



Information Fusion Centre

Colombo - Sri Lanka

IFC Monthly Report

March 2025



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www.ifccolombo.org



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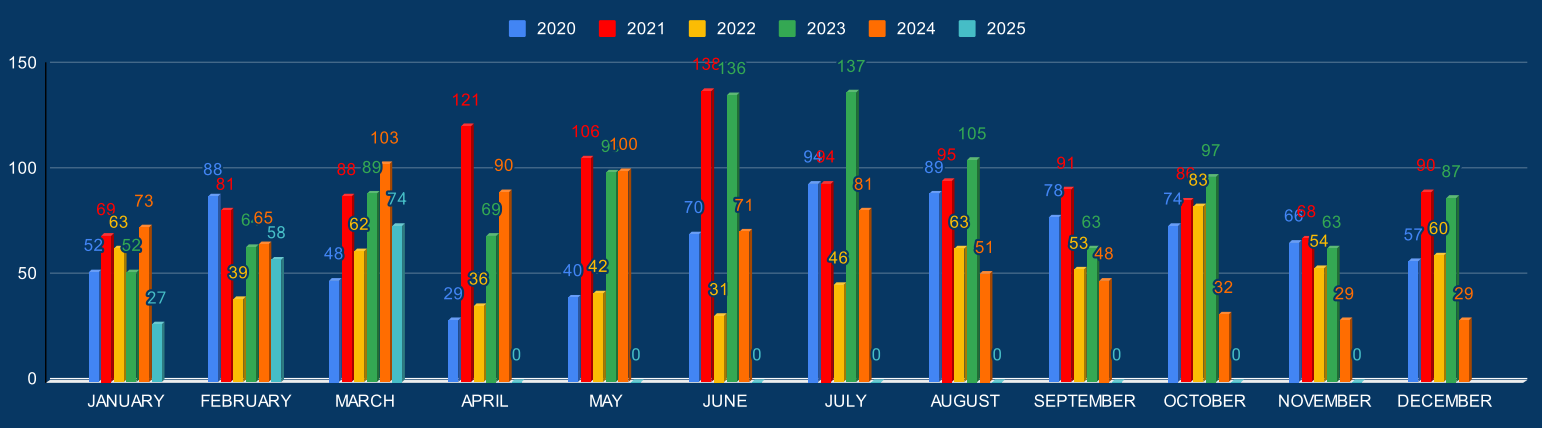


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MARITIME INCIDENT BULLETIN MONTHLY MAP MARCH 2025

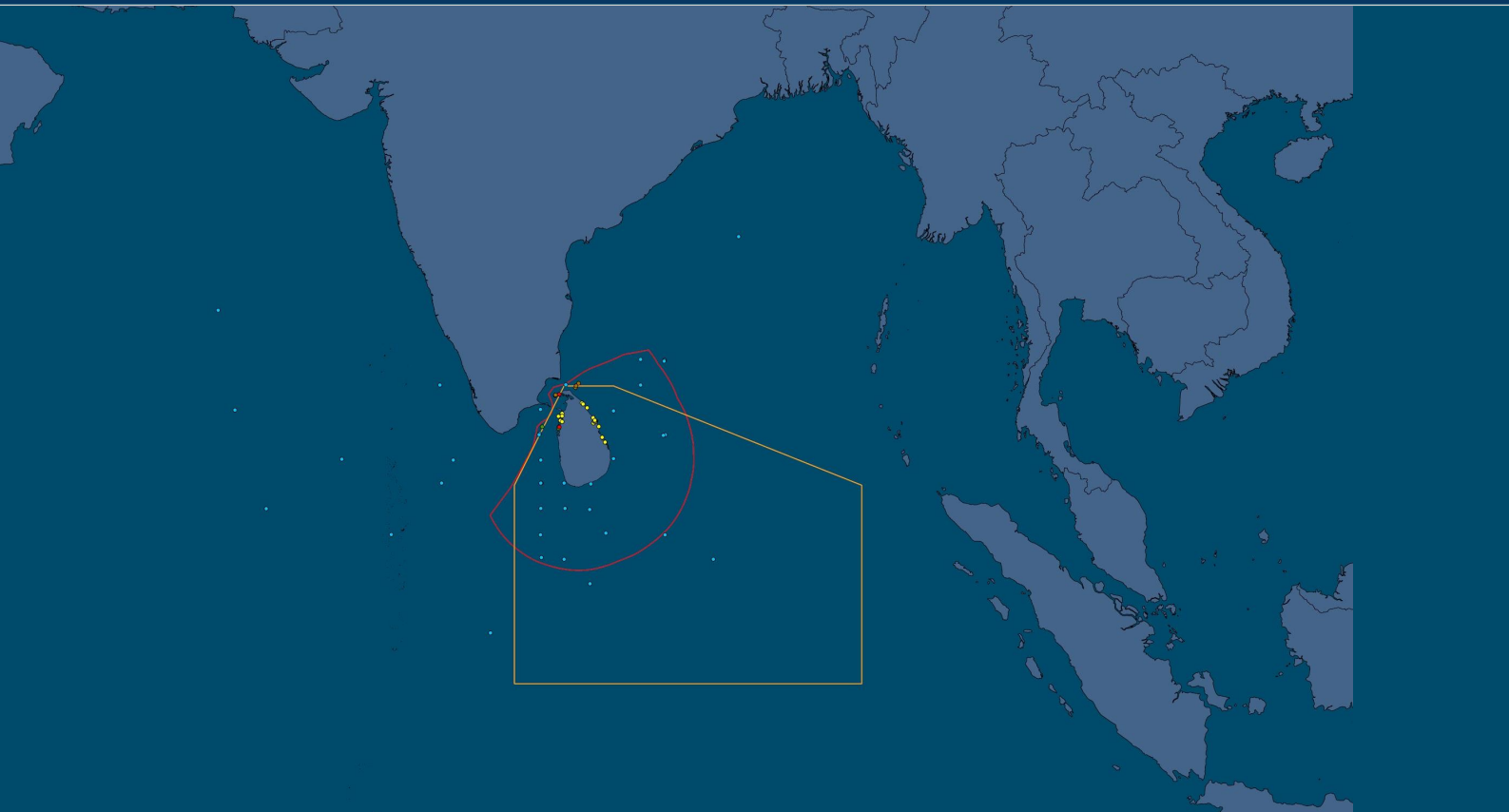
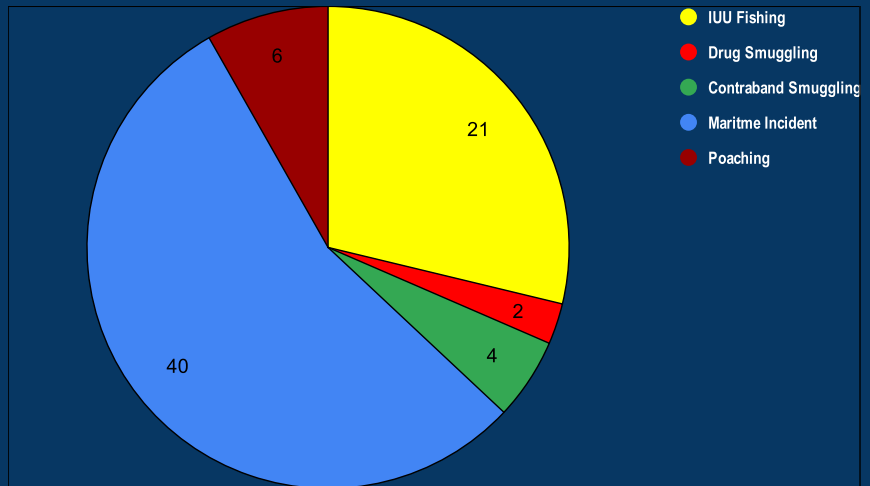
OVERVIEW

