



Information Fusion Centre

Colombo - Sri Lanka

IFC Monthly Reports September 2022



Naval Headquarters, Colombo, Sri Lanka



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www.ifccolombo.org



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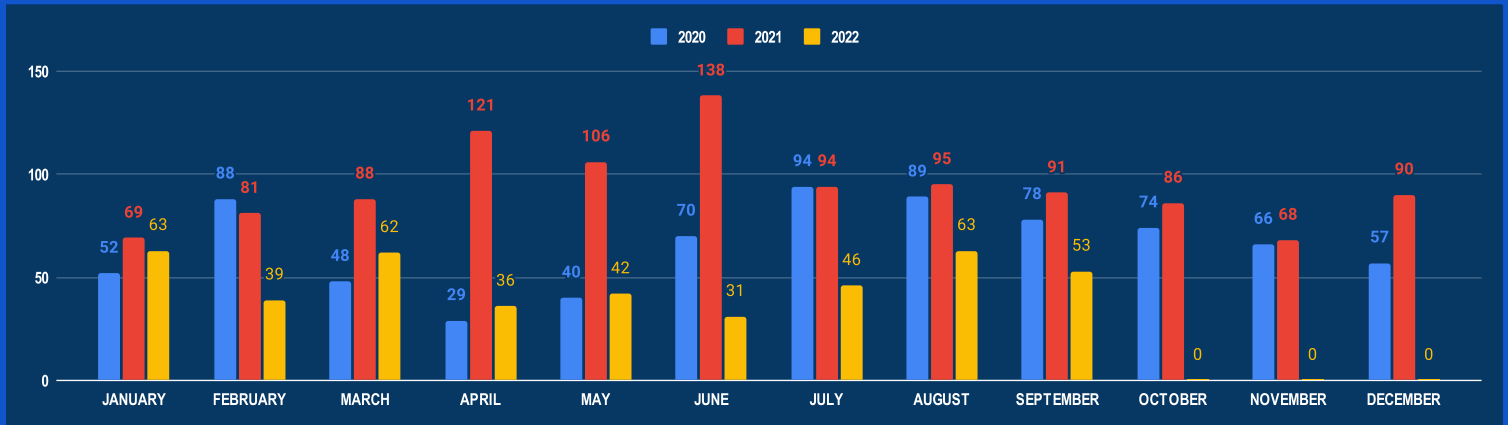


IFC COLOMBO SRI LANKA

MARITIME INCIDENT BULLETIN MONTHLY MAP SEPTEMBER 2022

MARITIME SECURITY INCIDENTS - IFC AOI

NUMBER OF INCIDENTS (2020-2022)



REPORTED INCIDENTS SEPTEMBER 2022

INCIDENT TYPE	SEP 2022	TOTAL 2022	SEP 2021
IUU Fishing	3	66	39
Drug Smuggling	2	21	3
Contraband Smuggling	1	21	11
Human Smuggling	7	36	0
Maritime Incident	33	218	21
Poaching	7	73	17

