



# Information Fusion Centre

Colombo - Sri Lanka

## IFC Monthly Report November 2023

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 [www.ifccolombo.org](http://www.ifccolombo.org)

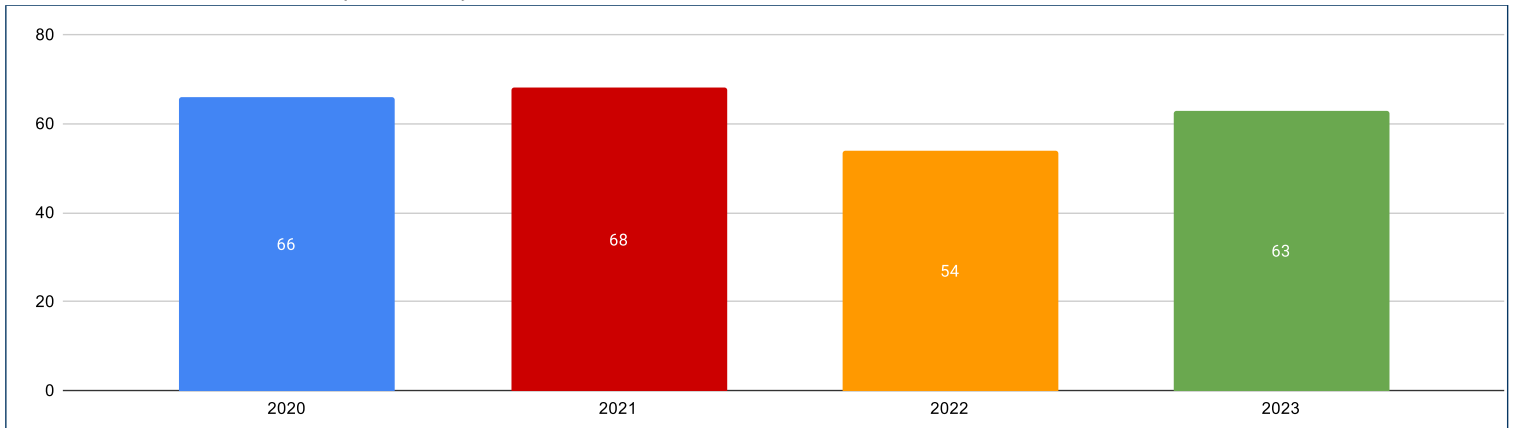
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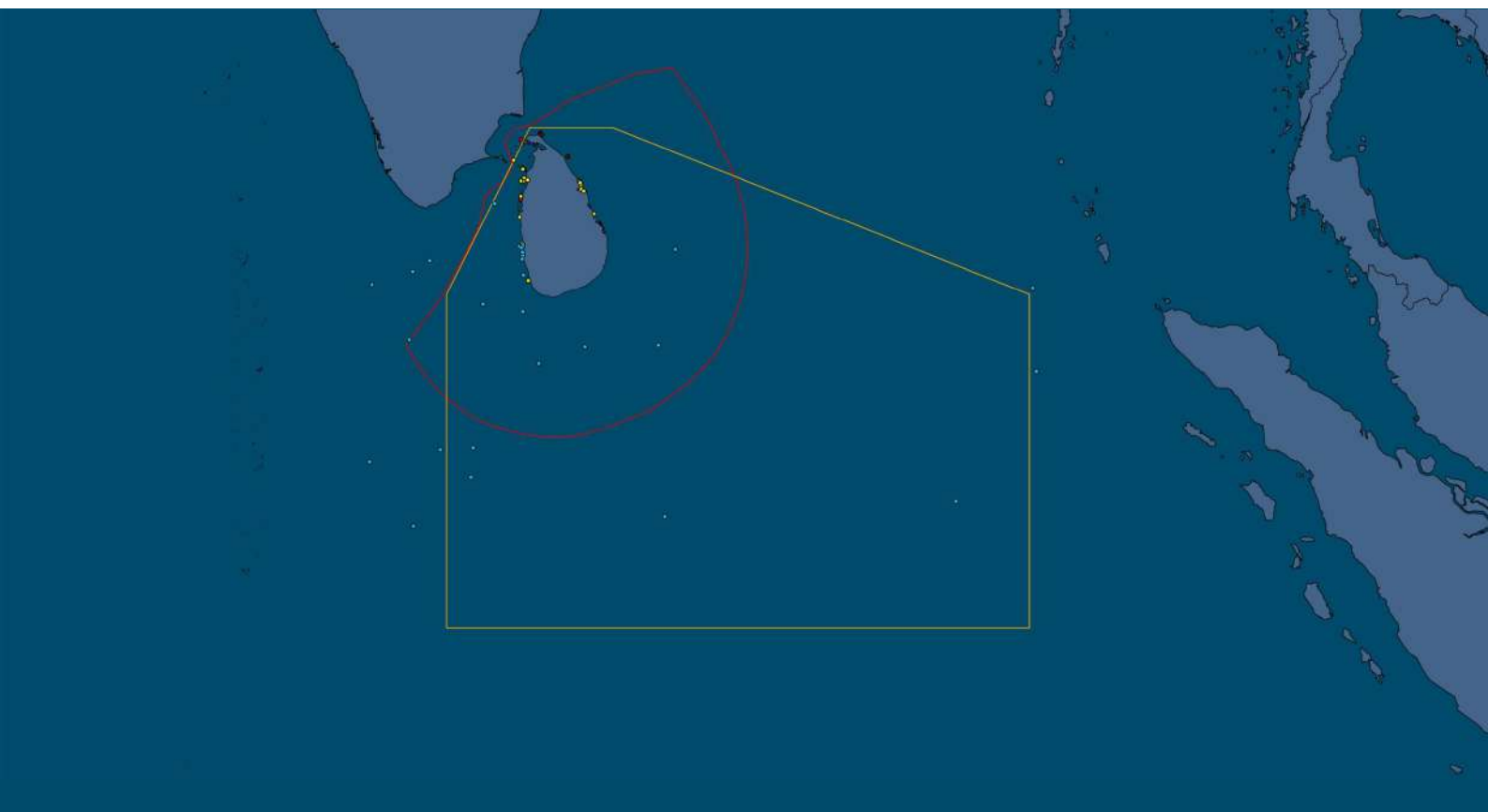
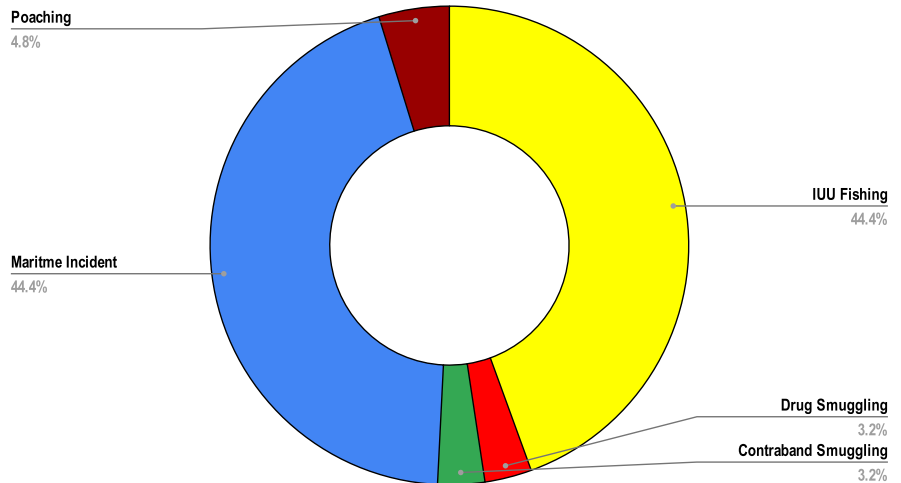
### OVERVIEW