MARITIME SECURITY INCIDENTS (2020-2025)



INCIDENTS IN BRIEF

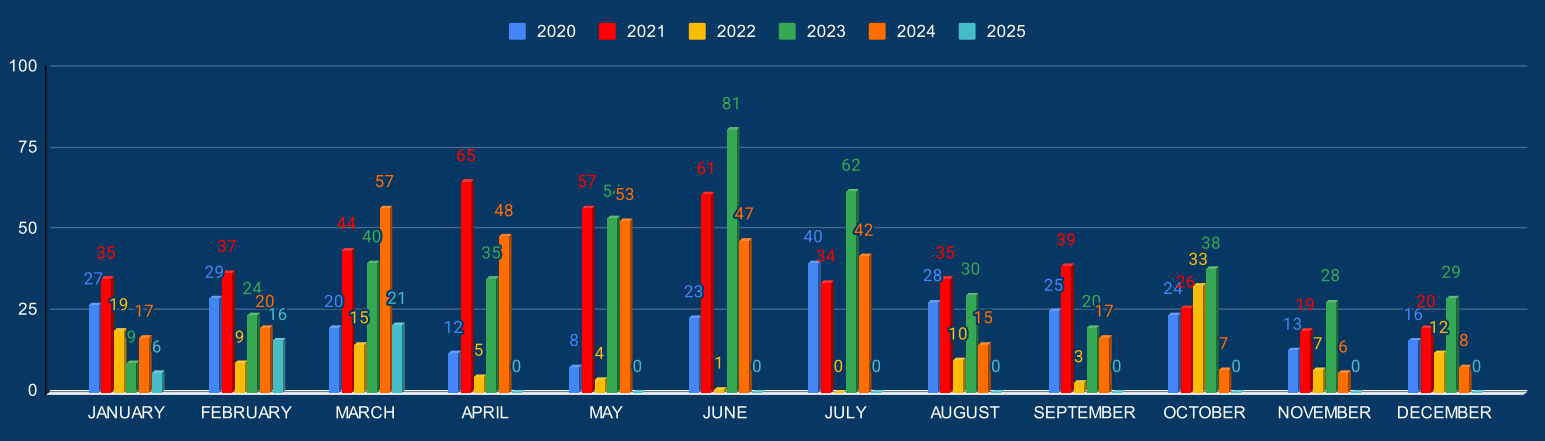
INCIDENT TYPE	MAR 2022	MAR 2023	MAR 2024	MAR 2025
IUU Fishing	15	40	57	21
Drug Smuggling	2	3	0	2
Contraband Smuggling	9	5	3	4
Human Smuggling	0	1	0	0
Maritime Incident	28	33	25	40
Poaching	8	7	18	6
Explosive and Firearms	0	0	0	0





IUU FISHING

NUMBER OF IUU FISHING INCIDENTS (2020-2025)



INCIDENTS IN BRIEF

INCIDENT TYPE	MAR 2022	MAR 2023	MAR 2024	MAR 2025
Violation of Certificate Conditions	0	2	1	2
Harvesting Prohibited Species	8	19	18	3
Illegal Net	7	11	12	9
Illegal Methods	0	7	26	7
Explosive Fishing	0	1	0	0

