

DAILY MARITIME INCIDENT UPDATE

Information Fusion Center-Colombo



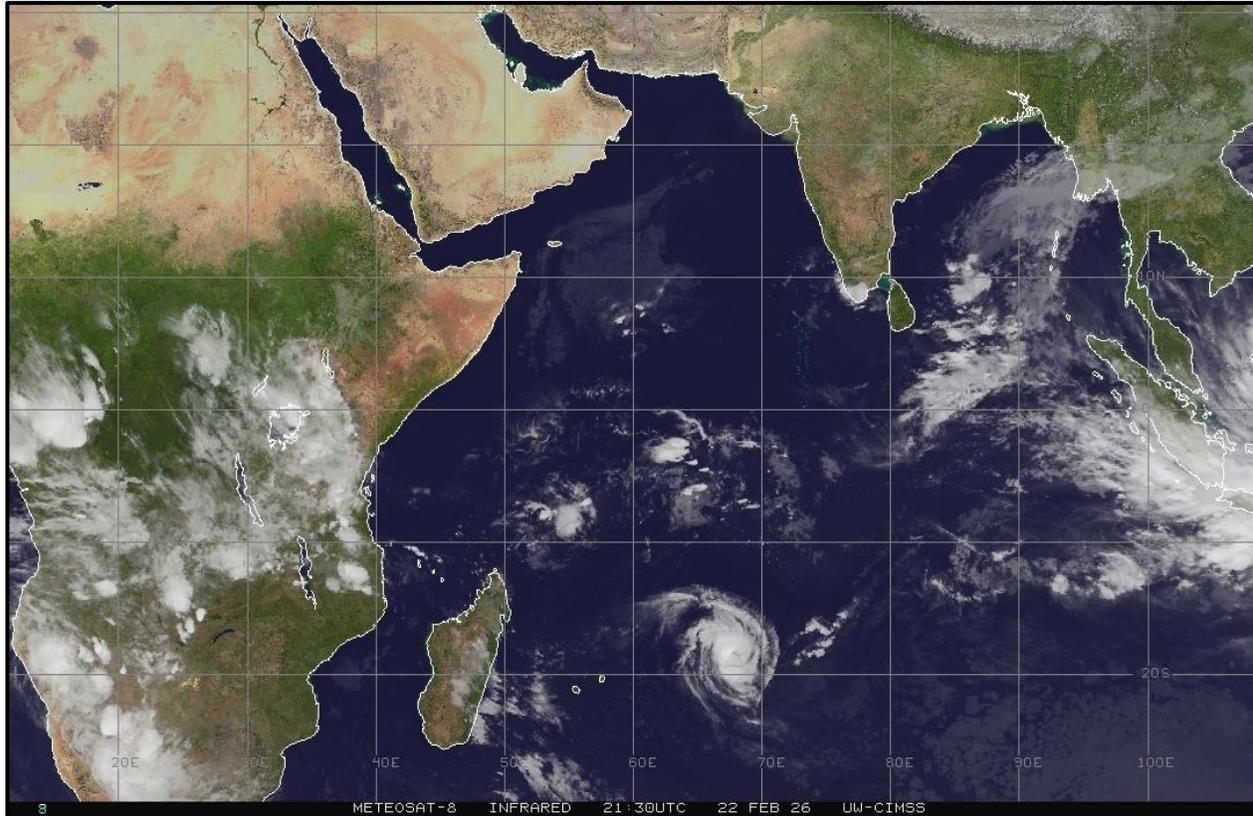
Information Fusion Center
Colombo
Sri Lanka

Date 2026.02.23

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: 2026.02.23/0600UTC to 2026.02.23/1400UTC

Issued at 0000UTC on 2026.02.23

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

Shear line is approximately along : 02N 60E, 04N 70E, 09N 80E, 08N 90E, 10N 100E

ITCZ is approximately along : 07S 60E, 06S 70E, 06S 80E, 06S 90E, 08S 100E

Weather:

OCNL Showers / T'Showers in sections : 10, 30, 40, 55, 60, 65, 75, 85

SCT Showers / T'Showers in sections : 05, 15, 35, 45, 50, 80

ISOL Showers / T'Showers elsewhere.

