

DAILY MARITIME INCIDENT UPDATE

Information Fusion Center-Colombo



Information Fusion Center
Colombo
Sri Lanka

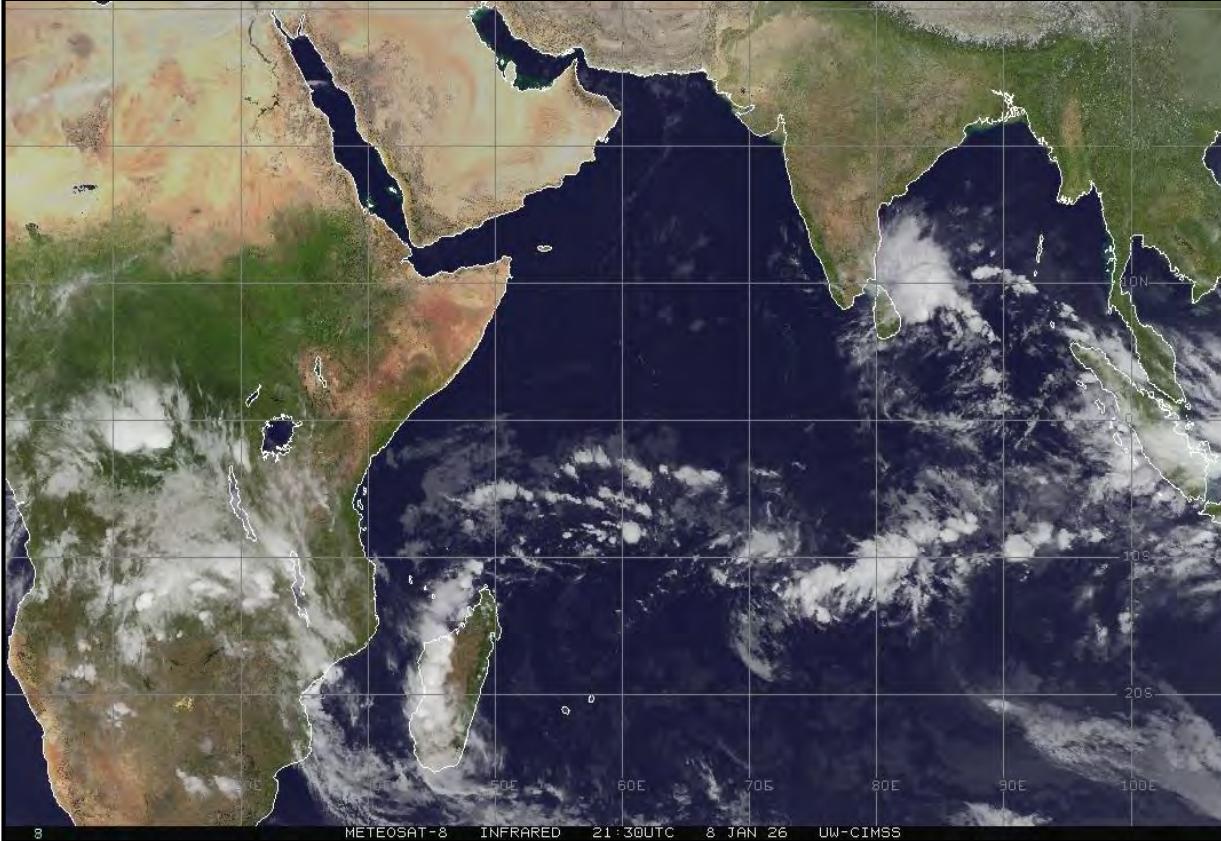
Date 2026.01.09



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: 2026.01.09/0600UTC to 2026.01.09/1400UTC

Issued at 0000UTC on 2026.01.09

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

The deep depression in the Bay of Bengal to the southeast of Sri Lanka (At 06:00 a.m. on Jan 9th, 2026 located about 170 km East of Batticaloa) is very likely to intensify further and move northwestwards towards the coast of Sri Lanka between Pottuvil and Trincomalee in the evening today, the 9th January 2026.

Shear line is approximately along : EQ 60E, 01S 70E, 02N 80E, 01N 90E, 02N 100E

ITCZ is approximately along : 08S 60E, 08S 70E, 11S 80E, 11S 90E, 09S 100E

Weather:

OCNL Showers / T>Showers in sections : 10, 15, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80

SCT Showers / T>Showers in sections : 30, 35, 40, 55, 85

ISOL Showers / T>Showers elsewhere.