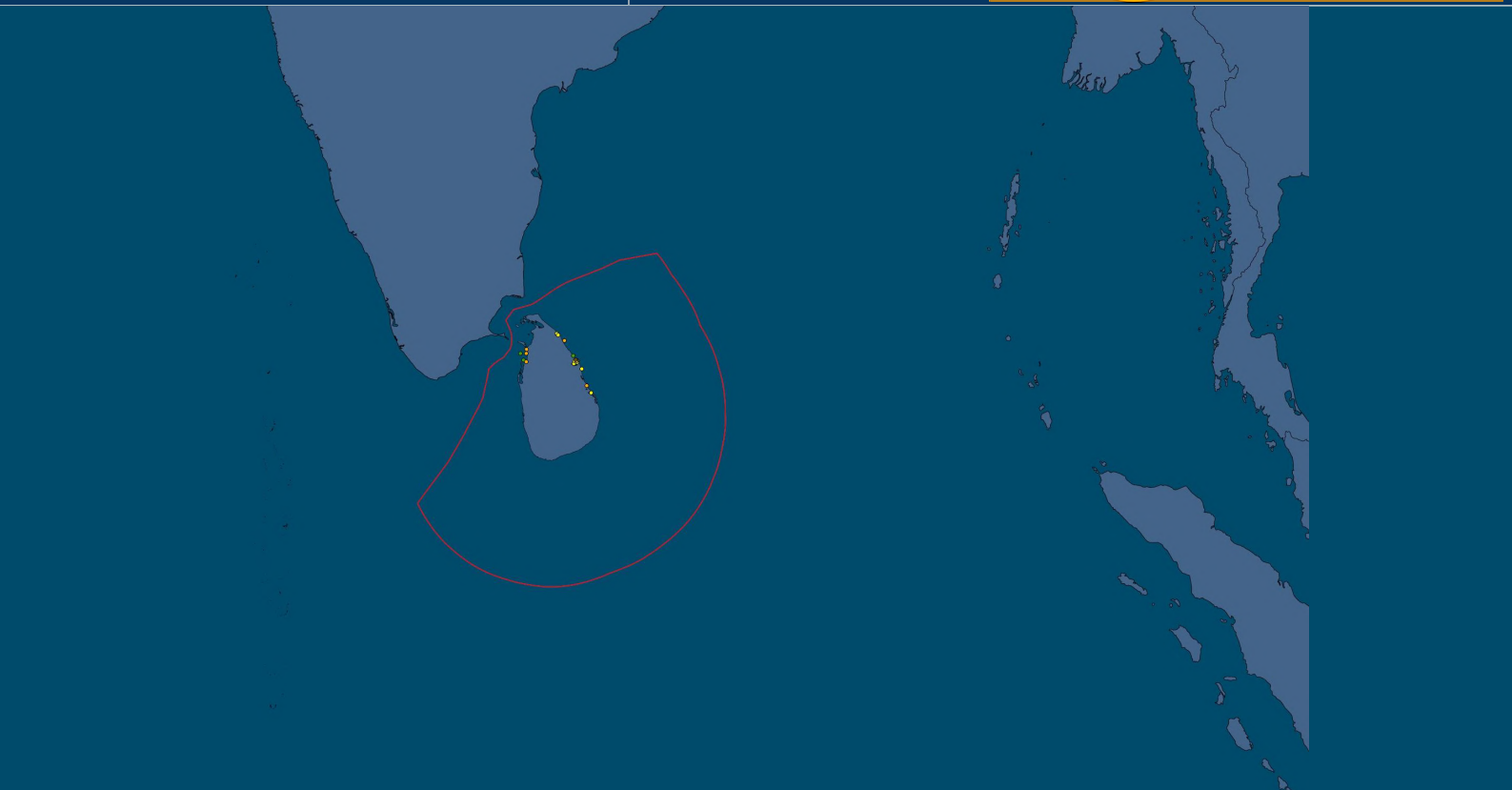
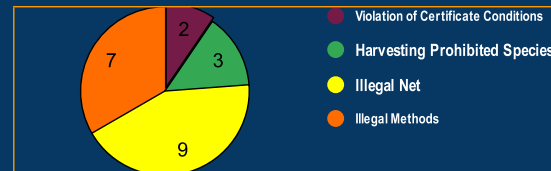
IUU FISHING – MARCH 2025 SUMMARY

Statistics:

- 21 incidents have been reported (a decrease of 36 compared to March 2024).
- Violation of certification conditions: 2 incidents have been reported (an increase of 1 compared to March 2024).
- Harvesting Prohibited Species: 3 incidents have been reported (a decrease of 15 compared to March 2024).
- Illegal Nets: 9 incidents have been reported (a decrease of 3 compared to March 2024).
- Illegal Methods: 7 incidents have been reported (a decrease of 19 compared to March 2024).
- Explosive Fishing: No incidents reported (no change as of March 2024).

Comments:

- Cases of harvesting banned species and using illegal methods dropped a lot.
- However, illegal net use increased, and violations of certificate conditions slightly rise. Explosive fishing stayed the same with no incidents.



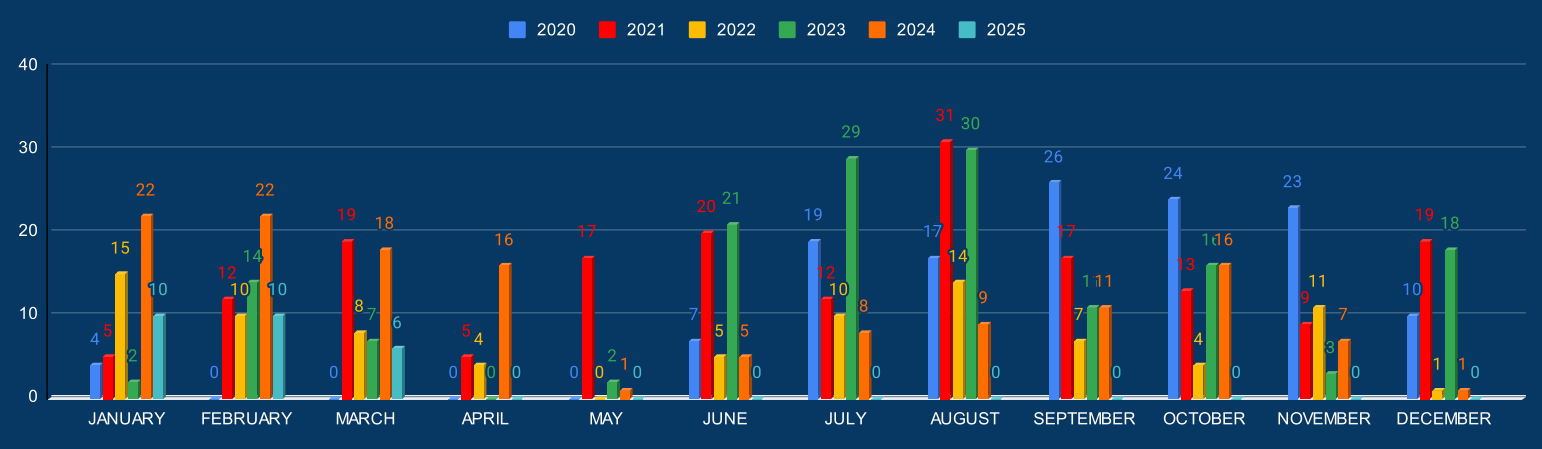


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MARITIME INCIDENT BULLETIN MONTHLY MAP MARCH 2025

POACHING

NUMBER OF POACHING INCIDENTS (2020-2025)



INCIDENTS IN BRIEF

INCIDENT TYPE	MAR 2022	MAR 2023	MAR 2024	MAR 2025
Eastern Coast	0	2	0	2
Palk Strait	2	0	3	1
Gulf of Mannar	1	2	5	0
Palk Bay	5	3	10	1
Others	2	0	0	2