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



#### INCIDENTS IN BRIEF

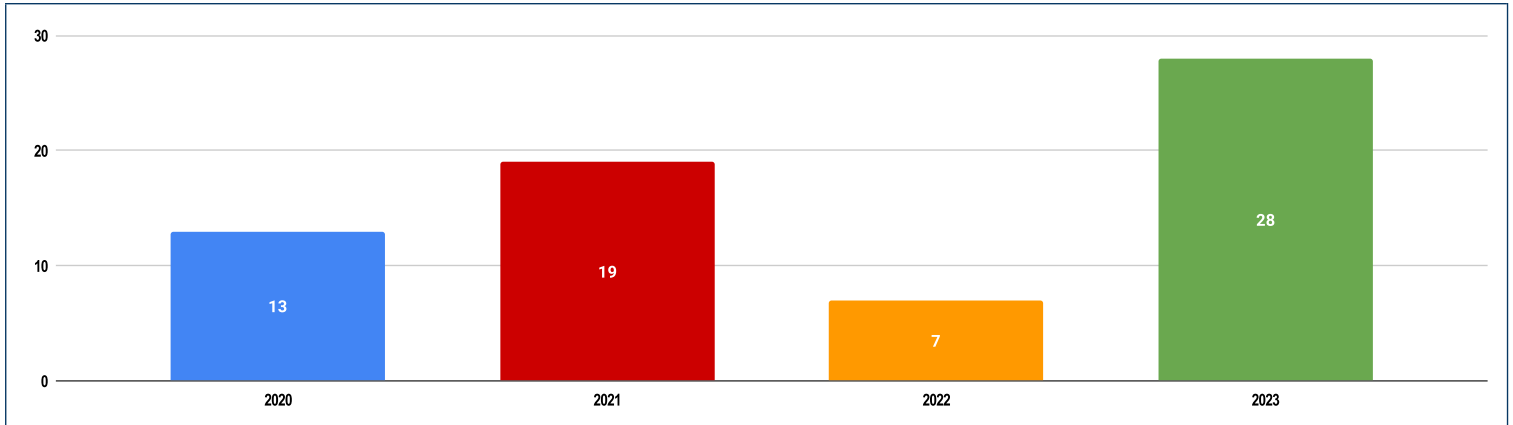
INCIDENT TYPE	NOV 2020	NOV 2021	NOV 2022	NOV 2023
IUU Fishing	13	19	7	28
Drug Smuggling	3	2	4	2
Contraband Smuggling	6	3	3	2
Human Smuggling	0	0	0	0
Maritime Incident	21	35	29	28
Poaching	23	9	11	3
Explosive and Firearms	0	0	0	0





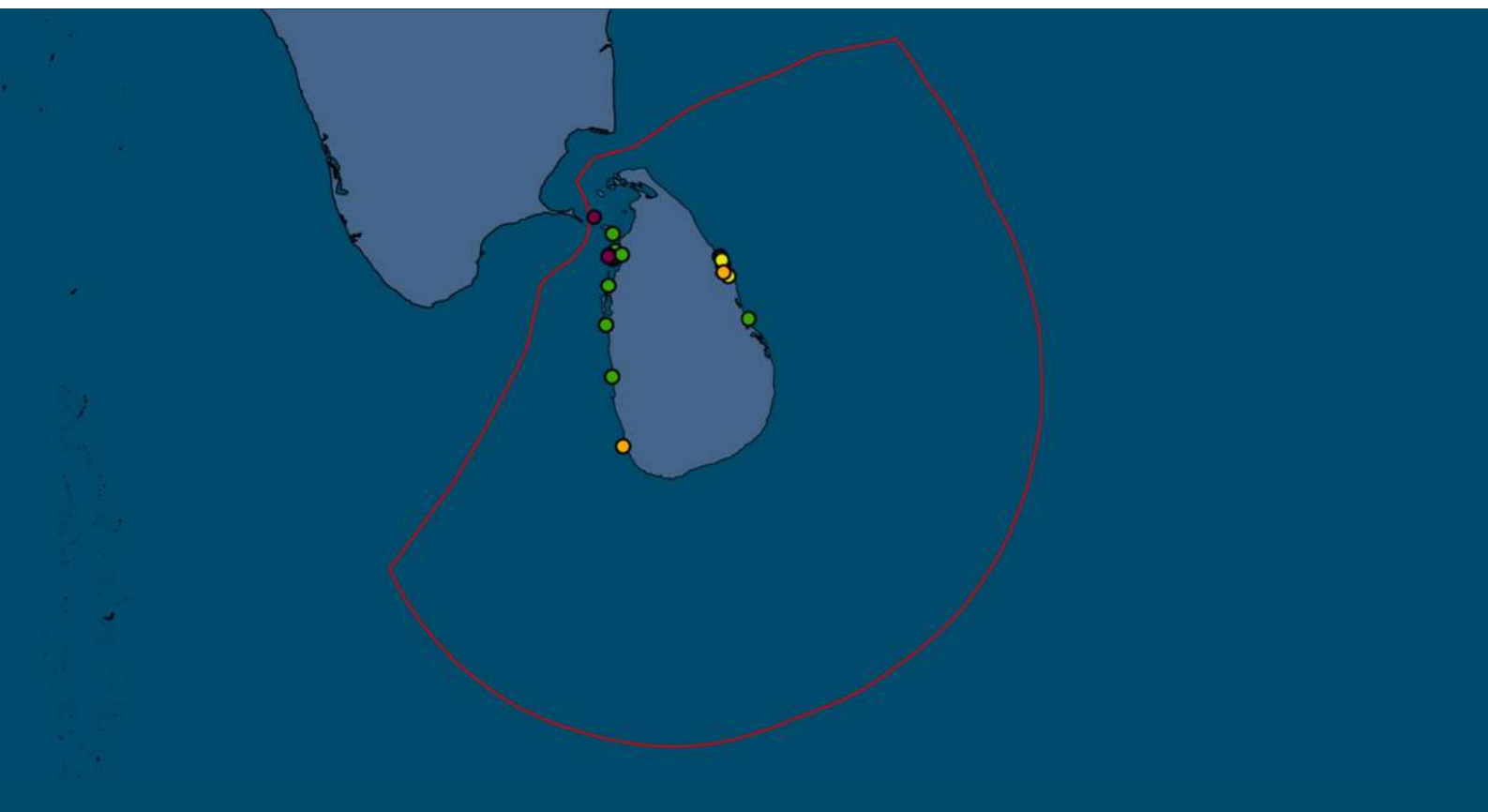
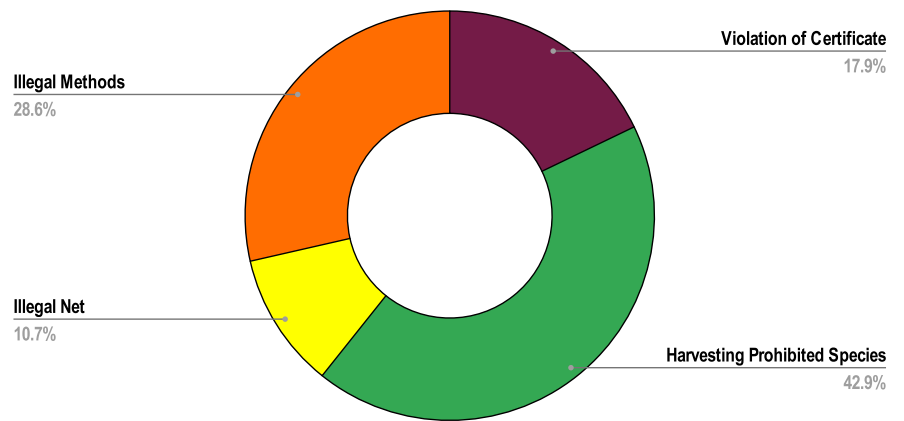
### IUU FISHING