Winds:

North of Shear line

West of 70E: NE'ly or N'ly / (10-15)kts.

In between 70E and 90E: Anticlockwise / (15-20) kts; gusting up to (25-30) kts in section 10.

East of 90E: VRB / (10-15)kts

In-between Shear line and ITCZ:

West of 80E: W'ly to NW'ly / (10-20)kts

East of 80E: SW'ly or W'ly / (10-20)kts

South of ITCZ:

West of 80E: Clockwise / (10-20)kts

East of 80E: Clockwise / (15-20)kts; gusting up to (25-30) kts in sections 75 and 85

Seas:

Rough, very rough at times in sections : 75 and 85

Fairly rough, rough at times in sections : 30 and 55

Moderate in sections : 10, 50, 70

Slight to Moderate elsewhere.

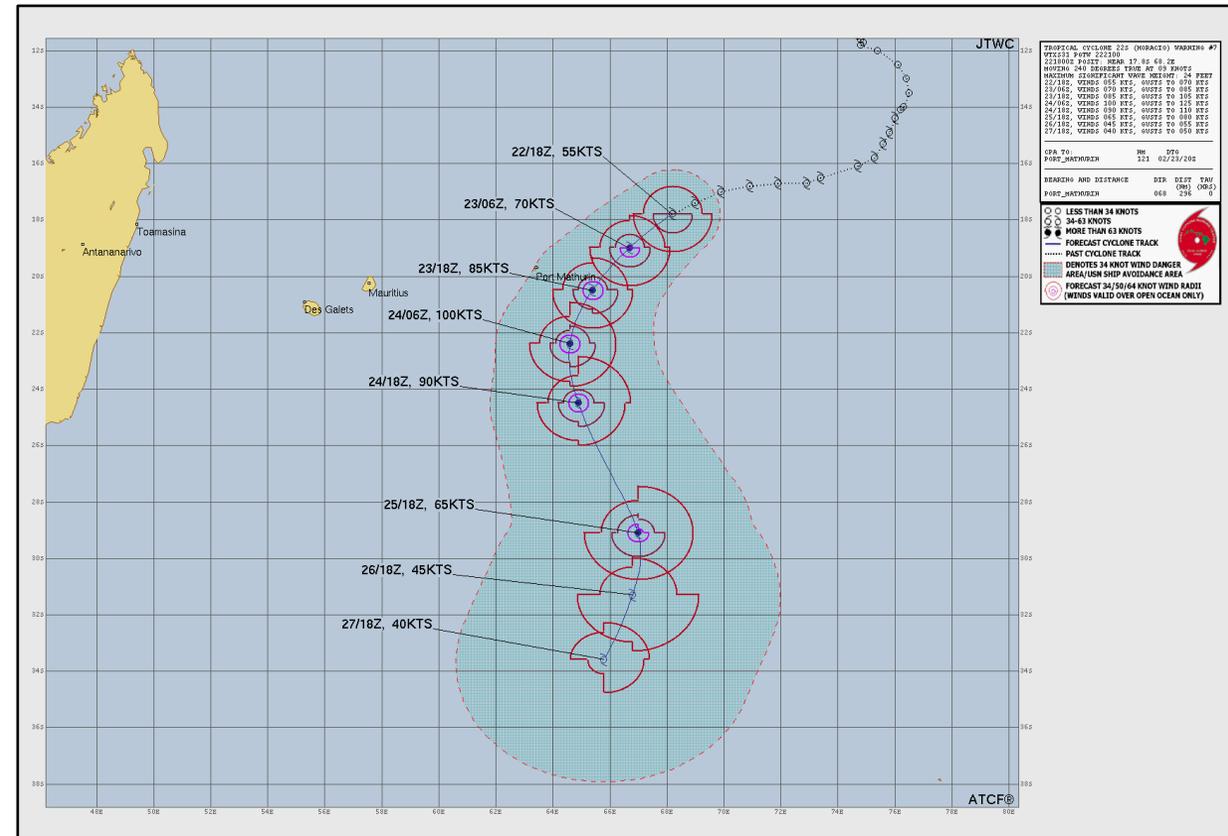
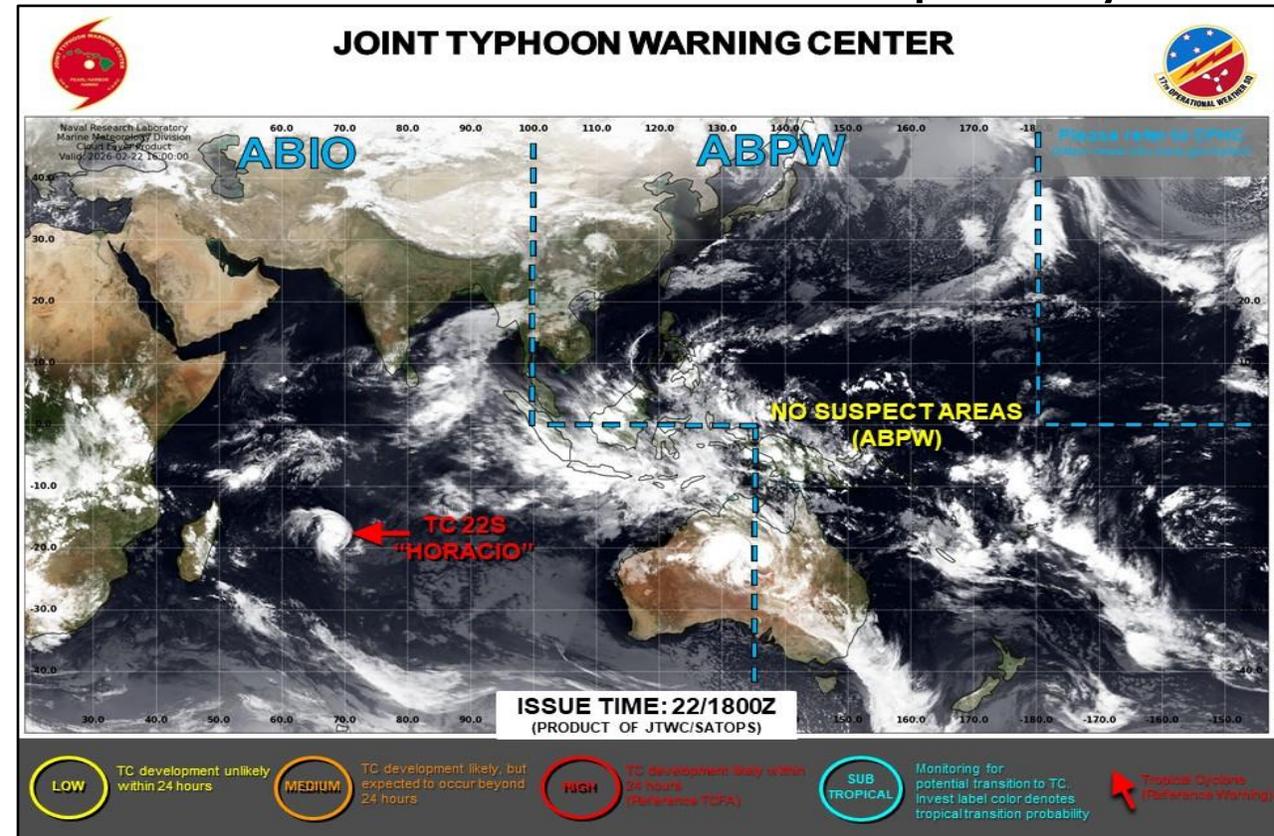
NOTE: Seas can be temporarily very rough during thundershowers.