Poaching

13.2%

IUU Fishing

5.7%

Drug Smuggling

3.8%

Contraband Smuggling

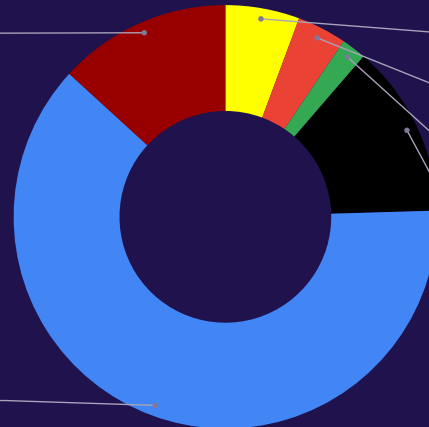
1.9%

Human Smuggling

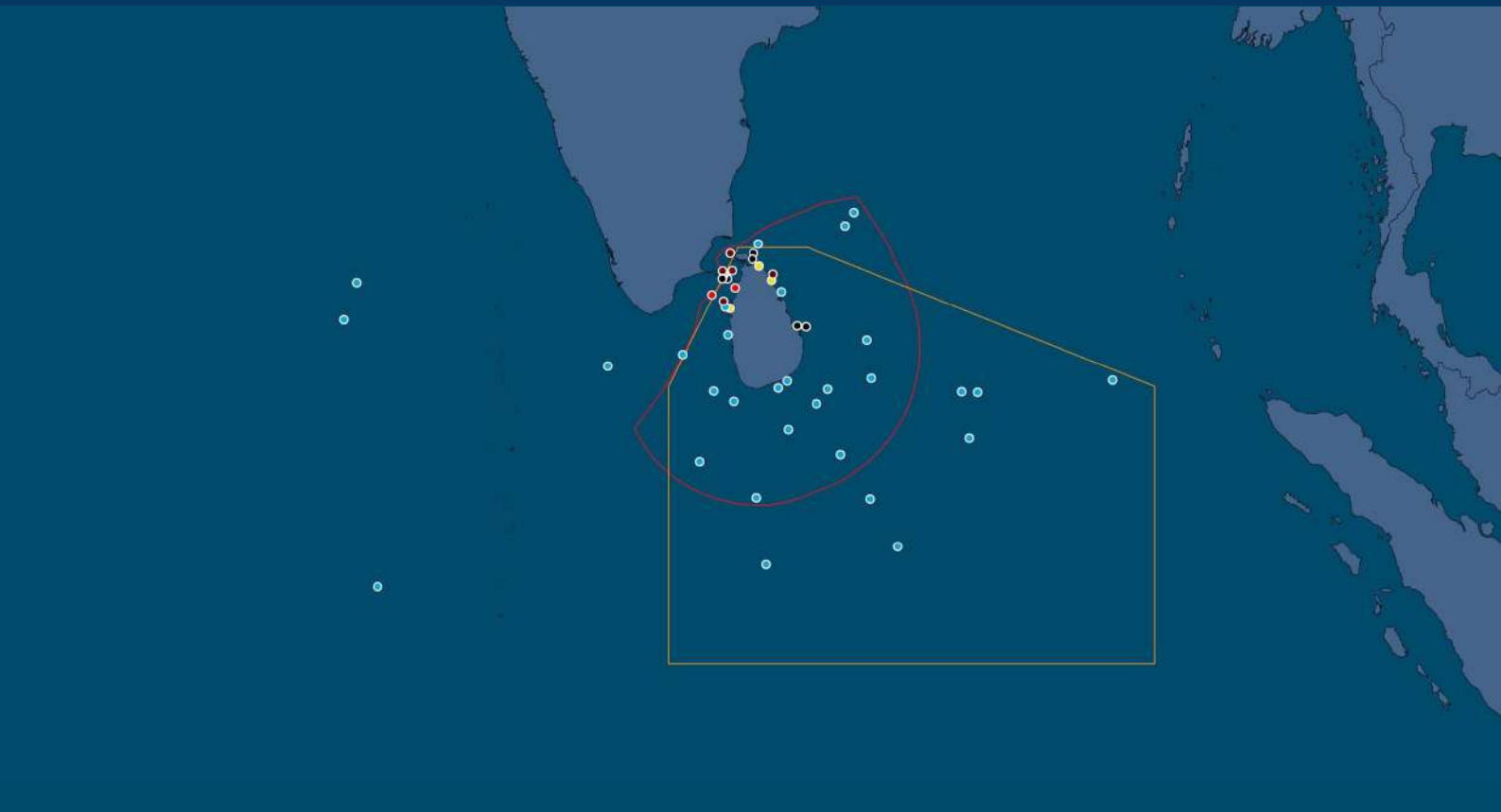
13.2%

Maritime Incident

62.3%



MARITIME INCIDENTS SEPTEMBER 2022



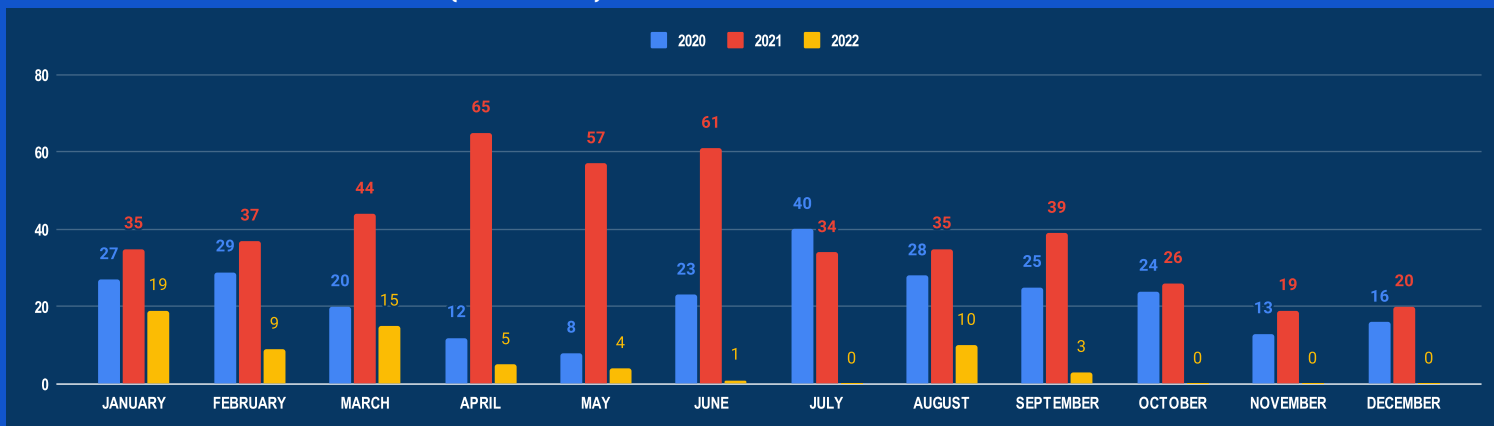


IFC COLOMBO SRI LANKA

MARITIME INCIDENT BULLETIN MONTHLY MAP SEPTEMBER 2022

