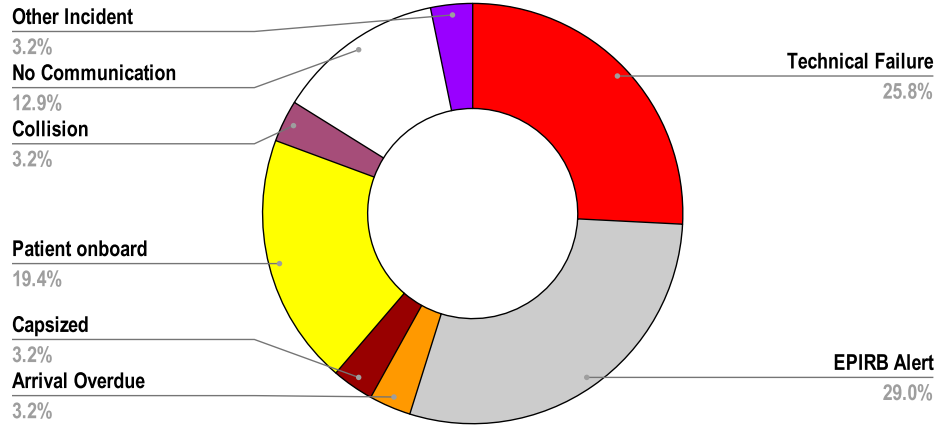
MARITIME INCIDENTS

MARITIME SECURITY INCIDENTS (2020-2023)



INCIDENTS IN BRIEF

INCIDENT TYPE	JUN 2022	JUN 2023	TOTAL 2023
Technical Failure	11	8	66
Fire onboard	0	0	0
EPIRB Alert	1	9	56
Man Over Board	0	0	1
Arrival Overdue	2	1	2
Capsized	0	1	3
Ground	0	0	1
Death	0	0	6
Patient onboard	1	6	21
Collision	0	1	1
No Communication	0	4	14
Other Incident	0	1	4



EVENTS

01. 01st June 2023

Navy apprehends 25 persons engaged in illegal fishing in northern waters

The Navy apprehended 25 individuals today (01st June 2023) off Mamunai and Chundikulam in Jaffna, for engaging in light-coarse fishing and night diving to catch fish. During these operations, the Navy seized 1068 illegally harvested sea cucumbers, 07 dinghies, and various diving and fishing equipment used in these illicit activities.

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 Detachment Mamunai and Chundikulam in the Northern Naval Command carried out special operations in the wee hours of today in the sea areas of Mamunai and Chundikulam and nabbed these 25 individuals involved in illegal night diving and light-coarse fishing. The operations also led to the seizure of 1068 illegally harvested sea cucumbers, 07 dinghies, and several diving and fishing equipment.

The apprehended persons, ranging in age from 20 to 57, were from the areas of Mannar, Mulliyan, Kannayankadu, and Jaffna. Following the apprehensions, the Navy promptly handed over the suspects, their belongings, and the illegally harvested sea cucumbers to the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, Jaffna for further legal action.



Navy apprehends 07 persons for engaging in illegal fishing in northern waters

A special operation conducted by the Sri Lanka Navy on the afternoon of 06th June 2023 off Point Pedro, Jaffna led to the apprehension of 07 persons who engaged in diving to catch fish, without valid fishing passes. During the operation, the Navy also seized one (01) dinghy as well as diving and fishing gear used for this illegal fishing practice.

To safeguard the marine ecosystem from the negative impacts of unlawful fishing practices, the Navy is carrying out continuous operations in the coastal and sea areas surrounding the island. As an extension of these efforts, this special operation was conducted on 06th June in the sea area of Point Pedro, deploying the Inshore Patrol Craft P 055 attached to the Northern Naval Command. During the operation, naval personnel apprehended 07 persons, along with 01 dinghy as well as fishing and diving gear, for engaging in diving to catch fish, without valid fishing passes.

The persons held in this operation were residents of Kalpitiya and Mannar, from 20 to 37 years of age. The 07 individuals together with their belongings were handed over to the Fisheries Inspector – Point Pedro East for onward legal action.



Sri Lanka Coast Guard Apprehended Illegally Harvested Shark Fins

Sri Lanka Coast Guard (SLCG) personnel deployed at Galle Fishery Harbour for fishery monitoring and regulating duties arrested seven persons possessing illegally harvested dried shark fins on 06th June 2023 during arrival inspections.