#### NUMBER OF IUU FISHING INCIDENTS (2020-2023)



#### INCIDENTS IN BRIEF

INCIDENT TYPE	NOV 2020	NOV 2021	NOV 2022	NOV 2023
Violation of Certificate Conditions	1	3	0	5
Harvesting Prohibited Species	0	12	2	12
Illegal Net	1	3	5	3
Illegal Methods	10	0	0	8
Explosive Fishing	1	1	0	0



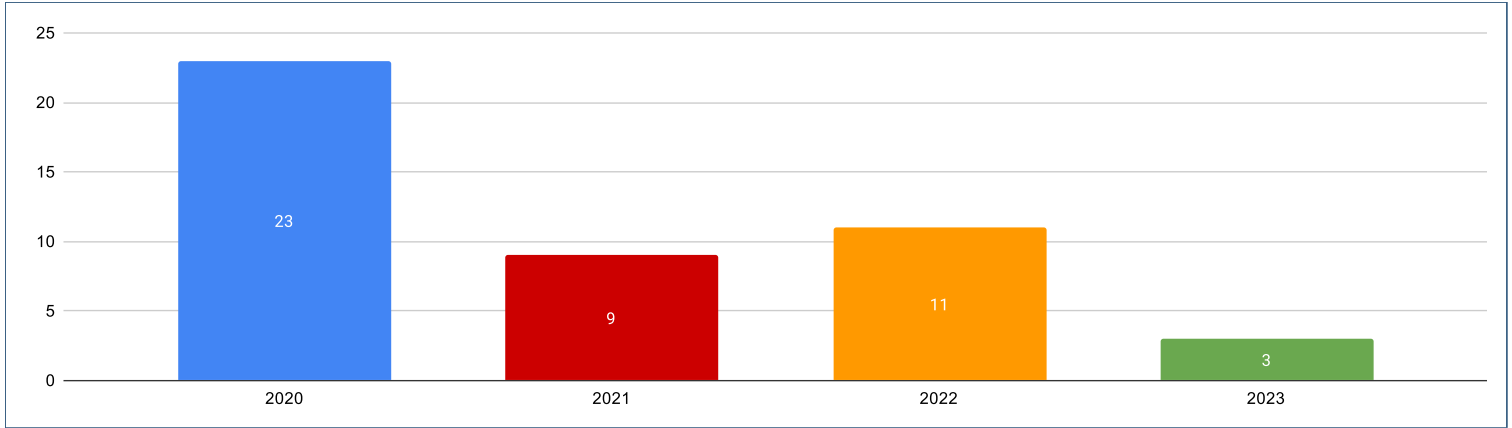


# IFC COLOMBO SRI LANKA

## MARITIME INCIDENT BULLETIN MONTHLY MAP NOVEMBER 2023

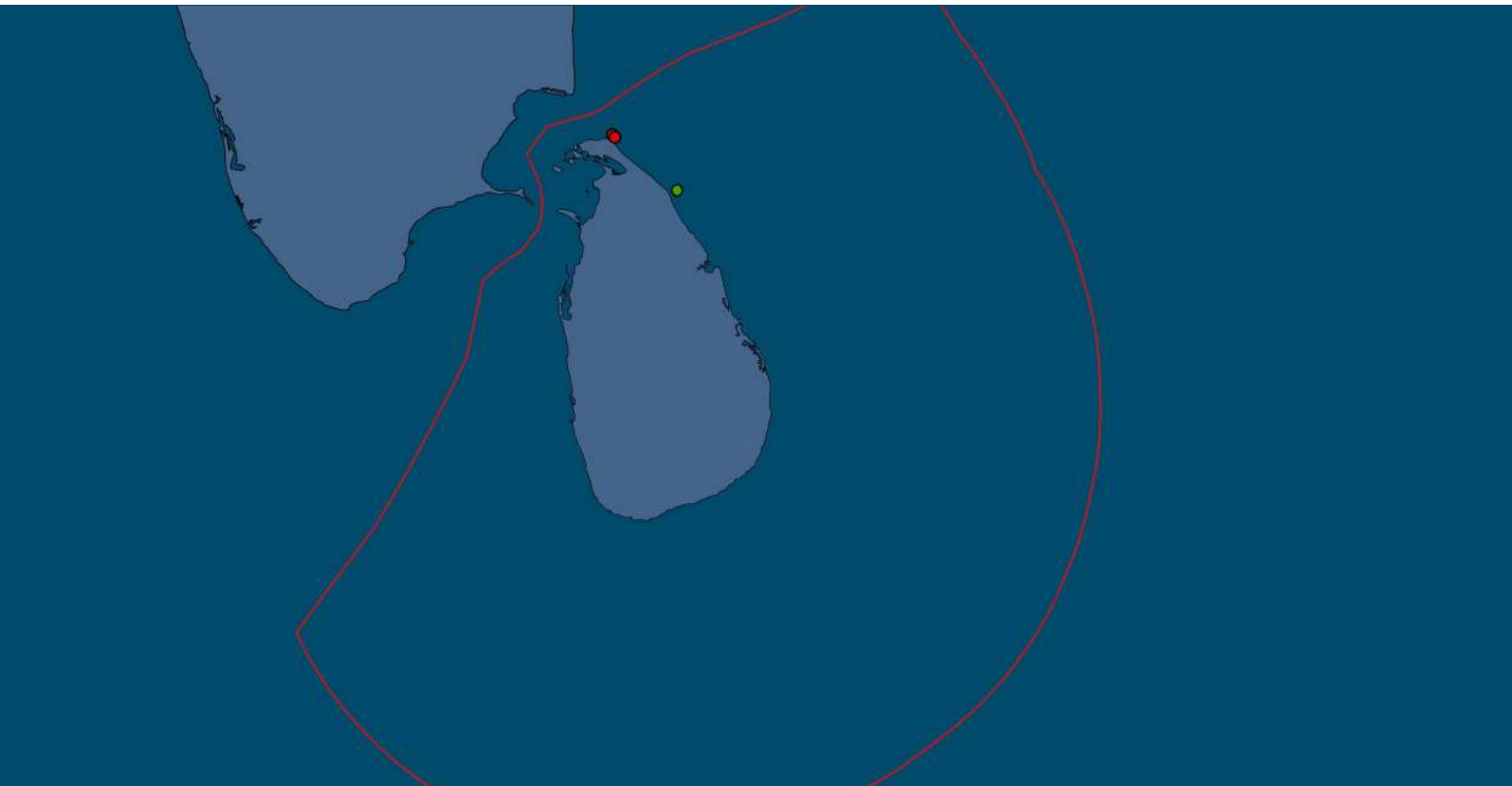
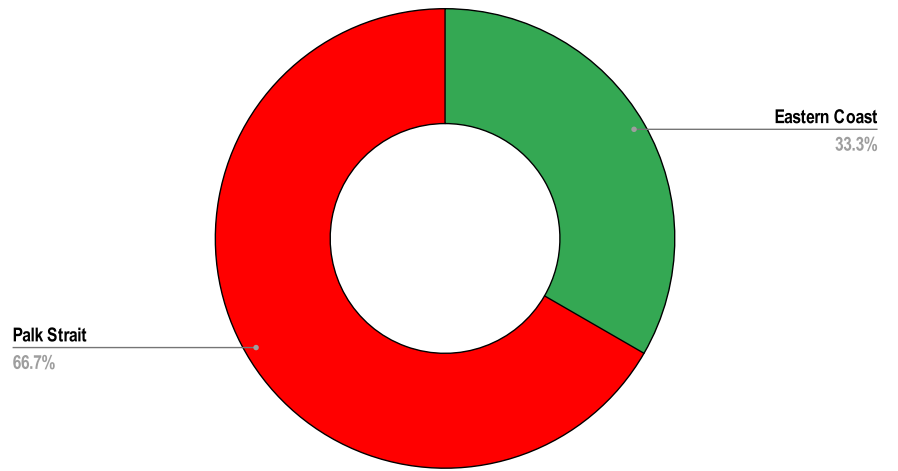
### POACHING