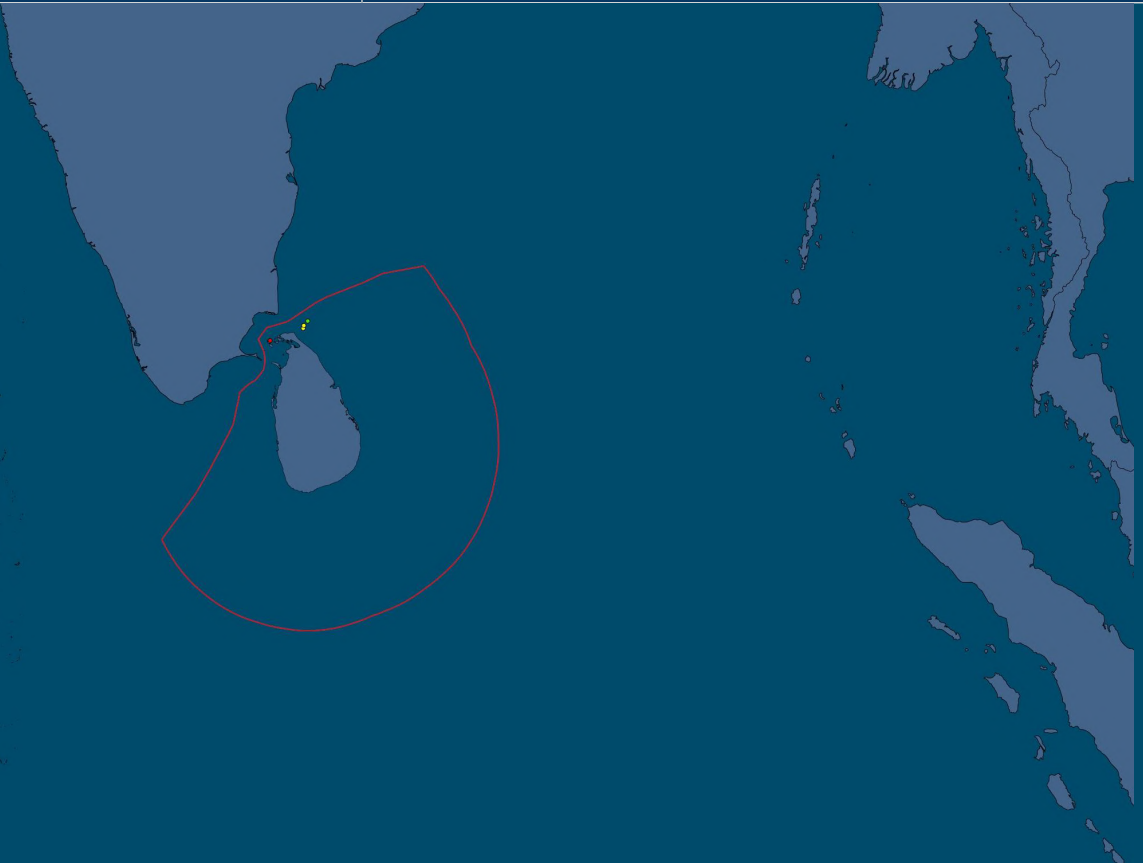
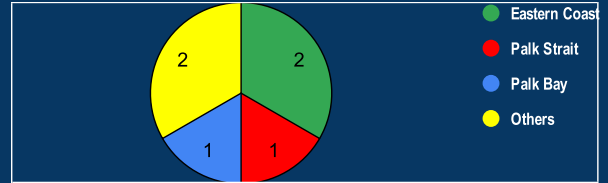
POACHING INCIDENTS – MARCH 2025 SUMMARY

Statistics:

- 6 incidents have been reported (a decrease of 12 compared to March 2024).
- Breakdown by Area:
 - Palk Bay & Palk Strait Reported 1 incidents each have been reported (a decrease of 9 & 2 compared to March 2024).
 - Eastern Coast & Others same Incidents(2 incidents each) Gulf of Mannar no Incidents.

Comments:

- Overall, incidents have reduced by 66% compared to last year. Palk Bay and Palk Strait showed a big improvement.
- Improvement in Eastern coast and Other areas compared to March 2024, Gulf of Mannar remained with no incident.



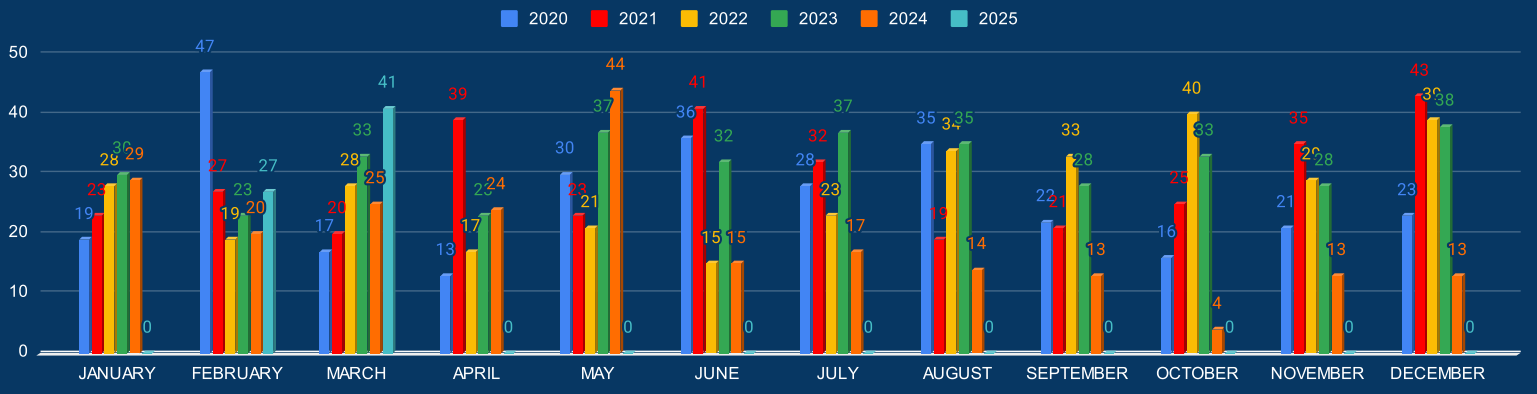


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MARITIME INCIDENT BULLETIN MONTHLY MAP MARCH 2025

MARITIME INCIDENTS

NUMBER OF MARITIME INCIDENTS (2020-2025)