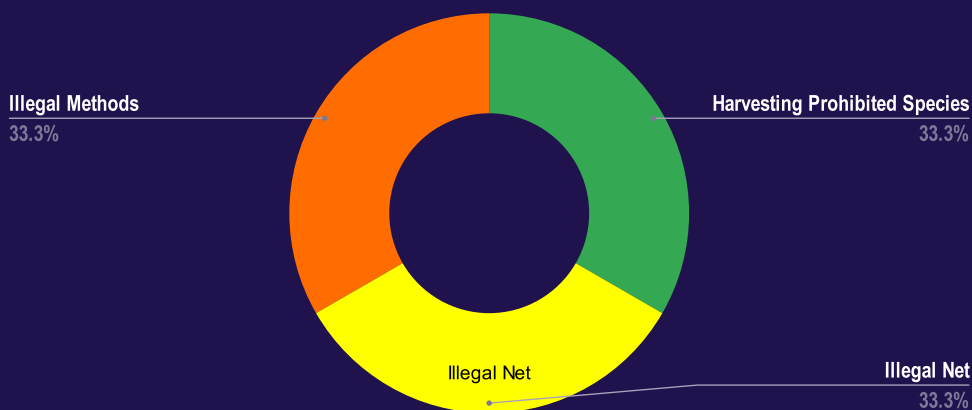
IUU FISHING INCIDENTS - IFC AOI

NUMBER OF IUU FISHING INCIDENTS (2020-2022)



REPORTED INCIDENTS SEPTEMBER 2022

INCIDENT TYPE	SEP 2022	TOTAL 2022	SEP 2021
Violation of Certificate Conditions	0	4	8
Harvesting Prohibited Species	1	25	3
Illegal Net	1	22	23
Illegal Methods	1	13	4
Explosive Fishing	0	2	1