NUMBER OF POACHING INCIDENTS (2020-2023)



INCIDENTS IN BRIEF

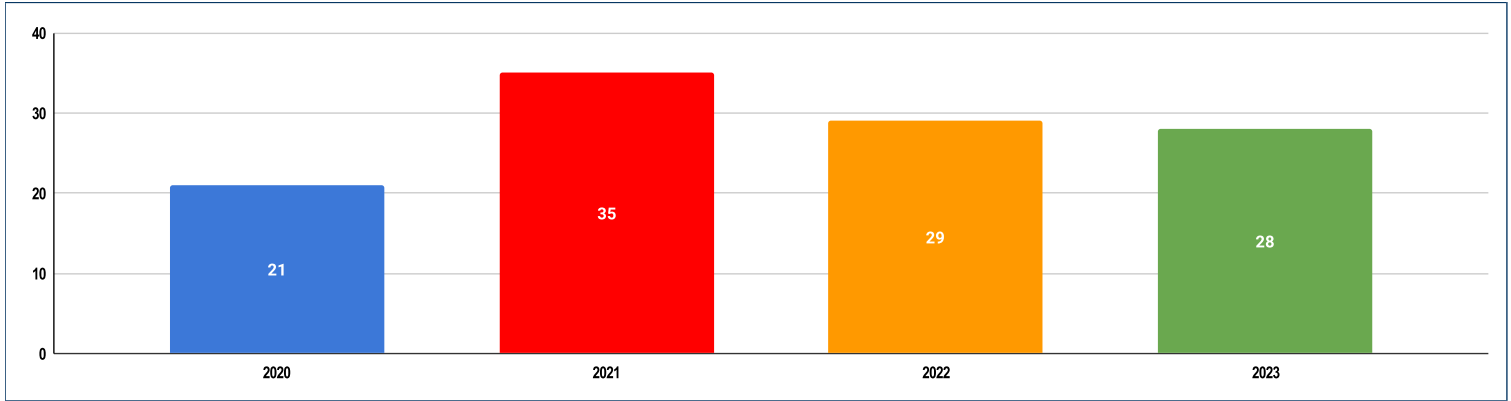
INCIDENT TYPE	NOV 2020	NOV 2021	NOV 2022	NOV 2023
Eastern Coast	6	0	1	1
Palk Strait	2	2	3	2
Gulf of Mannar	6	1	1	0
Palk Bay	9	6	6	0
Others	0	0	0	0





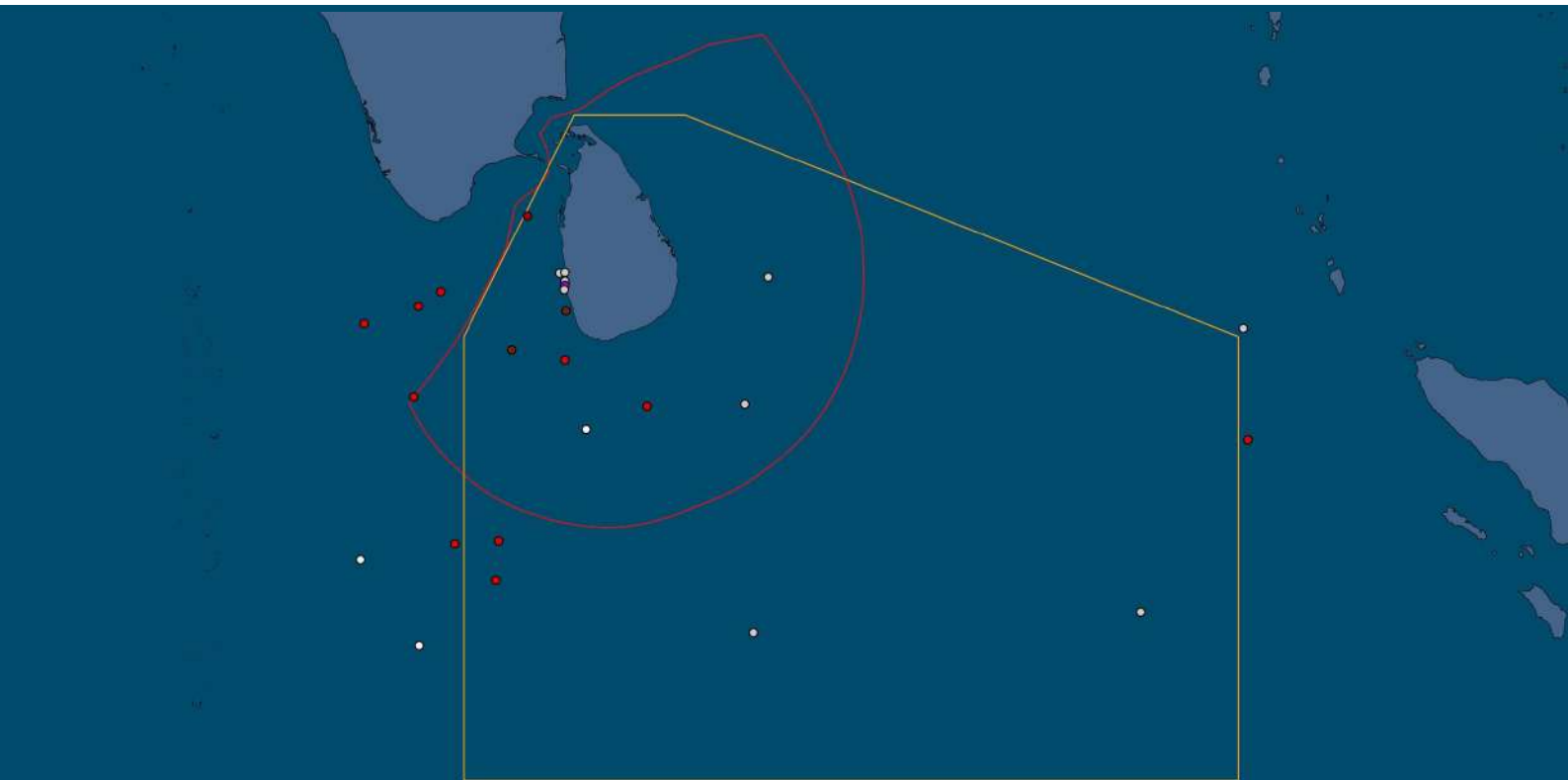
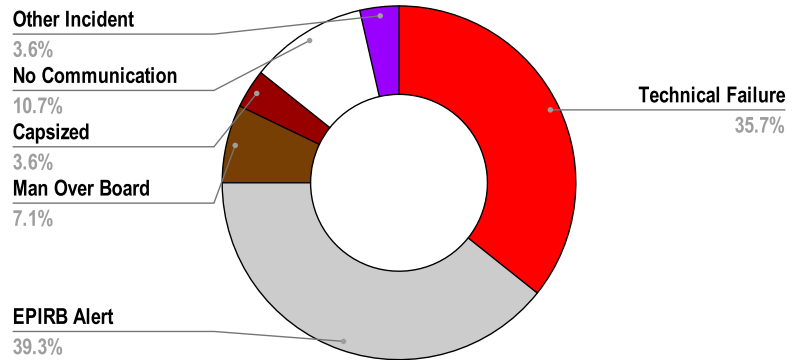
### MARITIME INCIDENTS