INCIDENTS IN BRIEF

INCIDENT TYPE	MAR 2022	MAR 2023	MAR 2024	MAR 2025
Technical Failure	8	15	15	21
Fire onboard	0	0	0	0
EPIRB Alert	7	11	2	6
Man Over Board	0	0	0	0
Arrival Overdue	2	0	0	3
Capsized	0	0	0	1
Ground	0	0	0	0
Death	0	3	2	0
Patient onboard	8	2	4	8
Collision	1	0	0	0
No Communication	0	2	2	0
Other Incident	1	0	0	1

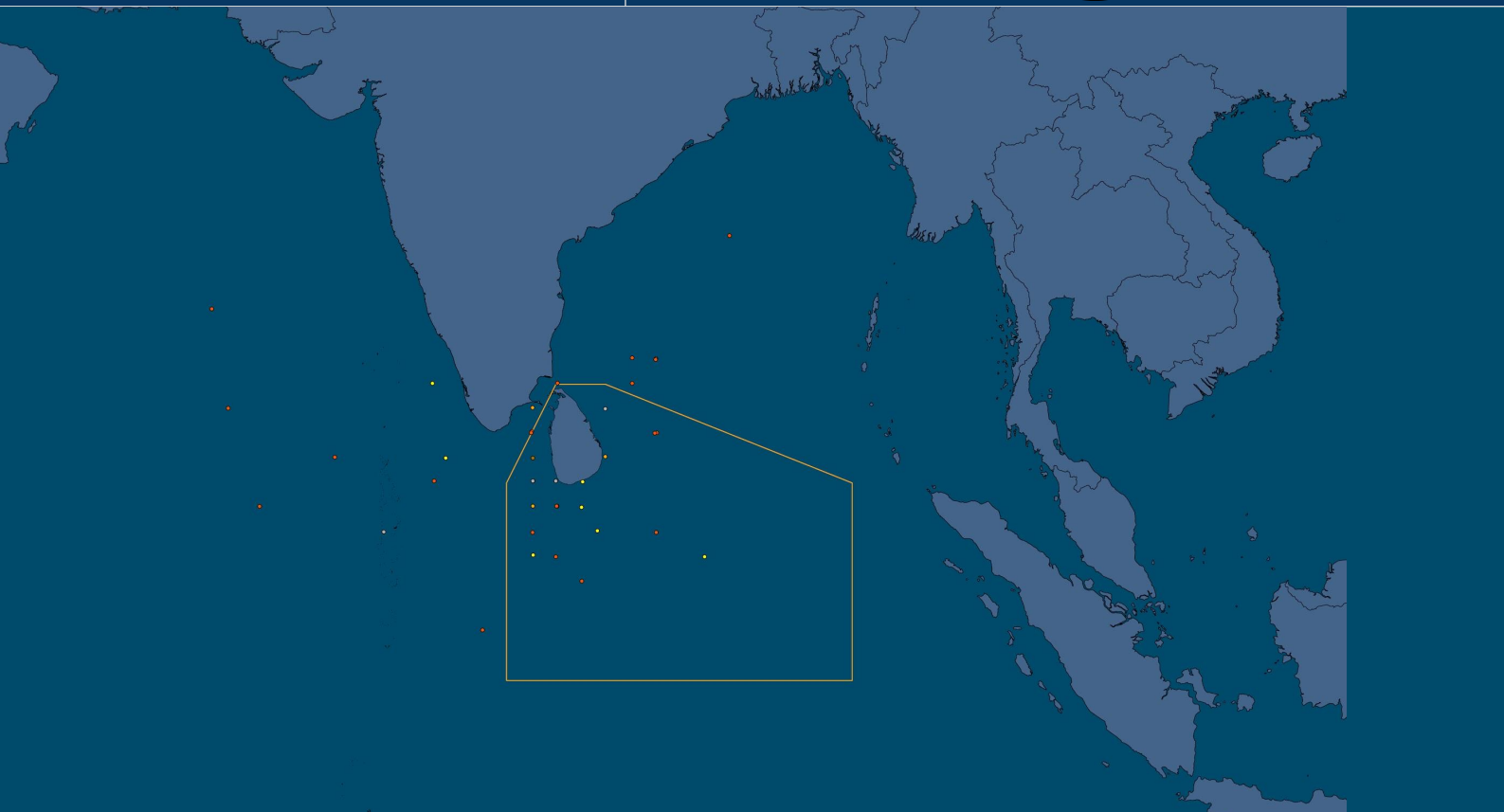
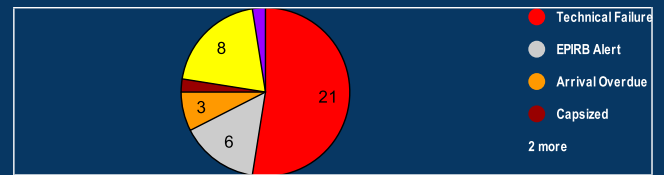
MARITIME INCIDENTS –MARCH 2025 SUMMARY

Statistics:

- 40 incidents have been reported in March 2025 (an increase of 15 compared to March 2024).
- Patient onboard: 8 incidents have been reported (an increase of 04 compared to March 2024).
- EPIRB : 6 incidents have been reported (an increase of 04 compared to March 2024).
- Technical Failure : 21 incidents have been reported (an increase of 06 compared to March 2024).
- Arrival Overdue: 3 incidents, Capsized & Other Incidents 1, Fire Onboard, Man over Board, Death, Ground, Collision, No communication has 0 Incidents.

Comments:

- Incidents increased to 40 in March 2025, up from 15 last year. More cases of patients onboard and EPIRB alerts
- Technical failures went up sharply, so more attention may be needed in that area. No reports of fire, death, capsizing, or other serious issues.
- No reports on Fire Onboard, Man Over Board, Ground, Death, Collision and No Communication.