IUU FISHING INCIDENTS SEPTEMBER 2022



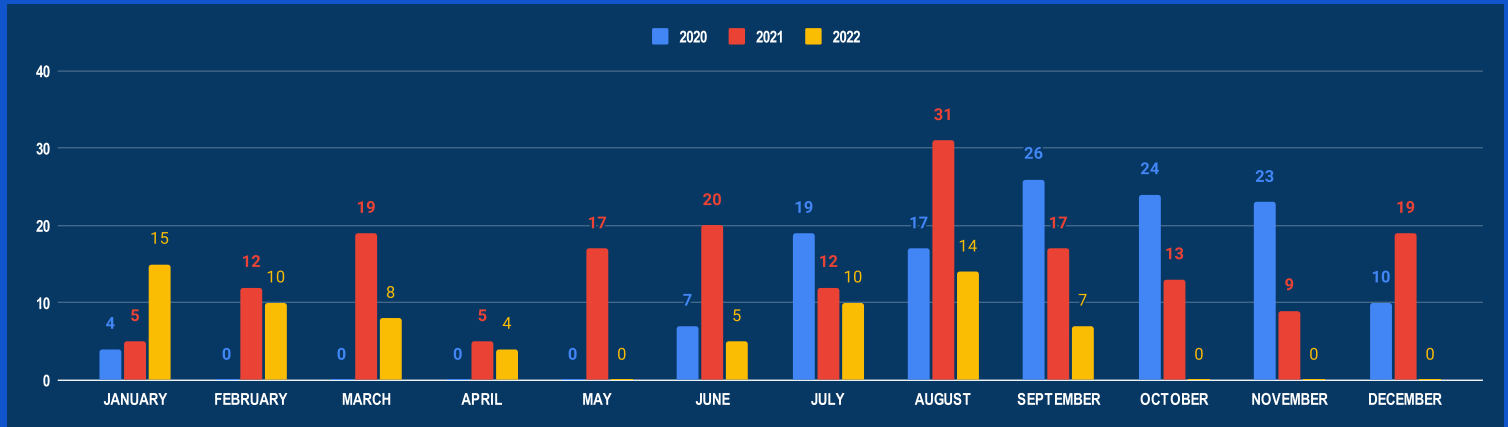


IFC COLOMBO SRI LANKA

MARITIME INCIDENT BULLETIN MONTHLY MAP SEPTEMBER 2022

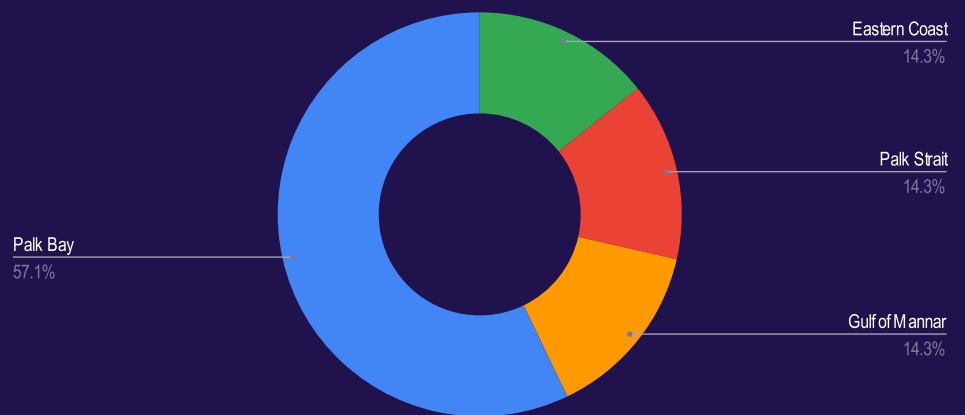
POACHING INCIDENTS - IFC AOI

NUMBER OF POACHING INCIDENTS (2020-2022)



REPORTED INCIDENTS SEPTEMBER 2022

	SEP 2022	TOTAL 2022	SEP 2021
Eastern Coast	1	8	7
Palk Strait	1	13	1
Gulf of Mannar	1	9	6
Palk Bay	4	42	3
Other	0	9	0



POACHING INCIDENTS SEPTEMBER 2022



Legend: Eastern Coast (Green), Palk Strait (Red), Gulf of Mannar (Orange), Palk Bay (Blue), Other (Yellow)