NUMBER OF MARITIME INCIDENTS (2020-2023)



### INCIDENTS IN BRIEF

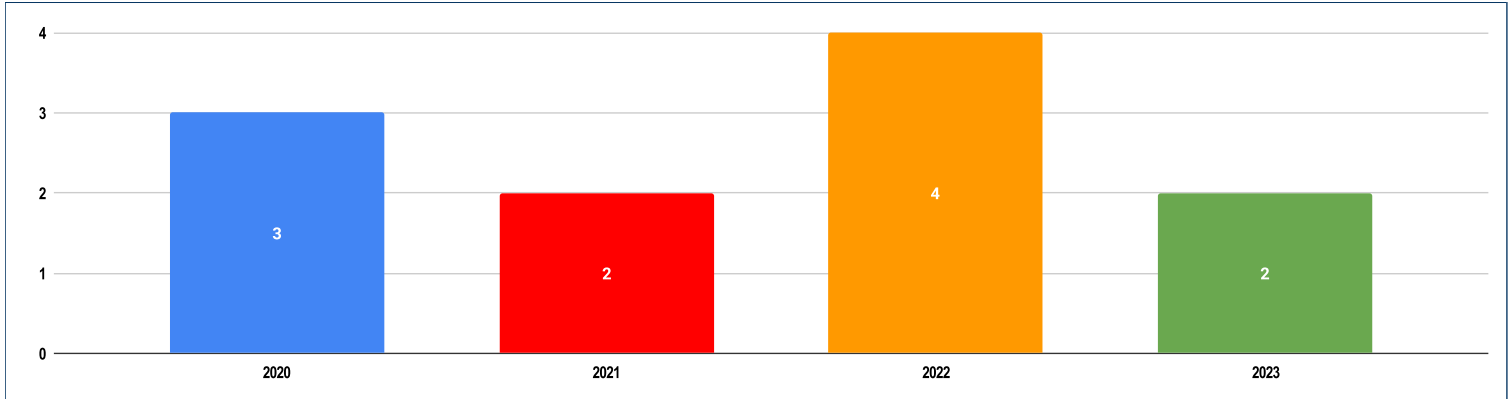
INCIDENT TYPE	NOV 2020	NOV 2021	NOV 2022	NOV 2023
Technical Failure	5	8	12	10
Fire onboard	2	0	0	0
EPIRB Alert	7	14	7	11
Man Over Board	1	3	0	2
Arrival Overdue	2	3	3	0
Capsized	1	1	0	1
Ground	0	0	1	0
Death	0	2	1	0
Patient onboard	3	3	4	0
Collision	0	1	0	0
No Communication	0	0	0	3
Other Incident	0	0	1	1