- Source: 1. <https://meteo.gov.lk> 2. <https://www.srilankaview.com/weather.htm>

CYCLONE



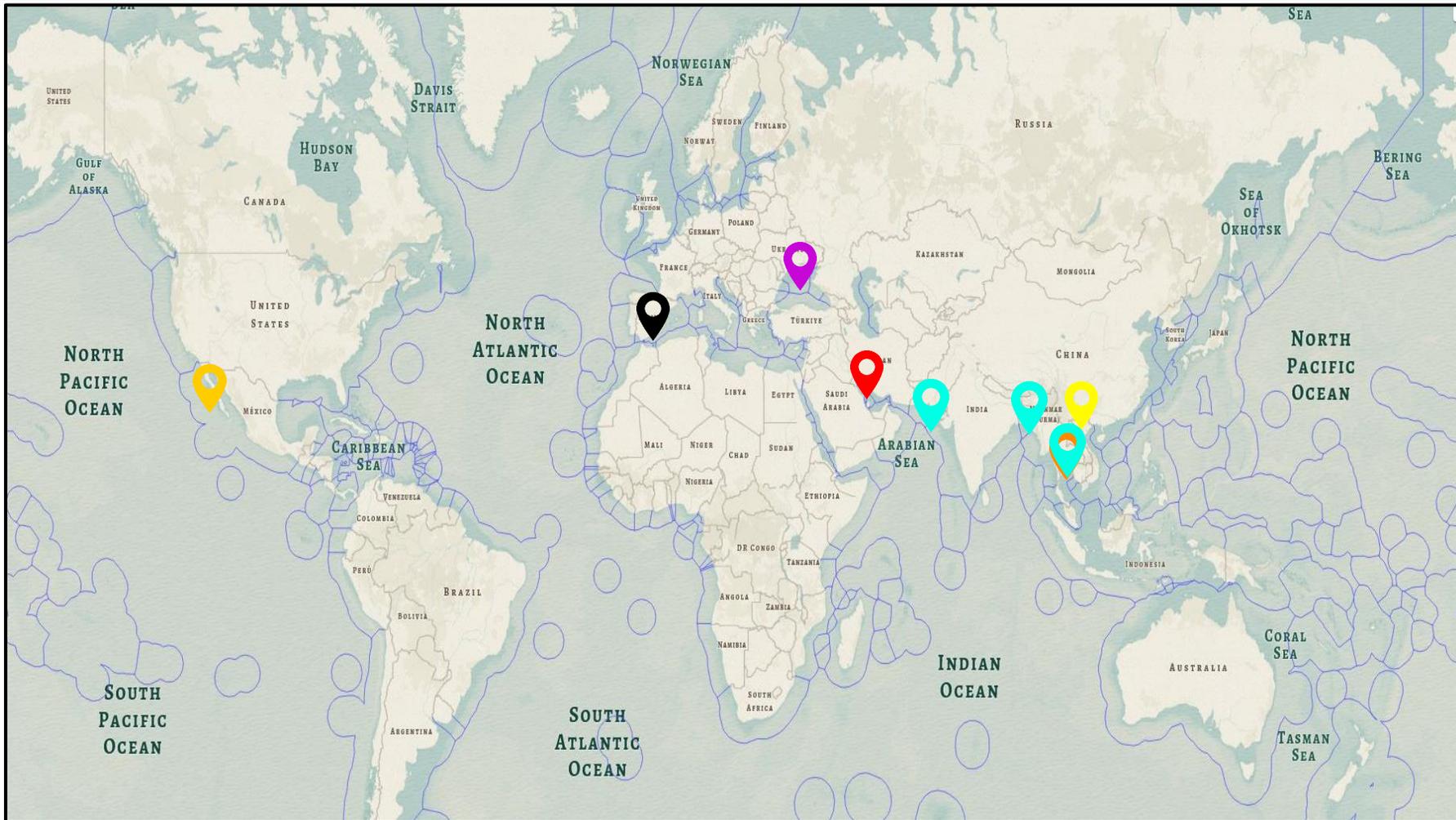
Tropical Cyclone "HORACIO"



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



SUMMERY (MARITIME INCIDENT)



CATEGORY	NO
Maritime Incidents	01
Piracy & Armed Robbery	01
Smuggling	03
IUU Fishing	01
Narcotic	01
Irregular Human Migration	01
Marine Environment Pollution	NIL
Other	01
Total Incidents	09