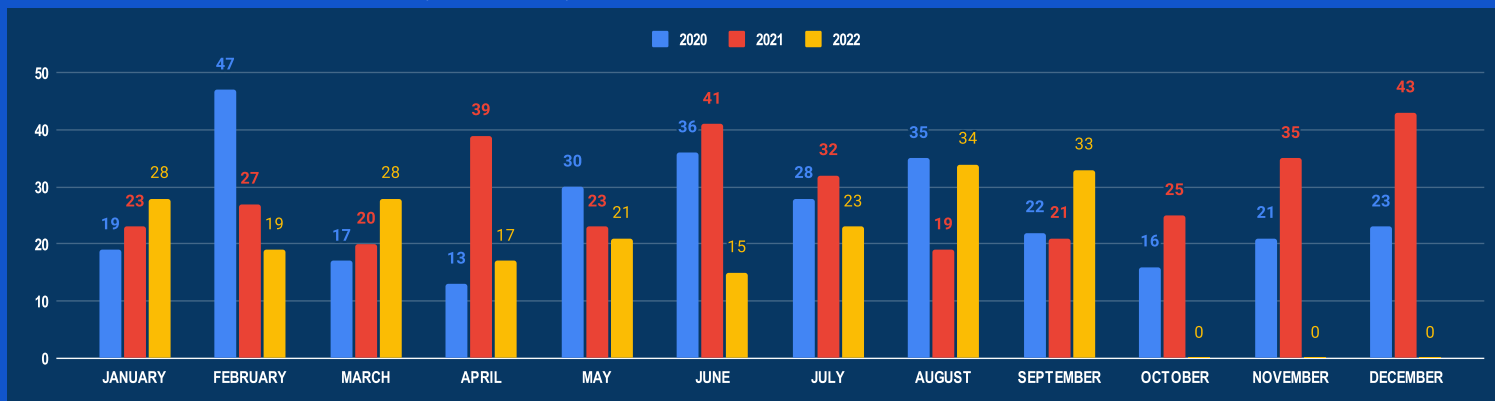


IFC COLOMBO SRI LANKA

MARITIME INCIDENT BULLETIN MONTHLY MAP SEPTEMBER 2022

MARITIME INCIDENT - IFC AOI

NUMBER OF MARITIME INCIDENTS (2020-2022)



REPORTED INCIDENTS

INCIDENT TYPE	SEP 2022	TOTAL 2022	SEP 2021
Technical Failure	11	97	3
Fire onboard	0	1	0
EPIRB Alert	10	53	5
Man Over Boat	2	8	3
Arrival Overdue	2	12	1
Capsized	1	4	1
Ground	1	5	0
Death	0	2	1
Patient onboard	4	25	4
Collision	0	2	0
No Communication	2	5	0
Other Incident	0	4	3