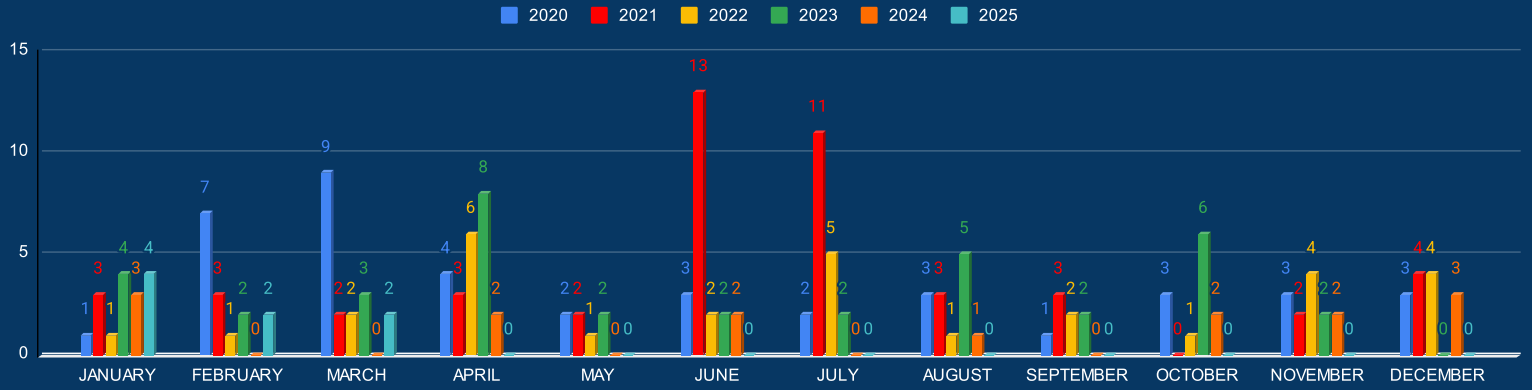


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MARITIME INCIDENT BULLETIN MONTHLY MAP MARCH 2025

DRUG SMUGGLING

NUMBER OF DRUG SMUGGLING INCIDENTS (2020-2025)



INCIDENTS IN BRIEF

Drug Type	MAR 2022	MAR 2023	MAR 2024	MAR 2025
Heroin	0	0	0	0
Kerala cannabis	2	3	0	1
Ice	0	0	0	0
Tablets	0	0	0	1
Hashish	0	0	0	0
Local cannabis	0	0	0	0

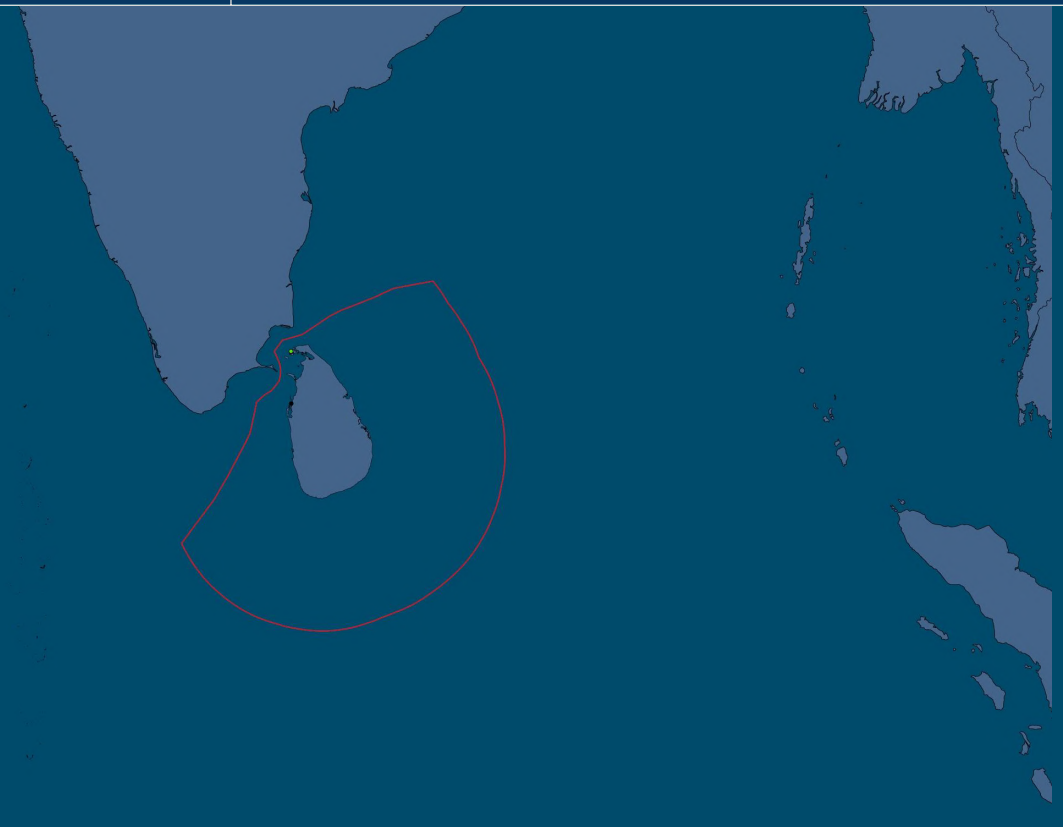
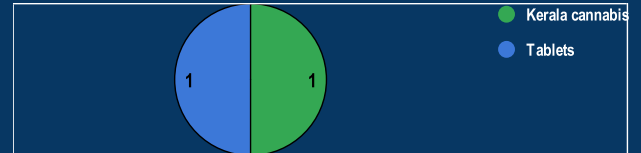
DRUG SMUGGLING INCIDENTS – MARCH 2025 SUMMARY

Statistics:

- Drug Smuggling: 2 incidents have been reported (an increase of 02 compared to March 2024).
- Kerala cannabis and Tablets reported 01 incidents .
- Heroin, Ice, and Hashish reported No Incidents in March 2025 .