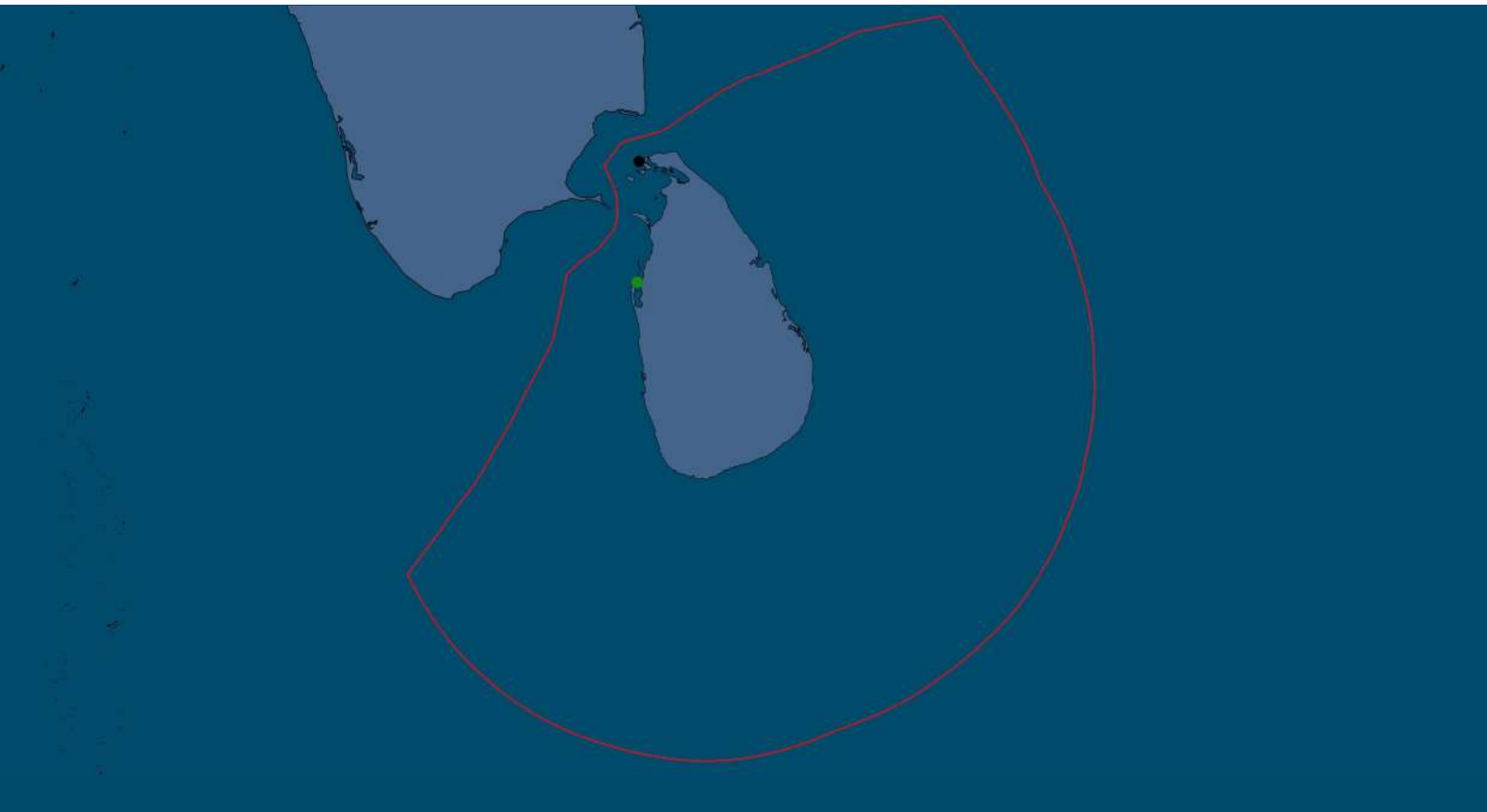
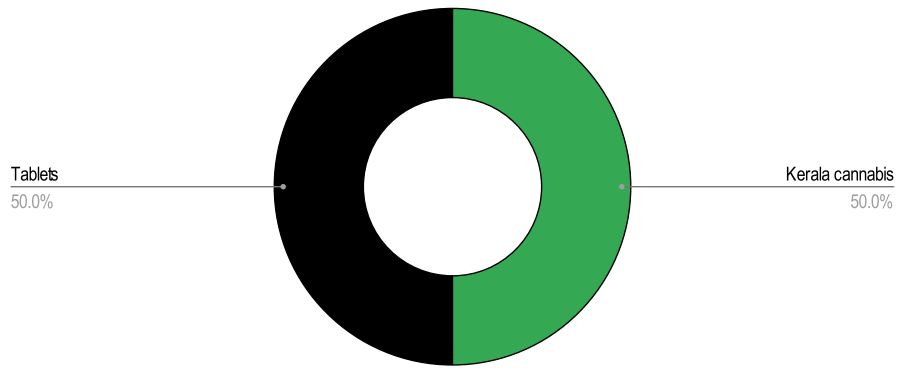
### DRUG SMUGGLING

NUMBER OF DRUG SMUGGLING INCIDENTS (2020-2023)



### INCIDENTS IN BRIEF

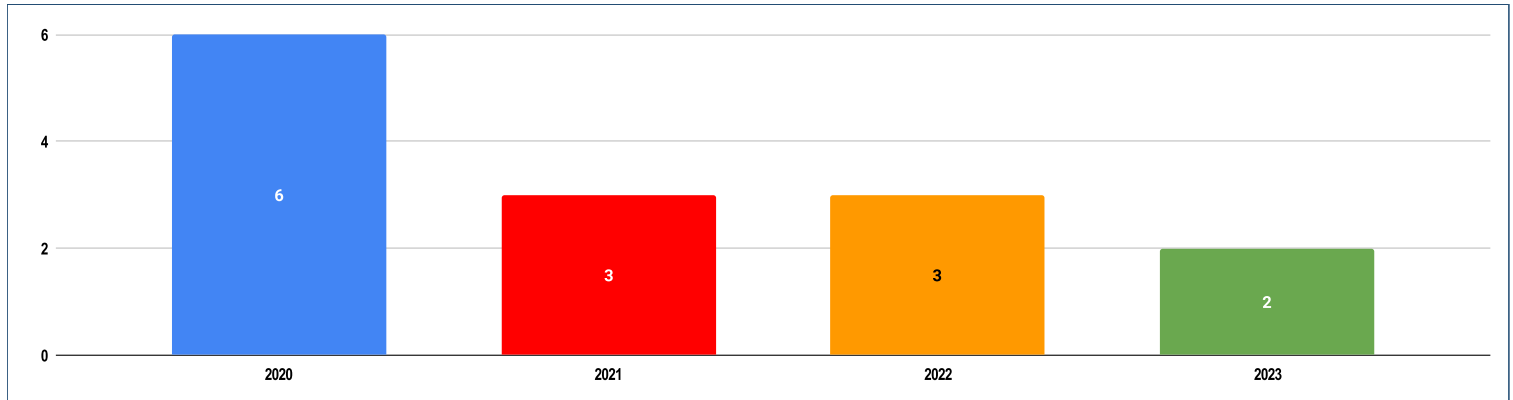
Drug Type	NOV 2020	NOV 2021	NOV 2022	NOV 2023
Heroin	0	0	1	0
Kerala cannabis	2	1	3	1
Ice	0	1	0	0
Tablets	1	0	0	1
Hashish	0	0	0	0
Local cannabis	0	0	0	0