No Communication

6.1%

Patient onboard

12.1%

Ground

3.0%

Capsized

3.0%

Arrival Overdue

6.1%

Man Over Boat

6.1%

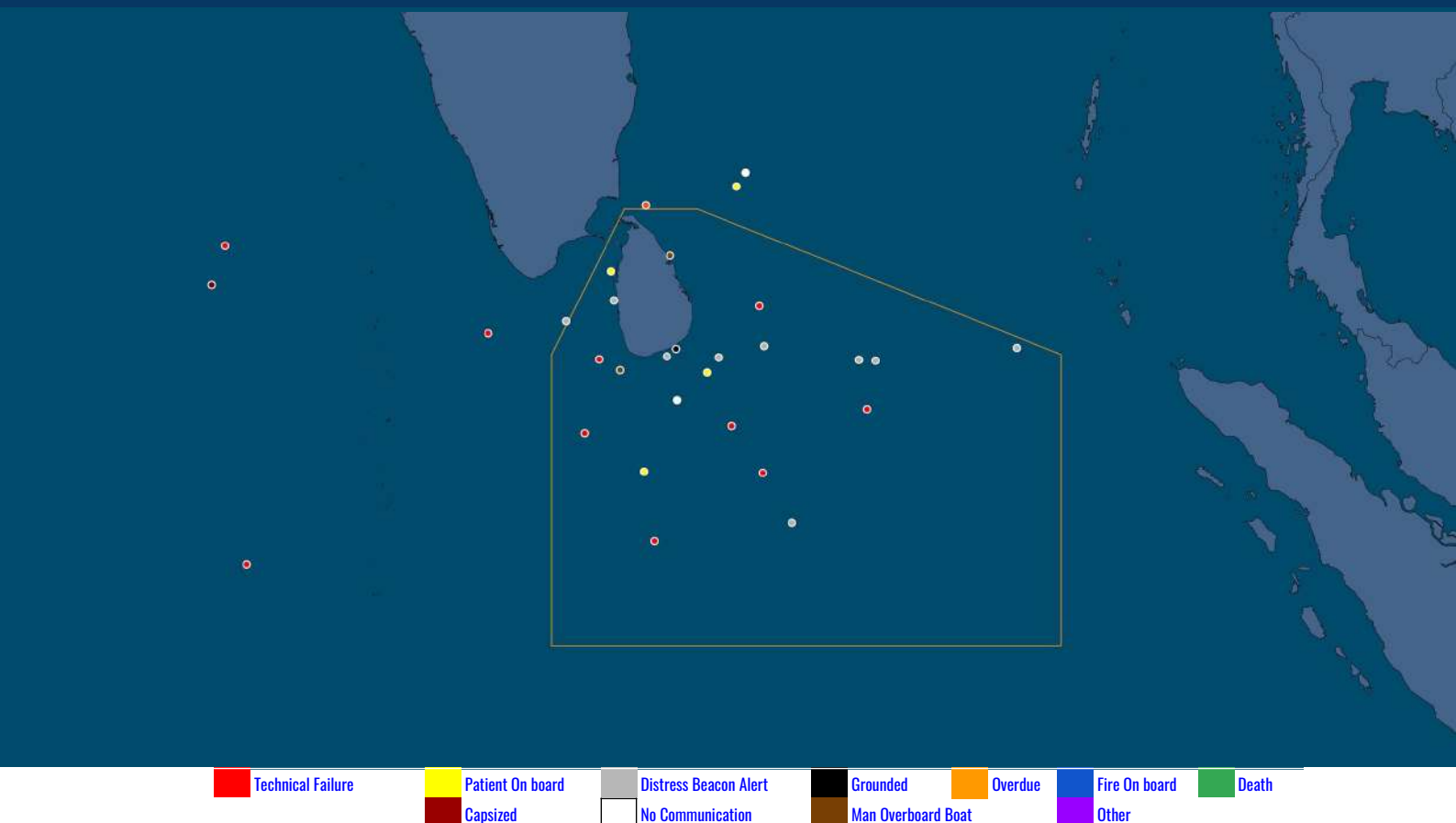
Technical Failure

33.3%

EPIRB Alert

30.3%

MARITIME INCIDENT



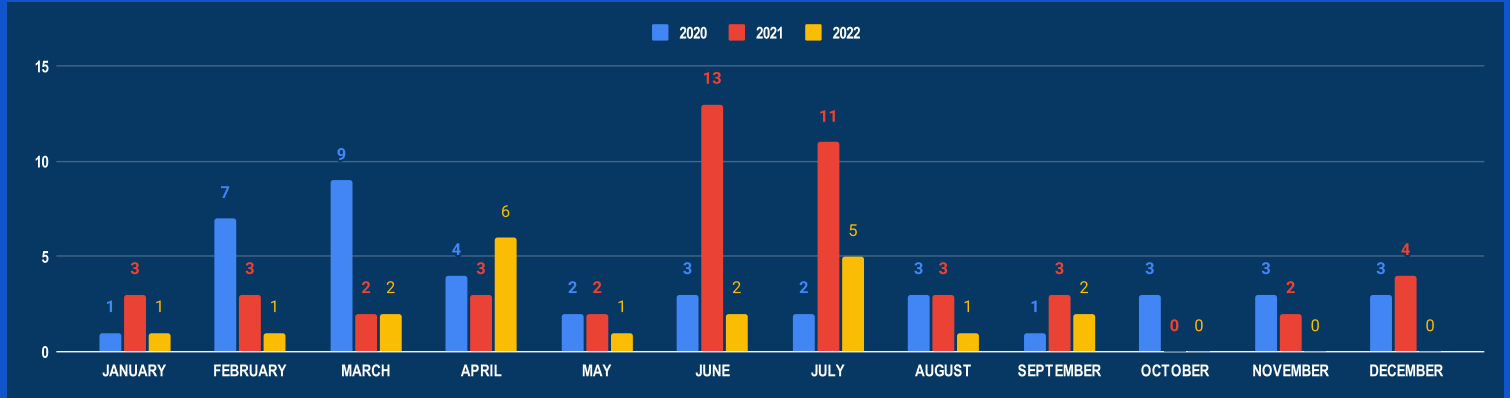


IFC COLOMBO SRI LANKA