Winds:

North of Shear line :

West of 75E: NE'ly / (15-20)kts; gusting up to 25 kts in sections 05, 25

East of 75E: Cyclonic / (15-25) kts; gusting up to (30-35) kts in sections 05, 10, 30.

In-between Shear line and ITCZ :

NW'ly to W'ly / (10-20) kts; gusting up to 25 kts in sections 65, 70, 75.

South of ITCZ:

SE'ly / (15-20)kts; gusting up to (25-30) kts in sections 80.

Seas:

Rough, very rough at times in sections : 05, 10, 80

Rough in sections : 25, 30, 65

Fairly Rough, rough at times in sections : 15, 60, 70, 75

Moderate, fairly rough at times in sections : 00, 40, 45, 50

Slight to Moderate elsewhere.

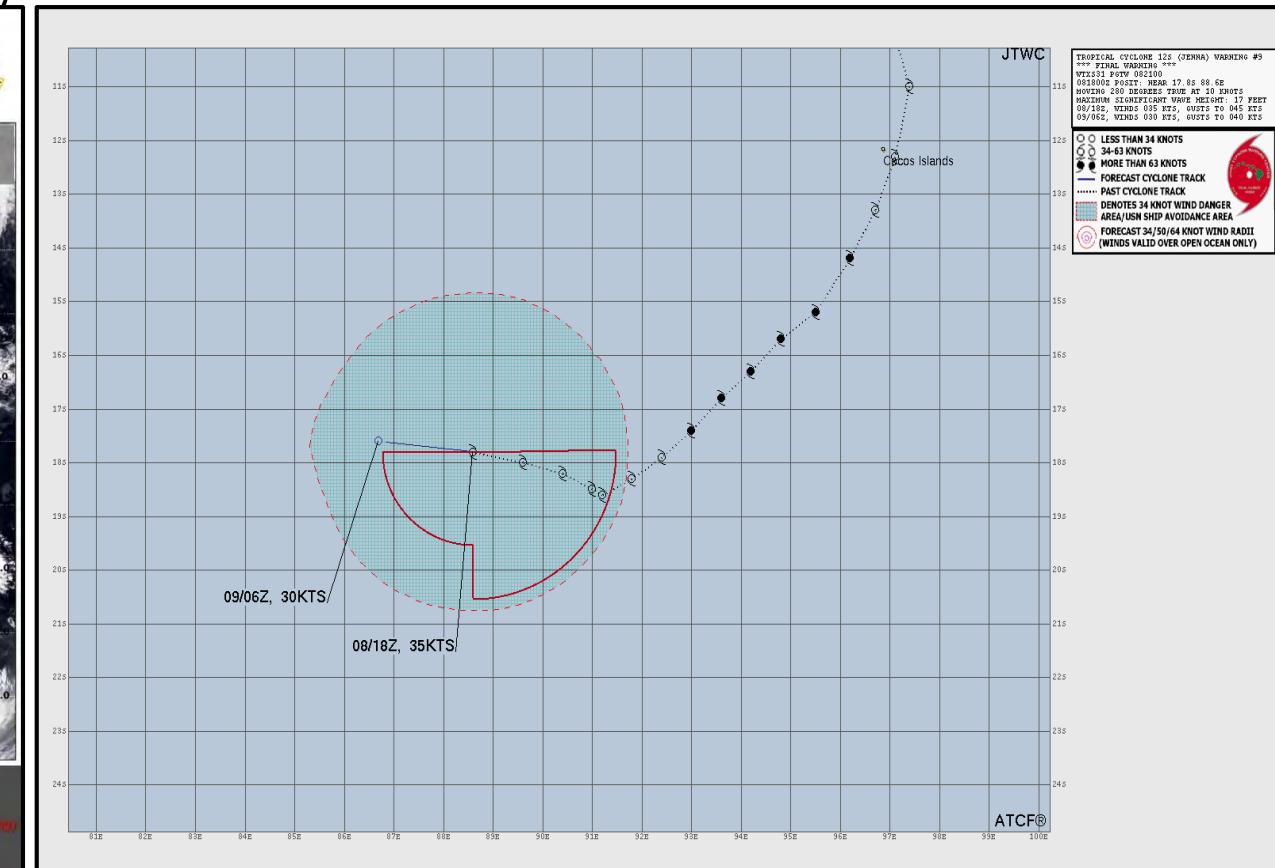
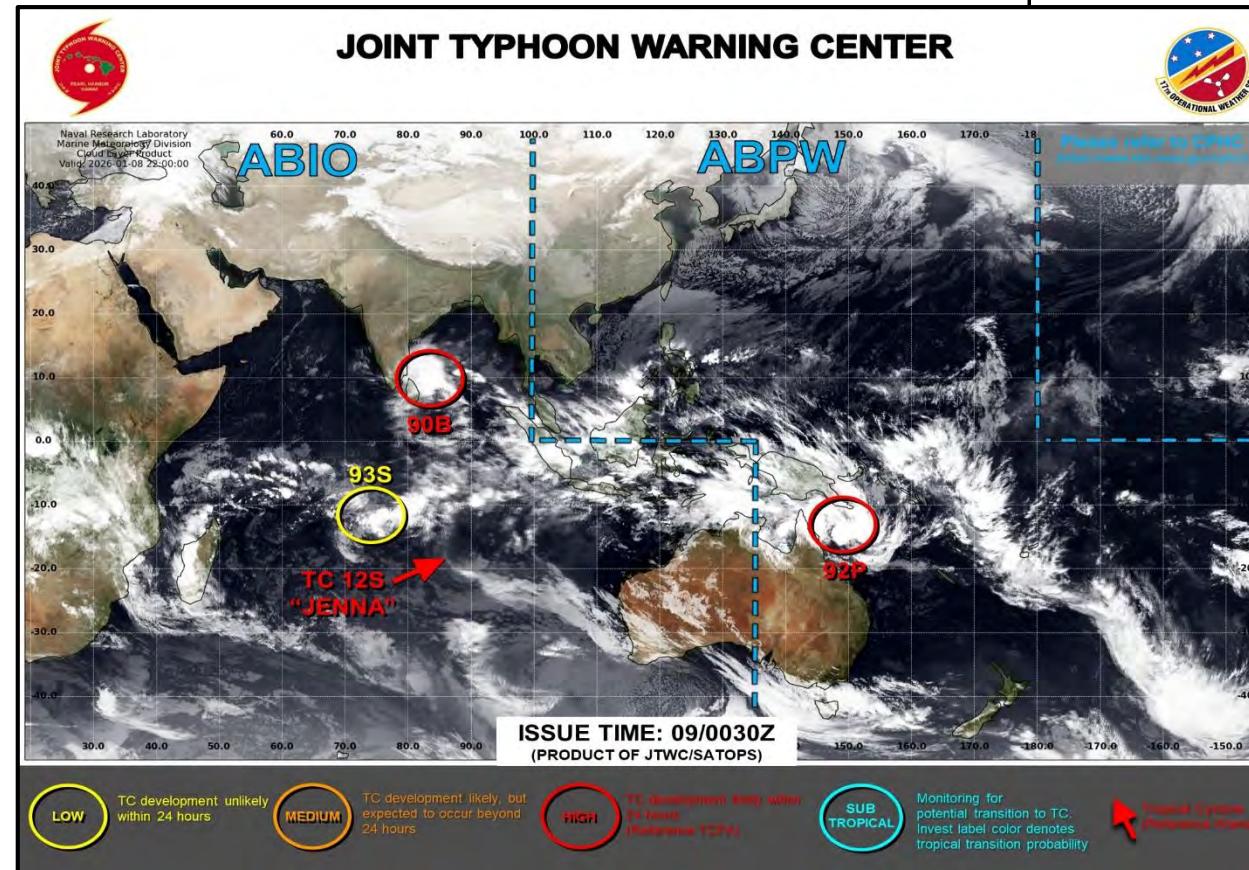
NOTE: Seas can be temporarily very rough during thundershowers.