The SLCG made the apprehension while the fish catch was being unloaded from the boat. Upon inspection, they discovered 0.6 kg of dried Shark fins (56 Nos) hidden on board. It is important to note that retaining, transshipping, selling, or landing any parts of a shark species is considered an offence under order number 4 of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act 1996 No. 2.

The arrested persons with apprehended items were handed over to the Galle Fisheries Inspector for further investigation.



Navy nabs 18 persons for engaging in illegal fishing in northern waters

The Sri Lanka Navy apprehended 18 individuals for their involvement in illegal fishing activities, during separate operations conducted in the sea areas of Veththalakerni, Kadaikadu, Mamunei and Kudarappu in Jaffna on 06th June 2023. The operations also led to the seizure of 669 sea cucumbers, 06 dinghies as well as diving and fishing equipment used for illegal fishing.

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.

Continuing these efforts, the Naval Deployment Veththalakerni in the Northern Naval Command conducted several search operations on 06th June in the sea areas of Veththalakerni, Kadaikadu, Mamunei and Kudarappu and nabbed 18 individuals on charges of illegal harvesting of sea cucumbers, fishing without valid passes and possession of diving equipment beyond the approved limit. The Navy also seized 669 illegally harvested sea cucumbers, 06 dinghies, diving gear and unauthorized fishing gear, during these operations.

The individuals apprehended in these operations are residents of Kalpitiya, Mulliyan and Mannar, from 18 to 42 years of age. The accused along with the stock of sea cucumber and other equipment were handed over to the office of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Department in Jaffna for onward legal action.



Navy rescues 38 persons stranded on grounded trawler at entrance of Delft Jetty

In a dramatic rescue operation, the Sri Lanka Navy successfully rescued 38 individuals who were stranded on a grounded trawler at the entrance of Delft Jetty this morning (07th June 2023). As a result of the Navy's prompt involvement, a shipment of construction materials that were at risk of sinking, was also successfully retrieved.

The distressed trawler (Kali Ambal 2) was transporting a shipment of construction materials with 38 persons on board from the Kurikadduwan Jetty at Punguduthivu Island, Jaffna to the Delft Island this morning. Due to the low tide, the trawler ran aground at the entrance of the Delft Jetty, causing distress among those on board as the vessel started to fill with seawater through openings. Following the unfortunate turn of events, the distress call was disseminated to SLNS Wasabha in the Northern Naval Command for assistance.

Responding promptly to the situation, Inshore Patrol Craft and small craft belonging to SLNS Wasabha were rushed to the scene to rescue the distressed persons aboard.

The timely intervention of the Navy prevented a significant loss of life and property. Had the trawler sunk at the entrance of Delft Jetty, it would have posed significant challenges to the island's administrative operations and transportation.



Navy takes hold of Kerala cannabis worth over Rs. 42 million in northern waters

A special search operation conducted by the Navy off Mamunai of Veththalakerni, Jaffna this morning (08th June 2023) led to the recovery of more than 128 kg (wet weight) of Kerala cannabis adrift in waters.

The Navy keeps a round-the-clock vigil in the coastal and sea areas of the island with a view to prevent nefarious activities taking place via sea routes.

As an extension of these operations, small craft attached to the Naval Detachment Mamunai belonging to the Naval Deployment Veththalakerni in the Northern Naval Command carried out the special search operation in the sea area of Mamunai today (08th June) and recovered 04 suspicious sacks adrift in waters. The sacks contained about 128kg and 100g (wet weight) of Kerala cannabis which had been stuffed in 53 parcels.

It is suspected that smugglers might have abandoned the consignment of Kerala cannabis being unable to fetch them into the country, due to constant naval operations. Meanwhile, the gross street value of seized Kerala cannabis is believed to be over Rs. 42 million.

The stock of Kerala cannabis has been kept in the naval custody until it is handed over to authorities for onward action.



Navy nabs 26 individuals for engaging in illegal fishing in eastern waters

The Sri Lanka Navy apprehended 26 persons who engaged in illegal fishing practices, during special operations carried out on 13th and 14th June 2023 in the beach area of Lankapatuna and sea area of Mullaitivu. The operations also led to the seizure of 09 dinghies and diving gear used for these 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, undermine legitimate fishing industries, and damage marine ecosystems. As an extension of these efforts, SLNS Lankapatuna in the Eastern Naval Command apprehended 11 persons in the dark hours of 13th June at the Lankapatuna beach, as they were returning after illegal night diving. Along with the individuals, the Navy also held 04 dinghies and diving gear belonging to them.

Meanwhile, SLNS Gotabaya belonging to the same Naval Command apprehended 15 more persons, 05 dinghies and unauthorized fishing equipment, during a special operation mounted in the sea area of Mullaitivu on the morning of 14th June. When the apprehension was made the persons were engaging in diving to catch fish, violation of licence conditions which have been imposed to prevent illegal diving activities.