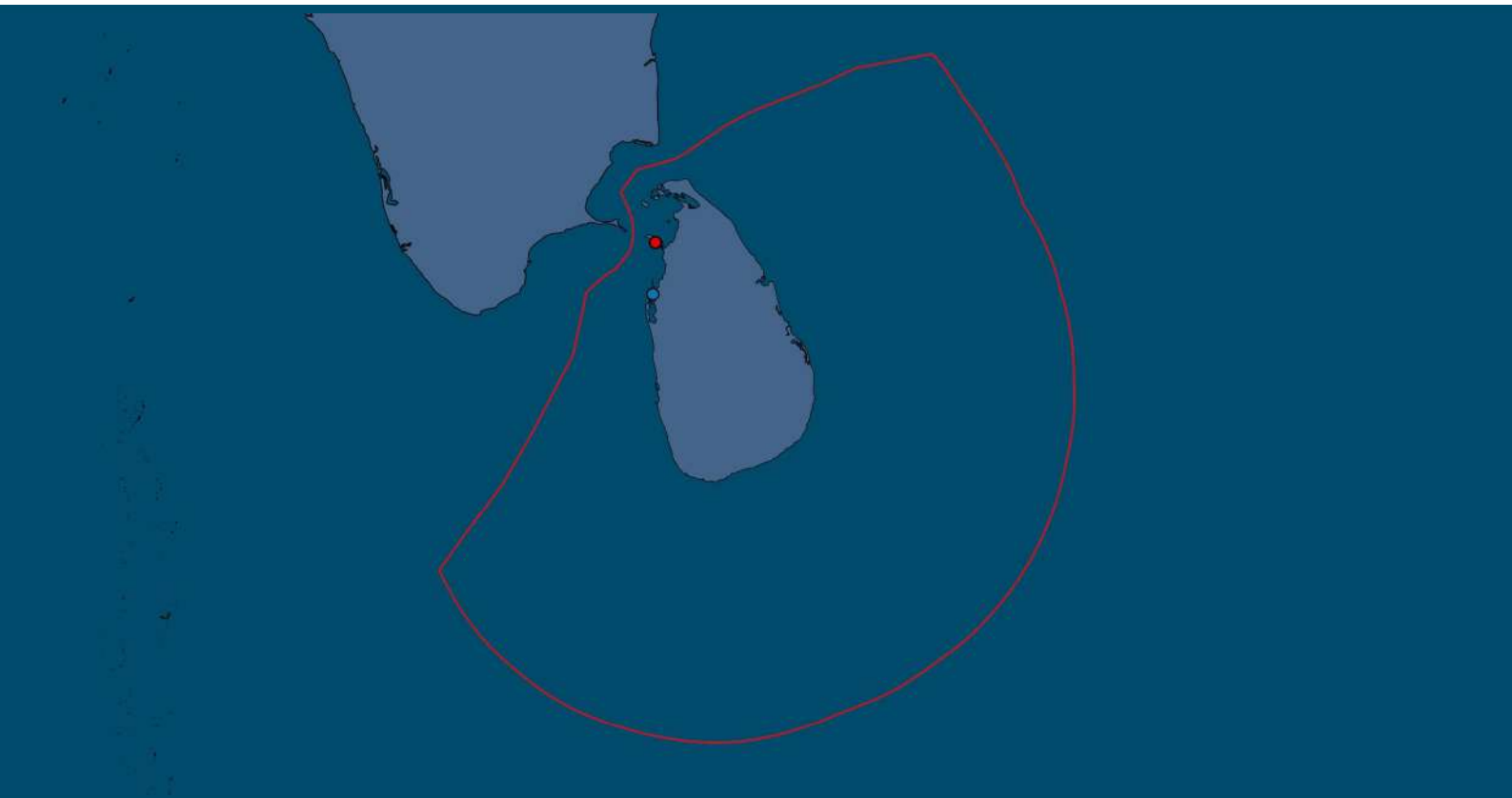
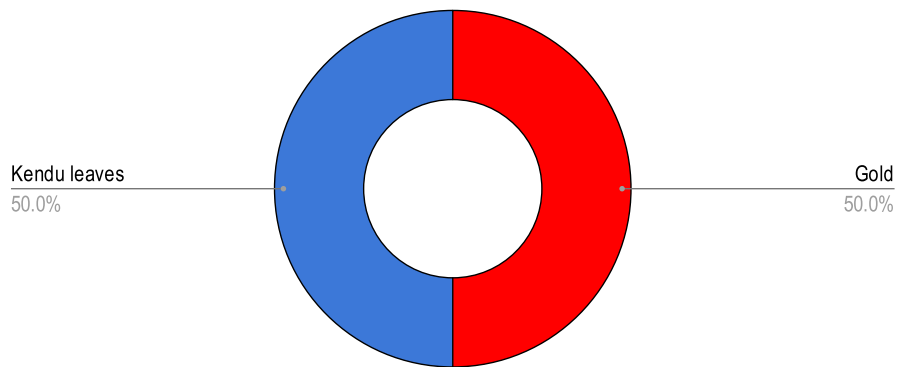
### CONTRABAND SMUGGLING

NUMBER OF CONTRABAND SMUGGLING INCIDENTS (2020-2023)



INCIDENTS IN BRIEF

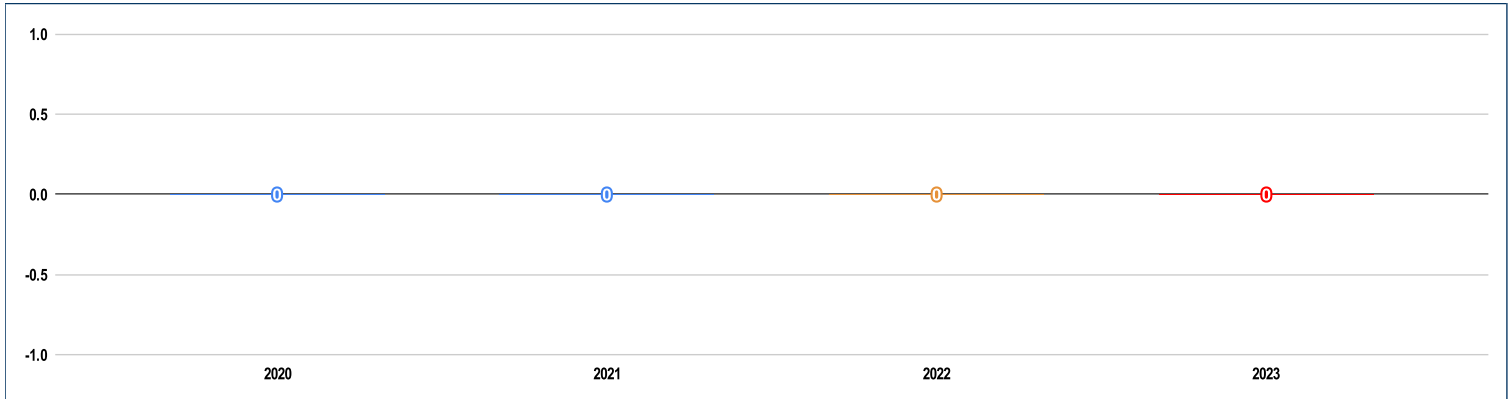
INCIDENT TYPE	NOV 2020	NOV 2021	NOV 2022	NOV 2023
Cardamom	0	0	0	0
Glyphosate	0	0	0	0
Gold	0	0	0	1
Kendu leaves	0	0	1	1
Other	0	0	2	0
Turmeric	6	3	0	0





### HUMAN SMUGGLING

NUMBER OF HUMAN SMUGGLING INCIDENTS (2020-2023)



### INCIDENTS IN BRIEF

INCIDENT TYPE	NOV 2020	NOV 2021	NOV 2022	NOV 2023
Human Smuggling	0	0	0	0





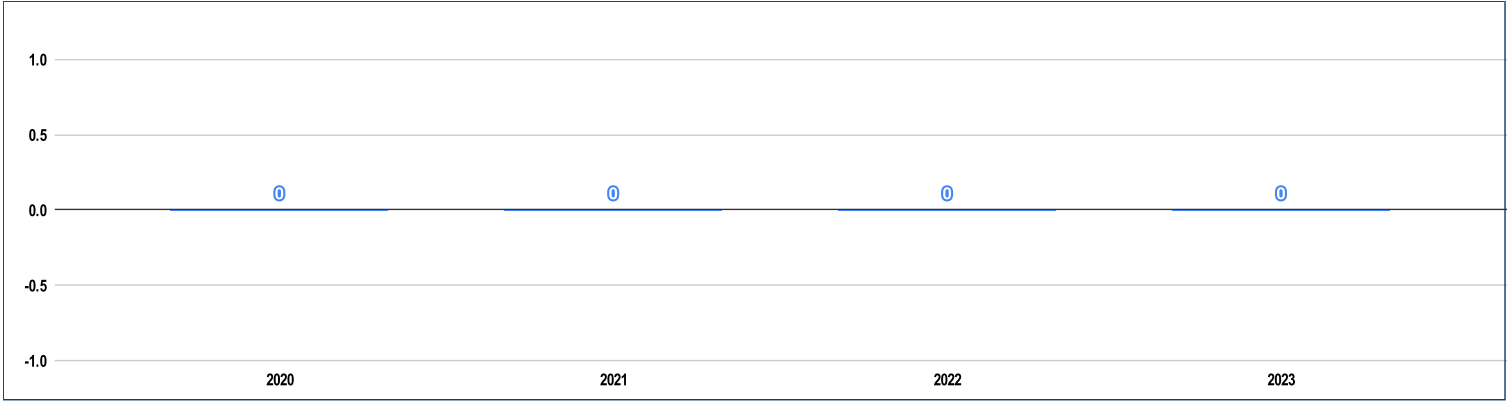


# IFC COLOMBO SRI LANKA

## MARITIME INCIDENT BULLETIN MONTHLY MAP NOVEMBER 2023

### EXPLOSIVE AND FIREARMS

NUMBER OF EXPLOSIVE & FIREARMS INCIDENTS (2020-2023)