MARITIME INCIDENT BULLETIN MONTHLY MAP SEPTEMBER 2022

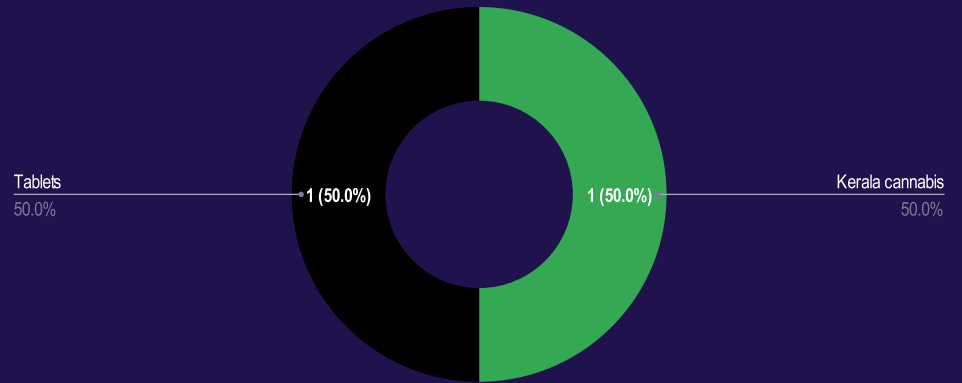
DRUG SMUGGLING - IFC AOI

NUMBER OF DRUG SMUGGLING INCIDENTS (2020-2022)



REPORTED INCIDENTS

Drug Type	SEP 2022	TOTAL 2022	SEP 2021
Heroin	0	2	0
Kerala cannabis	1	13	2
Ice	0	3	1
Tablets	1	2	0
Hashish	0	1	0