The individuals held in these operations were identified as residents of Mannar, Kinniya and China Bay areas, from 24 to 56 years of age. Meanwhile, the 11 persons, 04 dinghies and diving gear held in Lankapatuna were handed over to the Trincomalee Assistant Directorate of Fisheries and 15 individuals with 05 dinghies and fishing gear held in Mullaitivu were handed over to the Mullaitivu Assistant Directorate of Fisheries for onward legal action.



Navy apprehends 04 persons engaged in illegal fishing in eastern waters

The Navy apprehended 04 fishermen, along with 04 dinghies and fishing gear, while they were engaging in fishing using unauthorized nets in the lagoon of Kokilai and Jinnapuram sea area on 15th June 2023. The apprehension was made during a dedicated operation carried out by the Navy to prevent illegal fishing practices.

To safeguard the marine ecosystem from the negative impacts of unlawful fishing practices, the Navy is carrying out continuous operations in the coastal and sea areas surrounding the island. As an extension of these efforts, SLNS Gotabaya and SLNS Ranweli in the Eastern Naval Command conducted this special operation in the Kokilai lagoon and Jinnapuram sea area, deploying craft belonging to the Naval Detachment Nayar. The operation led to the apprehension of 04 fishermen who were engaging in fishing with unauthorized nets. Accordingly, the fishermen, 04 dinghies and their fishing equipment were taken into naval custody.

Meanwhile, the Navy fired one warning shot in the sky, in order to control the fishermen in Jinnapuram area who behaved violently during the naval operation. Further, a person on the scene was held and handed over to the Pulmoddai Police by the Navy, for his aggressive behaviour.

The persons held in the operation were identified as residents of Periyapadu, Kokilai and Pulmoddai areas, aged from 24 to 45. The 04 individuals along with their dinghies and fishing gear were handed over to the Kuchchaveli Fisheries Inspector for onward legal action.



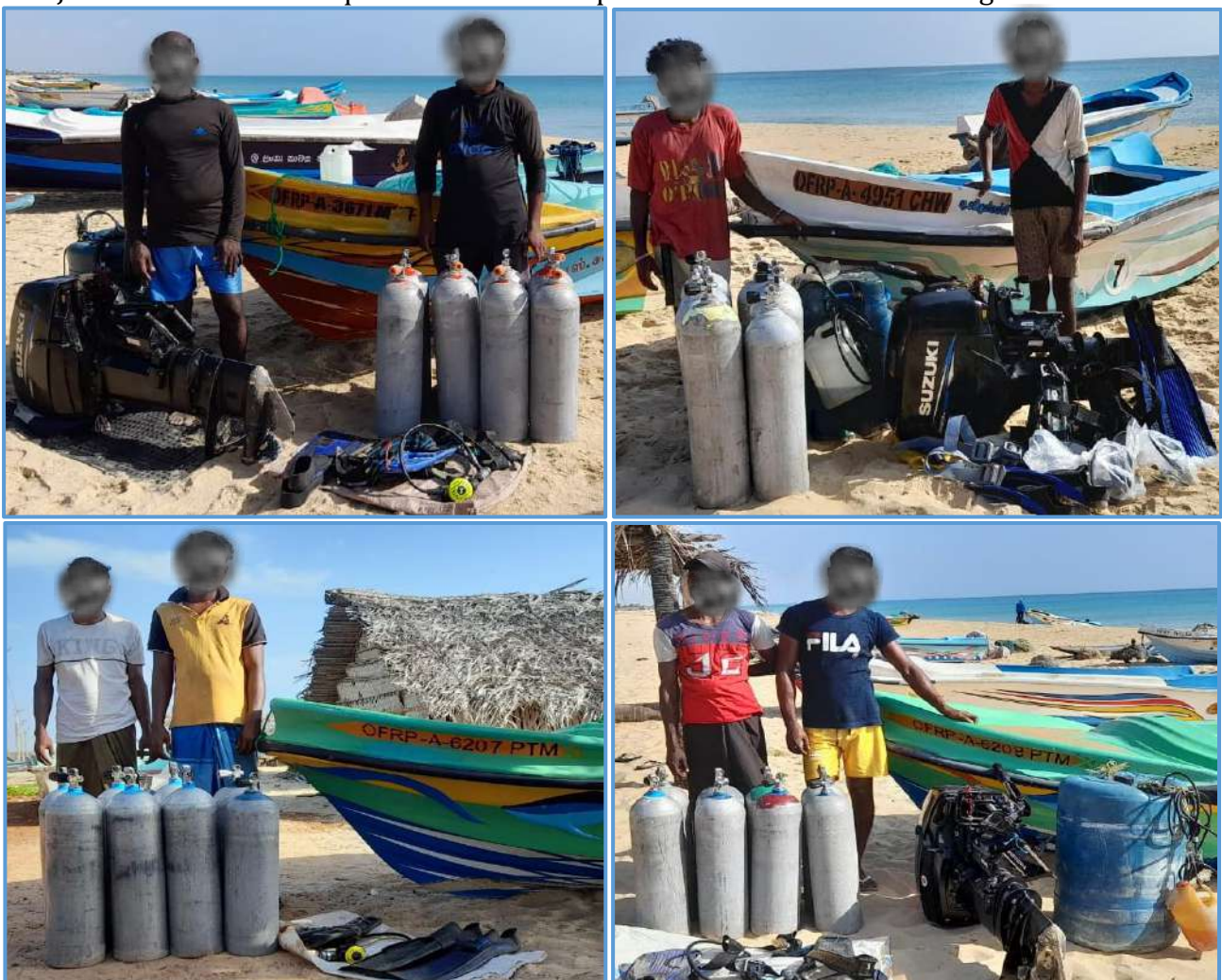
Navy nabs 08 individuals for engaging in illegal fishing in northern waters