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



CYCLONE

Tropical Cyclone Jenna



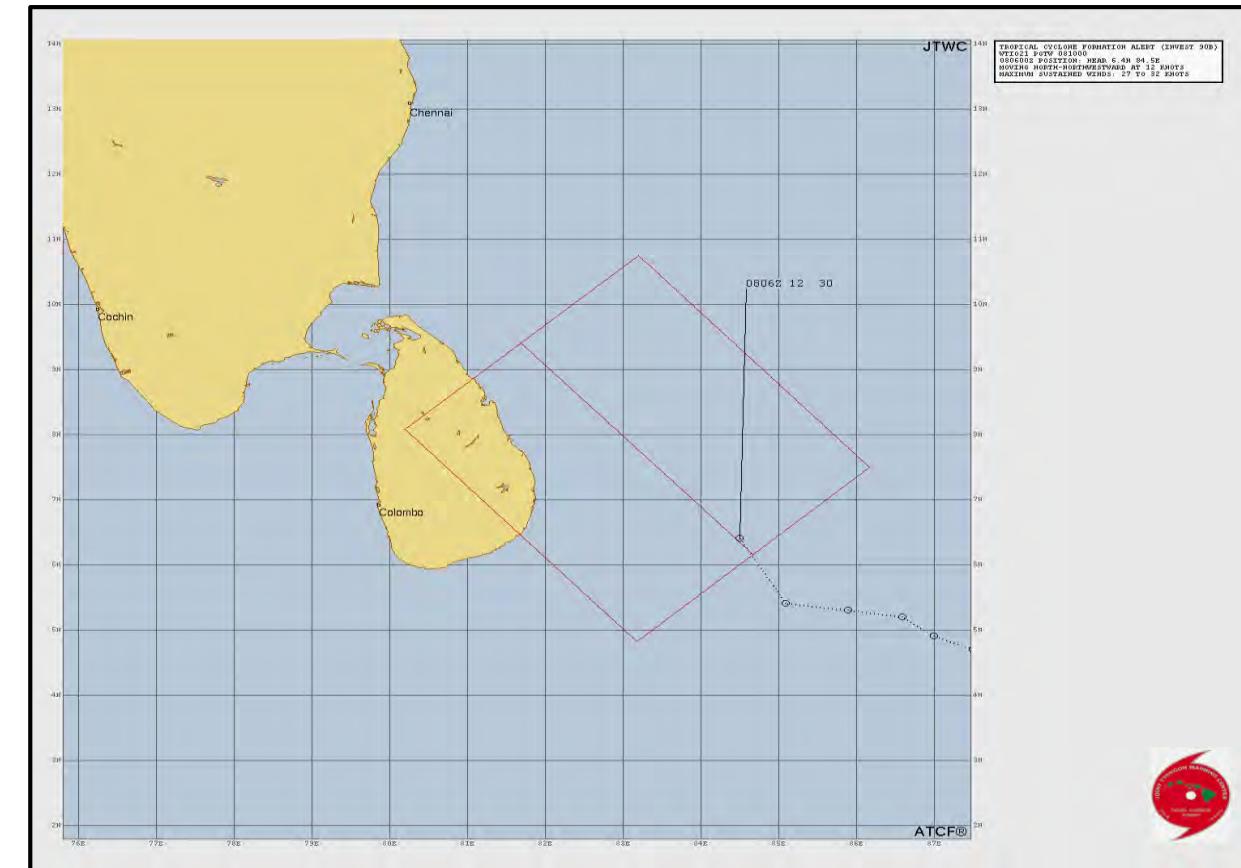