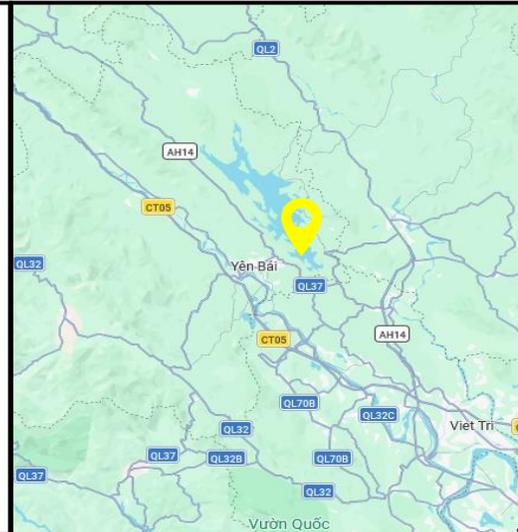
MARITIME INCIDENTS



21 Feb/Passenger boat collision kills six /Vietnam

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.02.21	Vietnam	Thac Ba Lake	Collision	Passenger boat	Authorities were investigating the cause of the incident, state media outlet Vn Express said.

Six people died including two children when a passenger boat capsized after colliding with a stone-hauling vessel on Thac Ba Lake in northern Vietnam. The incident occurred on Saturday evening while families were travelling for Tet the Lunar New Year. Of the 23 on board the passenger boat 17 were rescued while authorities recovered six bodies the following day. The operator of the other vessel was unharmed.



Source -: <https://www.thestar.com.my/aseanplus/aseanplus-news/2026/02/22/tragic-accident-in-vietnam---passenger-boat-collision-kills-six-state-media-says>

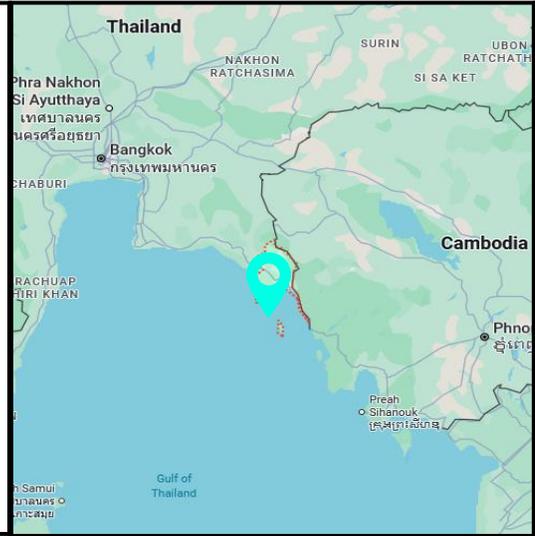
SMUGGLING



19 Feb/Navy intercepts Cambodian vessel smuggling seafood / Thailand

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.02.19	Thailand	4.9 Nm Ban Hat Lek	Contraband Goods Smuggling	Fishing boat	Following the inspection, the navy escorted the vessel and all crew members to Khlong Yai Pier in Khlong Yai district, Trat, for legal proceedings

The Royal Thai Navy's First Naval Area intercepted a Cambodian-flagged vessel on 19 Feb 26 accused of illegally transporting seafood into Thai waters off Trat province. Vice Admiral Chalermchai Suankaew ordered increased surveillance to ensure maritime security. The vessel was detected one nautical mile inside Thai waters, and during inspection three Cambodian crew members were found without identification. They confessed to transporting seafood from Cambodia for transfer to a Thai fishing vessel which had already occurred before their interception.