The Sri Lanka Navy apprehended 08 persons who engaged in illegal fishing practices, during a special operation carried out on 16th June 2023 in the sea area of Mamunai of Veththalakerni, Jaffna. The operation also led to the seizure of 04 dinghies and diving gear used for this 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, undermine legitimate fishing industries, and damage marine ecosystems.

As an extension of these efforts, the Naval Deployment Veththalakerni in the Northern Naval Command apprehended 08 persons in the morning of 16th June off Mamunai, whilst they were engaging in diving to catch fish, without valid license. During this operation, the Navy also held 04 dinghies and diving gear belonging to them.

The individuals held in this operation were identified as residents of Tihariya, Veppakulama, Kallawarayan, Nachchikuda, Wettakulam, Norochcholai, Pallekuda and Udayakatte, from 22 to 48 years of age. Meanwhile, the 08 persons, 04 dinghies and diving gear were handed over to the Jaffna Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Department Office for onward legal action



Navy intercepts foreign trawler with over Rs 18 Mn heroin and nabs 08 suspects in southern seas

A special operation conducted by the Sri Lanka Navy about 573 nautical miles (about 1061km) off Dondra, south of Sri Lanka, led to the interception of a foreign trawler with over 900g of heroin on 22nd June 2023. During the operation, carried by SLNS Sayura, 08 foreign nationals who were aboard the drug-carrying trawler were also apprehended. The trawler and suspects were brought to the port of Colombo on the morning of 28th June 2023 for onward legal proceedings.

Based on information derived from a coordinated intelligence operation conducted by the Naval Intelligence, State Intelligence Service and Police Narcotic Bureau, the operation was mounted by the Sri Lanka Navy. Accordingly, SLNS Sayura made this apprehension about 573 nautical miles (about 1061km) off Dondra, after detecting a suspicious foreign trawler on 21st June. During further search, the Navy recovered about 926g of heroin concealed in the trawler. Accordingly, the drug-carrying trawler and 08 foreign nationals were taken into naval custody.

Meanwhile, the gross street value of seized drugs is believed to be around Rs 18.5 million.

The suspects held in this operation were identified as Iranian and Pakistani nationals who are from 17 to 42 years of age. Meanwhile, the suspects along with the trawler and about 926g of heroin were handed over to the Police Narcotic Bureau for onward legal action.



11. 30th June 2023

Navy takes hold of Kerala cannabis with gross street value of over Rs. 30 Mn in Mannar

The Sri Lanka Navy recovered over 92kg of Kerala cannabis, during a search operation conducted in Iluppukadawai lagoon area, Mannar on 30th June 2023.

The special operation was mounted by SLNS Buwaneka and SLNS Gajaba belonging to the North Central Naval Command on 30th June in Iluppukadawai lagoon area. The naval personnel engaged in the operation recovered 03 suspicious sacks hidden away in nearby shrubs and the sacks had been stuffed with 42 packages of Kerala cannabis weighing about 92kg and 250g.

The gross street value of seized Kerala cannabis is believed to be around RS. 30 million. The consignment of narcotic drugs has been kept in the custody of the Navy, until it is handed over to authorities for onward legal action.