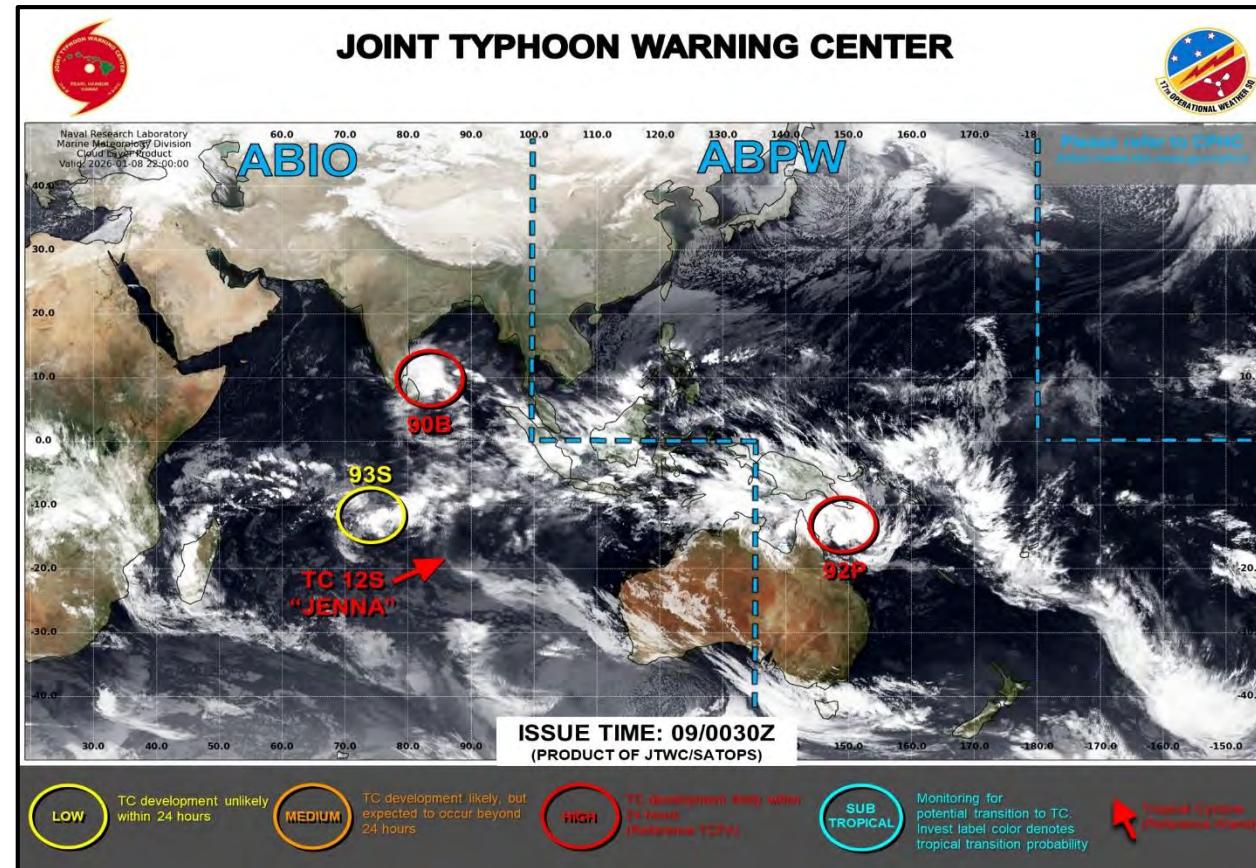
- Source: <https://www.metoc.dccn.navy.mil/jtwc/jtwc.html>