Source -: <https://www.pattayamail.com/news/thai-navy-intercepts-cambodian-vessel-smuggling-seafood-into-territorial-waters-off-trat-536624>

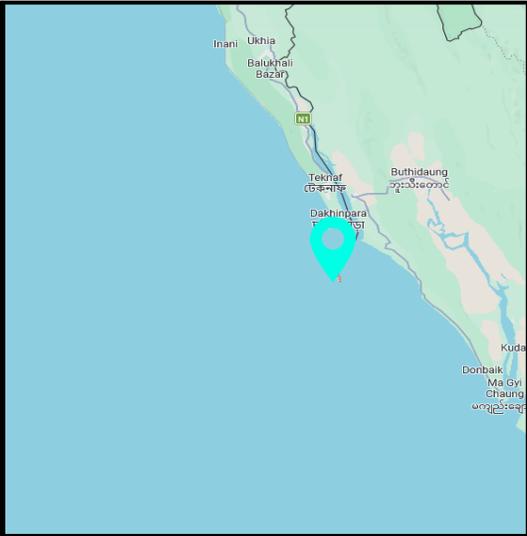
SMUGGLING



20 Feb/Navy seizes 1,140 sacks of cement bound for arrests 19 /Bangladesh

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.02.20	Bangladesh	Saint Martin's Island	Contraband Goods Smuggling	Two boat	Upon searching the vessel, Navy personnel recovered 450 sacks of cement, 250 sacks of pulses and chickpeas, 160 kilograms of ginger, and 360 bottles of energy drinks.

On 20 Feb 26 the Bangladesh Navy arrested 19 suspected smugglers and seized 1,140 sacks of cement from two boats during anti-smuggling operations near Saint Martin's Island. The Navy intensified patrols in response to reports of planned sea shipments of cement to Myanmar. During a routine patrol the Navy ship Prottasha detected a suspicious vessel 38 miles from the lighthouse which attempted to escape but was intercepted.



Source -: <https://www.bssnews.net/others/362606>

SMUGGLING



21 Feb/Coast Guard Intercepts Suspicious Boat With Iranian Crew / India

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.02.21	India	115 Nm off Dwarka	Contraband Goods Smuggling	One boat	A thorough inspection of the boat's storage areas led to the discovery of the illicit cargo hidden deep within the vessel.

The Indian Coast Guard intercepted a foreign vessel named Al Mukhtar about 115 nm miles west of Dwarka which was manned by four Iranian crew members. The vessel was found transporting a large shipment of smuggled foreign-brand cigarettes within the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) during a significant maritime enforcement operation on 21 Feb 26, as reported by the Coast Guard



Source -: <https://www.republicworld.com/india/indian-coast-guard-intercepts-suspicious-boat-with-iranian-crew-seizes-foreign-cigarettes-worth-up-to-rs-5-crore>

NARCOTIC



19 Feb/Navy arrested Submarine Smuggling Four Tons of Cocaine /Mexico

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.02.19	Mexica	Pacific coast	Seizure Of Narcotics	One submarine	The Philippine Navy apprehended three vessels and confiscated smuggled cigarettes worth P55.7 million in separate operations here and in Sulu.

The Mexican Navy intercepted a submarine off the Pacific coast carrying four tonnes of cocaine contributing to a total of nearly 10 tonnes of drugs seized in a week. This operation significantly undermines organised crime and enhances public safety by preventing millions of drug doses from reaching the streets.



Source -: <https://www.devdiscourse.com/article/law-order/3811140-navy-snares-submarine-smuggling-four-tons-of-cocaine>

PIRACY & ARMED ROBBERY



22 Feb/Coast Guard reports piracy incident involving /Bahrain

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.02.22	Bahrain	Northern Sea	Robbery At Sea	Passenger boat	The Coast Guard Command affirmed that it is closely monitoring the case, noting that all necessary legal measures are being taken in coordination with the competent authorities.

The Bahraini Coast Guard Command reported a piracy incident involving a boat carrying a 43-year-old Bahraini sailor and two Asian nationals (aged 36 and 38) near the kingdom's northern maritime border. Following a report to the Main Operations Room the authorities coordinated a response. Initial findings revealed that the pirates abducted the sailors seized the boat's contents and later returned the sailors to their vessel three hours after the incident.