### INCIDENTS IN BRIEF

INCIDENT TYPE	NOV 2020	NOV 2021	NOV 2022	NOV 2023
Water Gel Sticks	0	0	0	0



## EVENTS

### 1. 03<sup>rd</sup> November 2023

#### **Navy busts smuggling racket, over 02 kg of gold and 05 suspects held in Mannar**

The Sri Lanka Navy successfully dismantled a smuggling racket in the evening of 03<sup>rd</sup> November 2023, seizing about 02 kg and 150 g of gold, attempted to be smuggled from the country via sea, during a special operation mounted off Oluthuduwai, Mannar. The operation also led to the apprehension of 05 suspects, a dinghy, a motorcycle and a three-wheeler used 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 an assortment of nefarious activities stemming via sea routes.

As an extension of these efforts, SLNS Gajaba in the North Central Command conducted this special operation off Oluthuduwai on the evening of 03<sup>rd</sup> November and intercepted a suspicious dinghy in the sea area. During further search, about 02 kg and 150 g of gold concealed in the dinghy, suspected to be smuggled from the county, were held with 05 suspects aboard.

After conducting a further search in the beach vicinity, the Navy also seized a three-wheeler and a motorcycle believed to have been utilized in this illicit activity.

The suspects held in this operation were residents of Vankalei and Mannar, from 28 to 56 years of age. The accused along with gold and other vehicles handed over to Customs Preventive Office, Kankasanthurai for onward legal proceedings.



## 2. 06<sup>th</sup> November 2023

### **Navy apprehends 03 suspects with Kerala Cannabis valued over Rs. 54 million in northern waters**

A special search operation mounted by the Navy led to the interception of dinghy carrying Kerala Cannabis weighing over 137 kg (weight weight) in the sea area off the Eluvaitivu Island, Jaffna in the dark hours of 06<sup>th</sup> November 2023. During the operation, the Navy also nabbed 03 individuals suspected of involvement in this unlawful activity.

The Navy conducts regular patrols and search operations in the coastal and sea areas around the island, with a view to prevent the influx of narcotics and other illegal items into the country. As an extension of these efforts, SLNS Elara in the Northern Naval Command deployed its Inshore Patrol Craft and small craft for a search operation off the Eluvaitivu Island on the night of 06<sup>th</sup> November. During the operation, naval personnel intercepted a suspicious dinghy and recovered about 137 kg and 45 g (wet weight) of Kerala Cannabis from the dinghy. The consignment of Kerala Cannabis was in 56 packages which had been in 03 sacks. Thus, the stock of Kerala Cannabis, the dinghy and 03 suspects aboard were taken in to the naval custody.

Meanwhile, the street value of Kerala cannabis held in this operation is believed to be over Rs. 54 million.

The suspects nabbed in the operation are residents of Pooneryn, who are between 20 and 44 years of age. The suspects along with the stock of Kerala cannabis and the dinghy will be handed over to the Kayts Police for onward legal action.





### 3. 09<sup>th</sup> November 2023

#### Navy apprehends 02 suspects with controlled drugs in Kalpitiya seas

The Sri Lanka Navy apprehended two (02) suspects and seized a cache of controlled drugs, during a search operation carried out in the waters off Kalpitiya on the evening of 09<sup>th</sup> November 2023. The dedicated operation paved the way to intercept a dinghy carrying 570,000 capsules of Pregabalin, a type of controlled drug.

To curb unlawful activities within Sri Lanka's maritime and coastal territories, the Navy maintains a continuous vigilance and carries out regular operations. Accordingly, SLNS Vijaya in the Northwestern Naval Command mounted this special operation off the Iranativu Island, deploying a small craft. The search led to the interception of a suspicious dinghy which was smuggling 570,000 capsules of Pregabalin. Apart from the dinghy and the cache of controlled drugs, the Navy also nabbed 02 suspects aboard.

The apprehended individuals were identified as residents of Norochholei, who are from 33 to 39 years of age. The suspects, together with the capsules of Pregabalin and the dinghy will be handed over to the Anti-Narcotics Bureau in Puttalam for onward legal proceedings.



#### 4. 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023

### **Navy apprehends 09 persons for illegal harvesting of Sea Cucumbers**

The Navy apprehended 09 persons for illegal harvesting of sea cucumbers in the sea area of Arippu, Mannar, during a special operation conducted in the early hours of 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023. The operation also led to seize about 1384 illegally harvested Sea Cucumbers, diving gear and 03 dinghies.

The Navy conducts regular operations in the coastal and sea areas belonging to the island, in order to suppress illegal fishing activities performed by people with scant regard towards responsible fishing practices. In a similar effort, Special Boat Squadron (SBS) personnel attached to the Naval Detachment Thalvupadu of SLNS Gajaba in the North Central Naval Command made this search operation in Arippu sea area on 20<sup>th</sup> November. During the operation, SBS personnel intercepted a suspicious dinghy and nabbed 09 individuals for their involvement in illegal harvesting of sea cucumber, without valid license. In this operation, the Navy also took hold of about 1384 Sea Cucumbers, diving gear and 03 dinghies.

The individuals apprehended during this operation were identified as residents of Mannar, from 25 to 47 years of age. The suspects along with their equipment and sea cucumber were handed over to the Assistant Directorate of Fisheries, Mannar for onward legal action.





## 5. 29<sup>th</sup> November 2023

### **Navy apprehends 12 persons for engaging in illegal fishing in Silawathura**

The Navy apprehended 12 persons who engaged in illegal fishing practices, during a special operation conducted off Kondachchikuda, Silawathura in the early hours of 29<sup>th</sup> November 2023. The operations also led to the seizure of 04 dinghies, about 1670 illegally harvested sea cucumbers as well as diving equipment.

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 the fish stock.

Accordingly, SLNS Therapuththa in the Northwestern Naval Command carried out this search operation off Kondachchikuda on 29<sup>th</sup> November and searched 04 dinghies on suspicion. The search operation led to the apprehension of 12 persons along with 1670 sea cucumbers, diving equipment and 04 dinghies, as they had engaged in night diving by illegal means.

The individuals held in this operation were residents of Kalpitiya, Silawathura, Vankalei and Mannar areas from 23 to 48 years of age. The 12 persons along with the stock of sea cucumber and seized items were handed over to the Silawathura Fisheries Inspector for onward legal action.