DEEP DEPRESSION



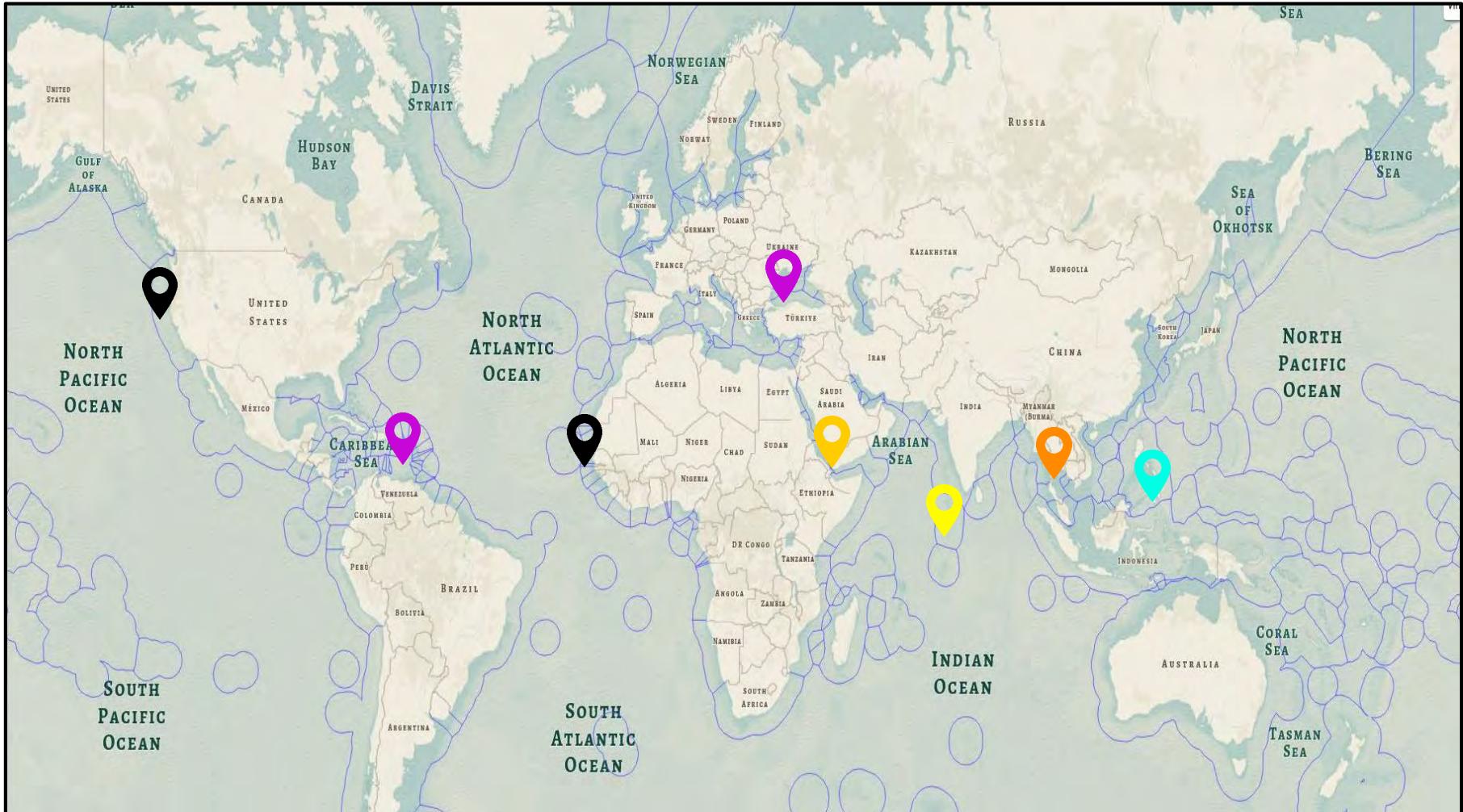
DD 90B



- Source: <https://www.metoc.dc3n.navy.mil/jtvc/jtvc.html>



SUMMERY (MARITIME INCIDENT)



CATEGORY	NO
Maritime Incidents	01
Piracy & Armed Robbery	NIL
Smuggling	01
IUU Fishing	01
Narcotic	01
Irregular Human Migration	02
Marine Environment Pollution	NIL
Other	02
Total Incidents	08

MARITIME INCIDENT



07 Jan/ Fire on a supply boat no Injury / Maldives

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.01.07	Maldives	K. Gamarugiri	Fire	Supply boat	MNDF said that the supply boat had been carrying trash and travelling to Thilafushi.

Police and staff of nearby resorts worked together to put out a fire that broke out in a supply boat docked near K. Gamarugiri. According to Police there were three people on board the vessel at the time the fire broke out which were a Maldivian captain and two foreign crew members. None of them were injured in the fire. Police received reports of the incident at around 1910 hrs on 07 Jan 26



Source :- <https://edition.mv/news/47314?ref=cat-sub/>

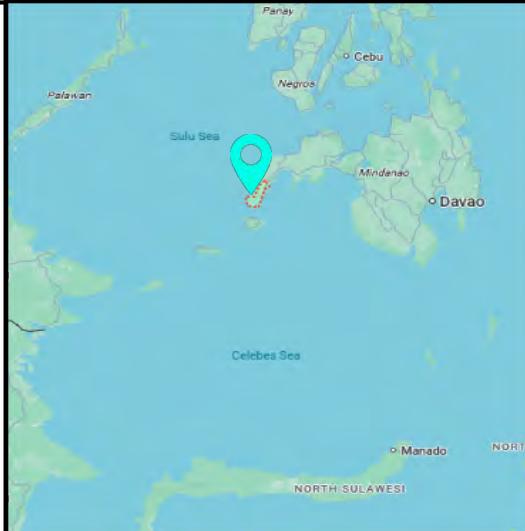
SMUGGLING



06 Jan/Massive Cigarette Smuggling three men arrested /Philippines

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.01.06	Philippines	Off Zamboanga	Cigarette	three boat	Police arrested three men and confiscated an estimated ₱21.2 million worth of smuggled cigarettes in a maritime operation near Manalipa Island on Tuesday, highlighting the persistent challenge of illicit tobacco trade in Mindanao's waters and markets.

Police arrested three men and seized ₱21.2 million worth of smuggled cigarettes in a maritime operation near Manalipa Island. The authorities intercepted three boats at around 0400hrs discovering 332 master cases of cigarettes lacking transport documents. The suspects stated the contraband was from Sulu and headed to Cotabato. They will face charges under the Anti-Agriculture Economic Sabotage Act of 2016 highlighting ongoing concerns about tobacco smuggling in Mindanao.