Comments:

- Kerala cannabis and Tablets reported 01 Incidents each .
- No Incidents reported about Heroine, ICE and Hashish in March 2025
- Drug Smuggling cases increased 02Incidents in March 2025 Compared to March 2024



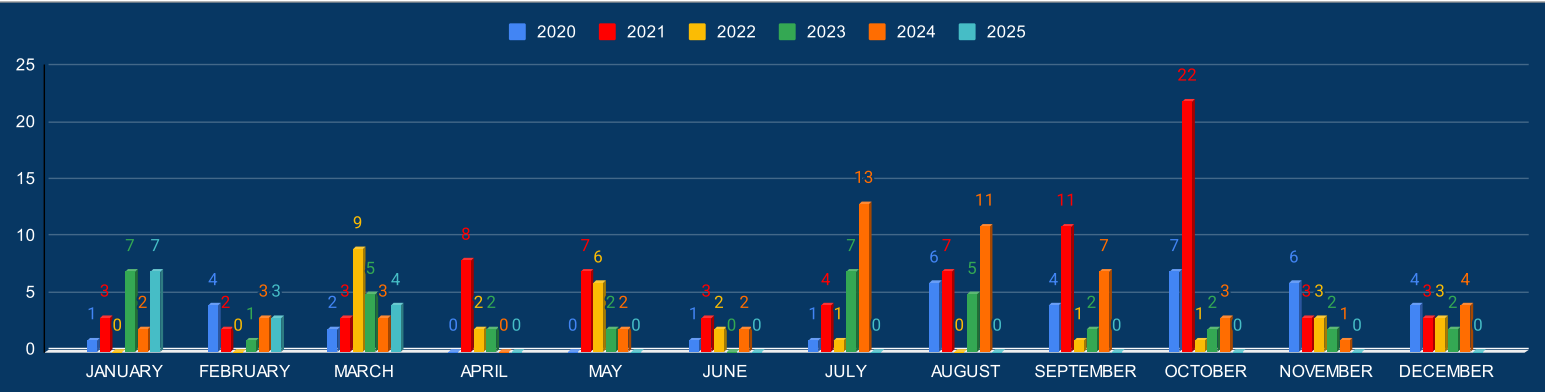


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MARITIME INCIDENT BULLETIN MONTHLY MAP MARCH 2025

CONTRABAND SMUGGLING

NUMBER OF CONTRABAND SMUGGLING INCIDENTS (2020-2025)



INCIDENTS IN BRIEF

INCIDENT TYPE	MAR 2022	MAR 2023	MAR 2024	MAR 2025
Cardamom	2	1	0	0
Glyphosate	1	0	0	0
Gold	0	0	0	0
Kendu leaves	4	4	2	2
Other	2	0	1	2
Turmeric	1	0	0	0

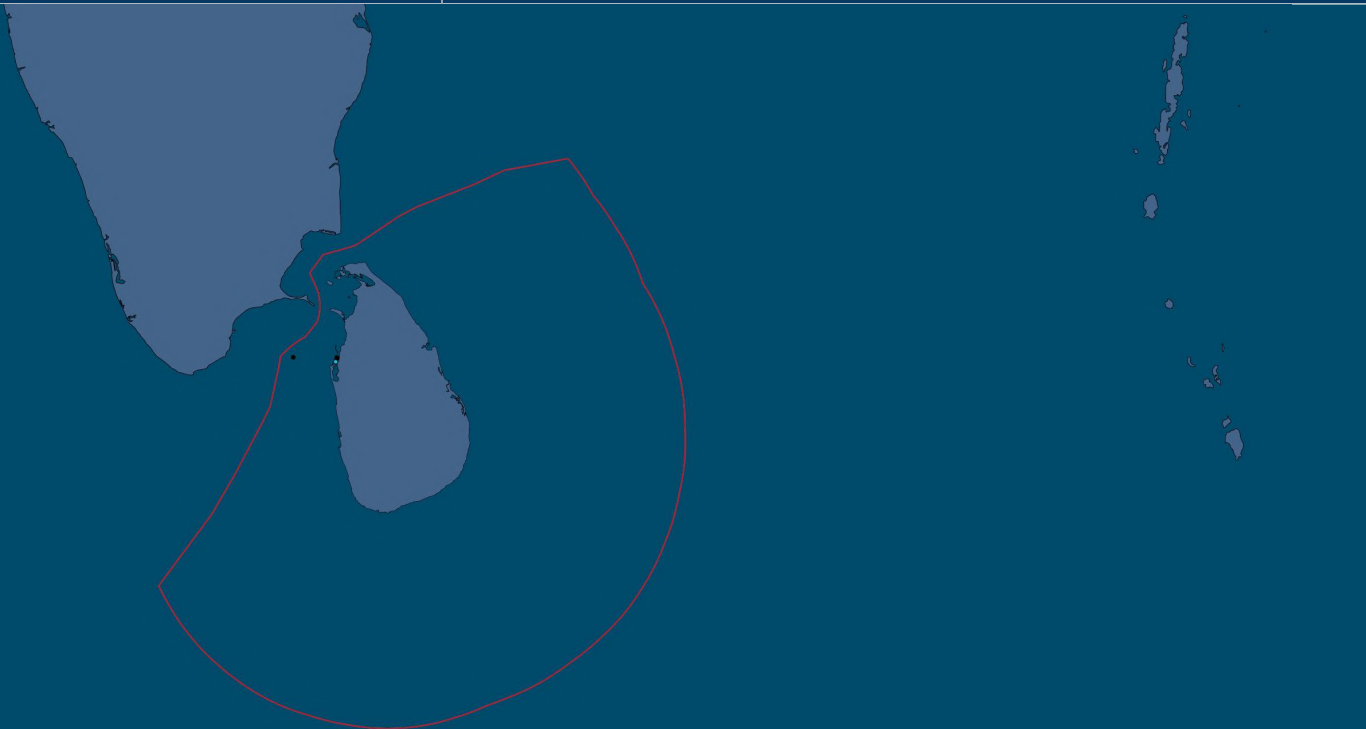
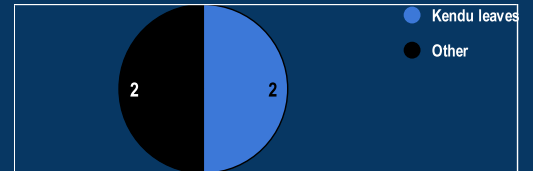
CONTRABAND SMUGGLING INCIDENTS – MARCH 2025 SUMMARY

Statistics:

- contraband smuggling 4 incidents have been reported (an increase of 01 compared to March 2024).
- No incidents in March 2025 involved the smuggling of Cardamom, Glyphosate, Gold, Turmeric incidents.

Comments:

- Contraband smuggling slightly increased to 4 incidents in March 2025.
- Smuggled items in March were different from previous high-risk goods.