Source -: <https://www.bna.bh/en/news?cms=q8FmFJgiscL2fwIzON1%2BDodrKCSIJSAE1HEWbqJlMjg%3D>

IRREGULAR HUMAN MIGRATION



22 Feb/Five Boats Carrying 109 Migrants Intercepted off Murcia / Spain

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.02.21 to 22	Bahrain	Region Murcia		Five Boat	NGOs have urged Madrid to accelerate safe and legal pathways such as humanitarian visas to prevent further dangerous sea crossings.

Spain's Maritime Rescue service intercepted five boats carrying 109 migrants including at least 18 women and minors off the Region of Murcia between 21 and 22 Feb 26. Despite a 43% decrease in irregular sea arrivals in 2025 pressure on Spain's southeastern coastline remains, as migrants shift to shorter routes from Algeria. This situation could strain local services and affect schooling and housing in smaller municipalities, while increased patrols may lead to delays for legitimate travelers at regional ports.



Source -: <https://www.visahq.com/news/2026-02-22/es/five-boats-carrying-109-migrants-intercepted-off-murcia-coast-during-weekend-surge/>

IUU FISHING



22 Feb /Navy Region 1 seizes Cambodian fishing boat /Taiwan

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.02.22	Taiwan	off Khlong Yai	Poaching	One Fishing Boat	The arrest was reported at 1000Hrs by the commander of patrol boat Tor 996. The vessel was located at latitude 11°31.51' North and longitude 102°53.40' East.

On 22 Feb 26 the Royal Thai Navy Region 1 intercepted a Cambodian fishing vessel in Thai territorial waters near Khlong Yai district. The crew consisted of three Cambodian members who lacked the ability to communicate in Thai and had no identification or legal documentation. The crew admitted to fishing in Thai waters for two days and the search revealed two crates of fresh squid on board. The vessel and crew are being held at Khlong Yai Multipurpose Port for legal proceedings while authorities are coordinating with the Thai Maritime Enforcement Command Centre for further investigation as the case is still under inquiry according to Thai law.



Source -: [https:// www.khaosodenglish.com/news/2026/02/22/navy-region-1-seizes-cambodian-fishing-boat-in-thai-waters/](https://www.khaosodenglish.com/news/2026/02/22/navy-region-1-seizes-cambodian-fishing-boat-in-thai-waters/)

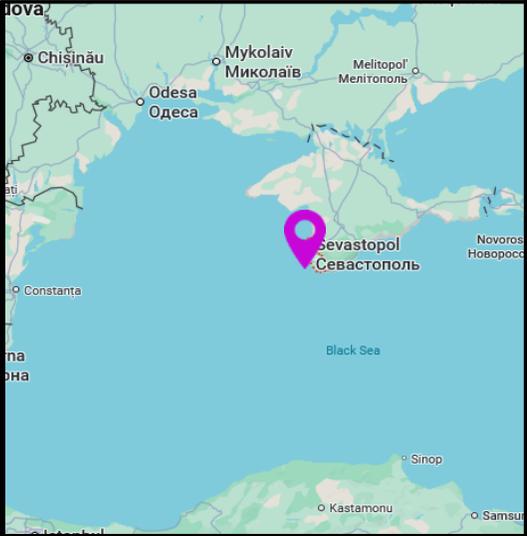


OTHERS

21 Feb /Ukrainian Drones Attack Patrol Boats and Maritime Patrol vessel's / Russia

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.02.21	Russia	Sevastopol harbor	Poaching	-	Battle damage assessments were not released.

On Saturday, Ukraine's armed forces resumed drone strikes on Sevastopol's naval harbor targeting two border guard ships near Inkerman in Crimea. The damaged vessels were identified as Project 22460 Rubin-class swift patrol boats. Ukraine's general staff noted the continued high risk to Russian assets in the port though battle damage assessments were not provided.



Source -: <https://maritime-executive.com/article/ukrainian-drones-hit-russian-patrol-boats-and-maritime-patrol-aircraft>



Information Fusion Center Colombo Sri Lanka

DISCLAIMER

This information, drawn from various publicly accessible open sources, is disseminated solely to provide situational awareness to national and international stakeholders. As the information originates from open sources, no independent verification has been conducted, and IFC Colombo assumes no responsibility for its accuracy, validity, or completeness.

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