Source :- <https://newsline.ph/massive-cigarette-smuggling-bust-3-arrested-%E2%82%B121-2m-contraband-seized-off-zamboanga>

NARCOTIC



07 Jan/ Yemeni Naval Forces Seize Quarter-Ton Of Drugs Off Bab al-Mandab /Yemen

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.01.07	Yemen	Off Bab al-Mandab	Seizure Of Narcotics	One Boat	Yemeni Naval Forces Seize Quarter-Ton Of Drugs Off Bab al-Mandab, 4 Arrested.

Naval forces have intercepted a boat off Bab al-Mandab seizing nearly a quarter of a tonne of narcotics and arresting four smugglers. This operation one of the most significant drug seizures in recent months involved senior local and security officials highlighting the serious threat posed by the smuggling operations to public safety and social stability.



Source :- <https://www.marineinsight.com/shipping-news/yemeni-naval-forces-seize-quarter-ton-of-drugs-off-bab-al-mandab-4-arrested/>

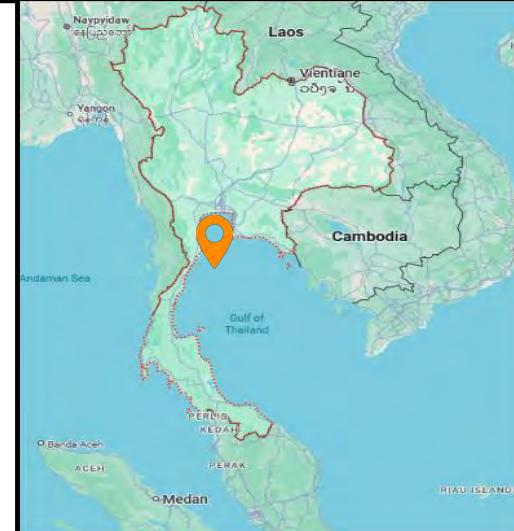
IUU FISHING



07 Jan/Cambodian fishing boat Arrested /Thailand

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.01.07	Thailand	Thai waters	Maritime Boundary Violations	Cambodian Fishing vessel	The vessel and its four Cambodian crew members were escorted to Khlong Yai Port in Trat province for legal proceedings

The Royal Thai Navy detained a Cambodian fishing vessel for illegally entering Thai territorial waters during a routine patrol by HTMS Thepha. The vessel lacking nationality markings or registration was operated by four Cambodian nationals. The captain admitted to unauthorized fishing alongside three other Cambodian boats. The seized vessel and crew were escorted to Khlong Yai Port for legal proceedings with the Navy planning additional patrols to protect national sovereignty.



Source :- <https://www.pattayamail.com/thailandnews/royal-thai-navy-detains-cambodian-fishing-boat-for-illegal-entry-into-thai-waters-531810/>



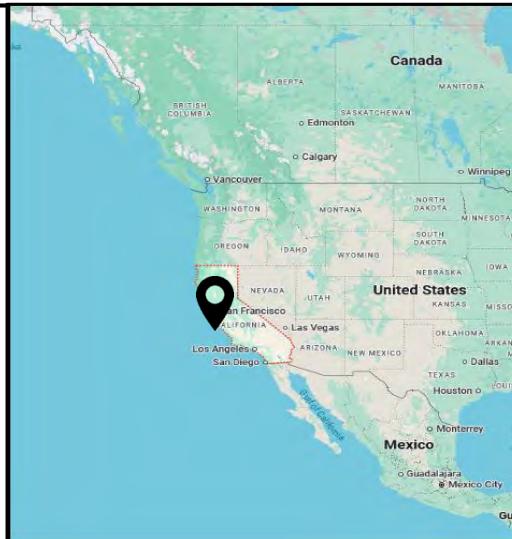
IRREGULAR HUMAN MIGRATION



07 Jan/ Nine migrants dead in after boat mishap/ USA

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.01.07	USA	Coast of California	Failed Border Crossings	Panga Boat	Coast Guard encounters Romanian, Chinese nationals off California coast; feds charge Mexican crew members with smuggling.

Two Mexican nationals have been charged with federal smuggling after a panga carrying nine migrants was discovered off the California coast. The vessel found by the US Coast Guard without navigation lights and adrift 12 miles from Point Loma posed danger to its passengers. Migrants included five Romanians one Chinese and three Mexicans. Boat operator Noe Gastelum Ruelas admitted to losing the vessel's GPS while departing from Ensenada Mexico.