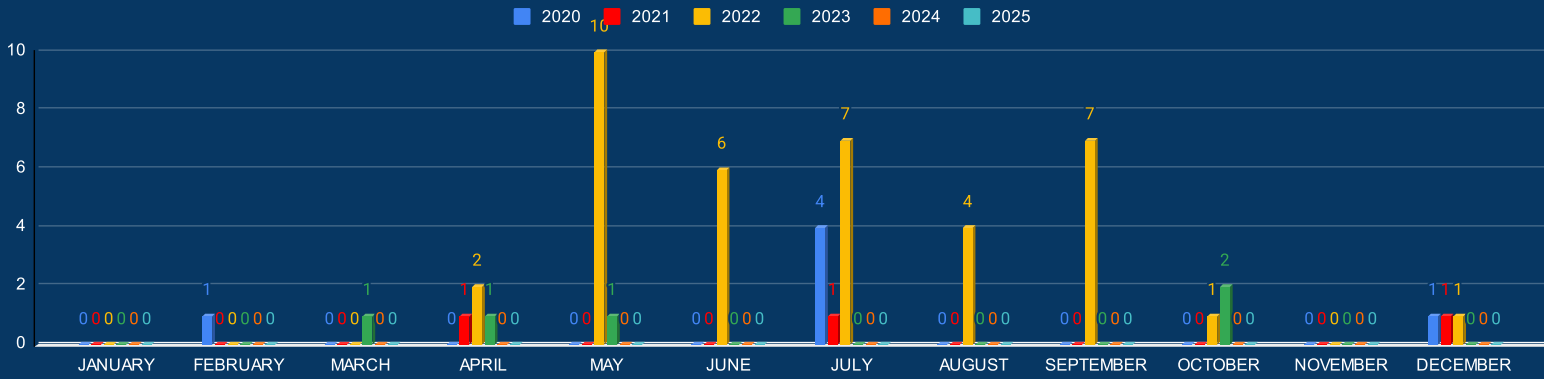


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MARITIME INCIDENT BULLETIN MONTHLY MAP MARCH 2025

HUMAN SMUGGLING

NUMBER OF HUMAN SMUGGLING INCIDENTS (2020-2025)



INCIDENTS IN BRIEF

INCIDENT TYPE	MAR 2022	MAR 2023	MAR 2024	MAR 2025
Human Smuggling	0	1	0	0

HUMAN SMUGGLING INCIDENTS – MARCH 2025 SUMMARY

NO INCIDENTS



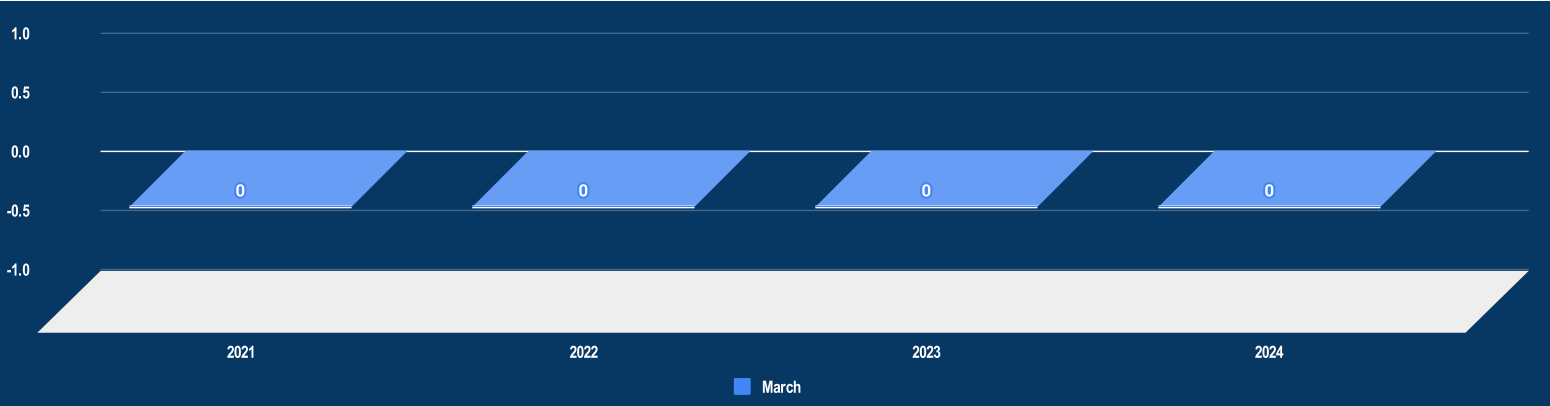


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MARITIME INCIDENT BULLETIN MONTHLY MAP MARCH 2025

EXPLOSIVE AND FIREARMS

NUMBER OF EXPLOSIVE & FIREARMS INCIDENTS (2020-2025)



INCIDENTS IN BRIEF

INCIDENT TYPE	MAR 2022	MAR 2023	MAR 2024	MAR 2025
Water Gel Sticks	0	0	0	0

EXPLOSIVE AND FIREARMS INCIDENTS – MARCH 2025 SUMMARY

NO INCIDENTS

**ZERO
INCIDENTS
IN MARCH 2025**



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – MARCH 2025

Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing: Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing: A total of 21 IUU fishing incidents were recorded in March 2025, lower than 36 in March 2024. Key observations include:

Incidents involving illegal nets decreased to 9 (from 12 in 2024).

Harvesting prohibited species dropped dramatically to 3 (from 18 in 2024).

Explosive fishing 0 Incidents in same 2024 .

The overall decline reflects progress, though targeted enforcement for illegal nets is required.

Poaching: 6 poaching incident was reported in March 2025, a decrease compared to March 2024 (18 incidents). Eastern Coast, Palk Bay & Palk Strait remains a hotspot for activity. Other areas showed no poaching incidents, indicating shifts in patterns.

Maritime Incidents: 40 Maritime Incidents were reported in March 2025

Drug Smuggling: 02 Drug Smuggling incident were reported in March 2025

Contraband Smuggling: 04 contraband smuggling incidents were reported in March 2025 . These involved kendu leaves & Other .

Human Smuggling: No incidents of human smuggling were reported in March 2025, maintaining stability in this category.

Explosive and Firearms Smuggling: No incidents were reported, consistent with previous months.

Overall Analysis: In March 2025, there was a positive shift in maritime and coastal security, especially regarding illegal fishing and poaching. While certain threats remain, overall enforcement seems to be effective, with most categories showing improvement or stability. This shows strong progress, especially in reducing harmful and illegal fishing practices. However, the continued use of illegal nets signals the need for targeted action and stricter monitoring. Overall, March 2025 shows strong improvement in coastal security, but continued efforts are needed to maintain and build on this success.