Source :- <https://www.borderreport.com/hot-topics/border-crime/panga-carrying-9-migrants-dead-in-water-after-gps-mishap>



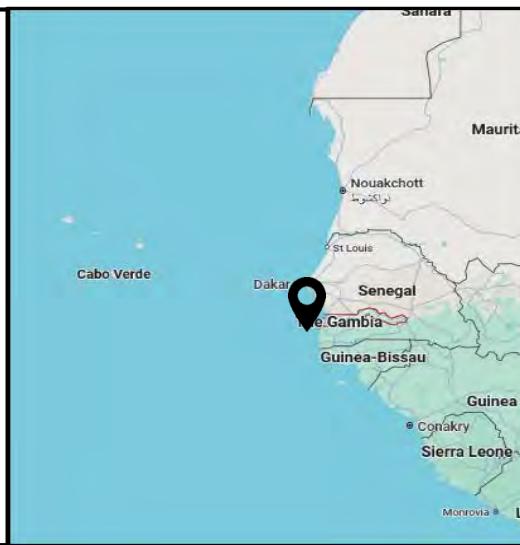
IRREGULAR HUMAN MIGRATION



07 Jan/ boat carrying 200 migrants sinks /Gambia

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.01.07	Gambia	off Gambia	Failed Border Crossings	One Boat	Dozens missing after boat carrying 200 migrants sinks off Gambia.

At least seven people have died and many are missing after a boat carrying around 200 migrants capsized off The Gambia. The incident occurred near Jinack village with the vessel later found on a sandbank. Ninety-six individuals have been rescued and search efforts continue for others headed to Spain's Canary Islands. This dangerous route has become increasingly common for African migrants seeking to reach Europe.



Source -: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/clynvkwglx4o>

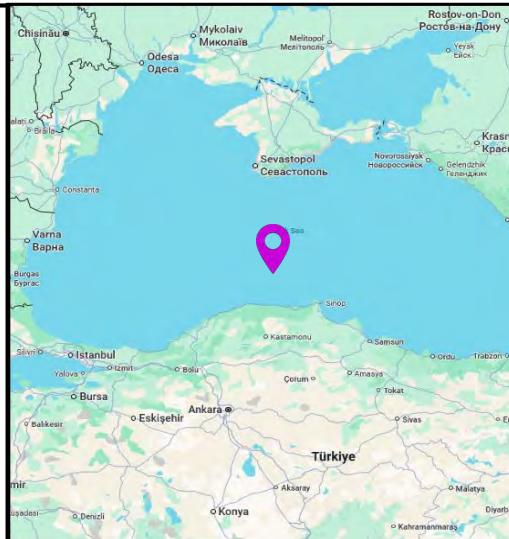
OTHER



07 Jan/ Suezmax tanker damaged drone attack /Turkey

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.01.07	Turkey	Black Sea	Drone Attack	Oil Tanker	A suezmax tanker was struck by a drone while transiting the Black Sea on Wednesday, according to a casualty report.

The Palau-flagged tanker ELBUS built in 2005 and weighing 159,062 DWT was attacked by an unmanned marine vehicle and drone while sailing east off the Turkish coast. The incident caused damage to the ship's upper section but there were no injuries or pollution reported. The tanker safely reached İnebolu Turkey with assistance from Turkish authorities. As of now there has been no official comment from Turkish authorities regarding the attack and Ukraine's armed forces have not claimed responsibility for it.



Source :- <https://splash247.com/suezmax-tanker-damaged-in-black-sea-drone-attack/>

OTHER



07 Jan/ Venezuelan Oil Tanker MT Sophia Arrested /USA

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.01.07	USA	Caribbean Sea	seizure	Name – M Sophia Type- Tanker Flag - Panama	The seizure of the MT Sophia took place just hours after a similar operation against the tanker Marinera (formerly Bella 1)..

On 07 Jan 26 US forces seized the MT SOPHIA oil tanker in the Caribbean for transporting sanctioned Venezuelan oil. The vessel which was flying a Panamanian flag and had its AIS transponder off for about five months, was boarded without resistance by US Southern Command. At the time of seizure it was carrying approximately 2 million barrels of Merey crude oil from Venezuela and is being escorted to the United States for final disposition.



Source :- <https://www.marinetraffic.com/en/maritime-news/15/maritime-security/2026/12611/us-forces-seize-oil-tanker-carrying-sanctioned-venezuelan-oil/>



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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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