DRUG SMUGGLING INCIDENT



Heroin Ice Kerala Cannabis Hashish Other

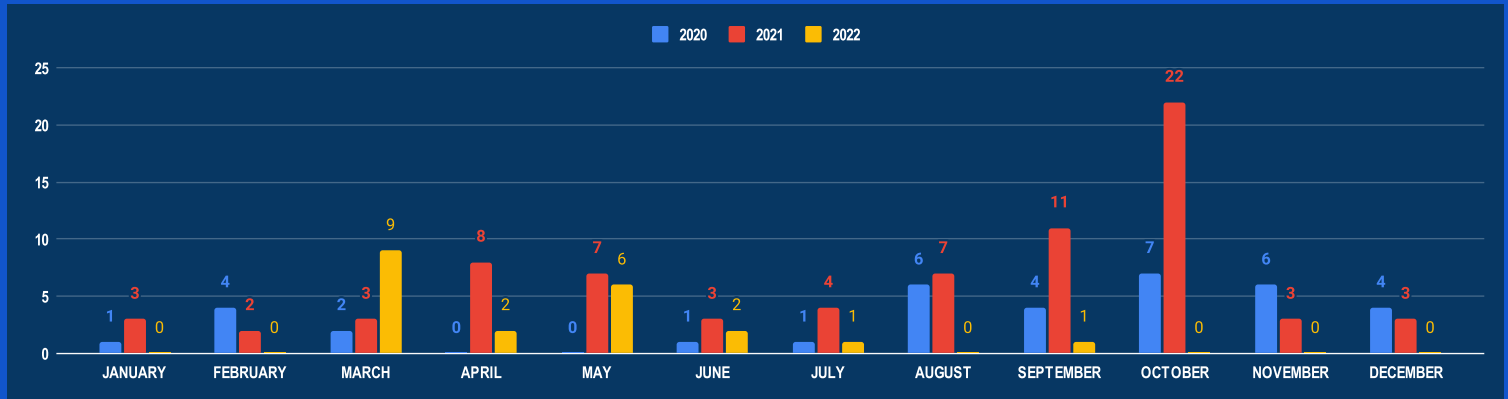


IFC COLOMBO SRI LANKA

MARITIME INCIDENT BULLETIN MONTHLY MAP

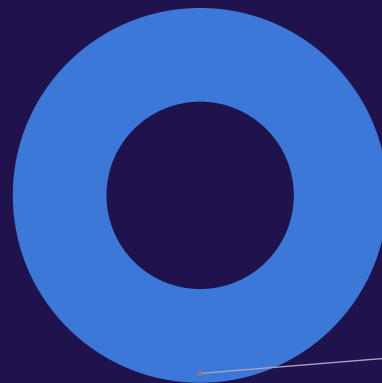
CONTRABAND SMUGGLING - IFC AOI

NUMBER OF CONTRABAND SMUGGLING INCIDENTS (2020-2022)



REPORTED INCIDENTS

INCIDENT TYPE	SEP 2022	TOTAL 2022	SEP 2021
Cardamom	0	2	0
Glyphosate	0	0	0
Gold	0	2	0
Kendu leaves	1	7	1
Other	0	9	0
Turmeric	0	1	10



Kendu leaves
100.0%

CONTRABAND SMUGGLING INCIDENT



Cardamom Glyphosate Gold Kendu leaves Turmeric Other

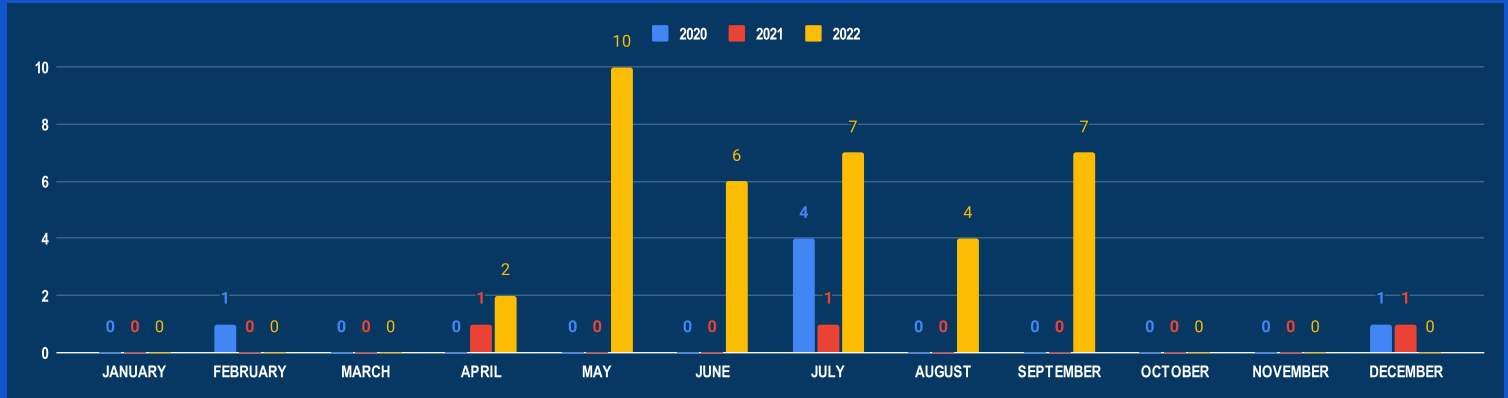


IFC COLOMBO SRI LANKA

MARITIME INCIDENT BULLETIN MONTHLY MAP

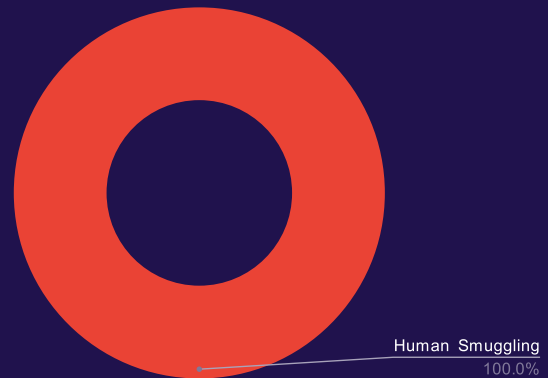
HUMAN SMUGGLING - IFC AOI

NUMBER OF HUMAN SMUGGLING INCIDENTS (2020-2022)

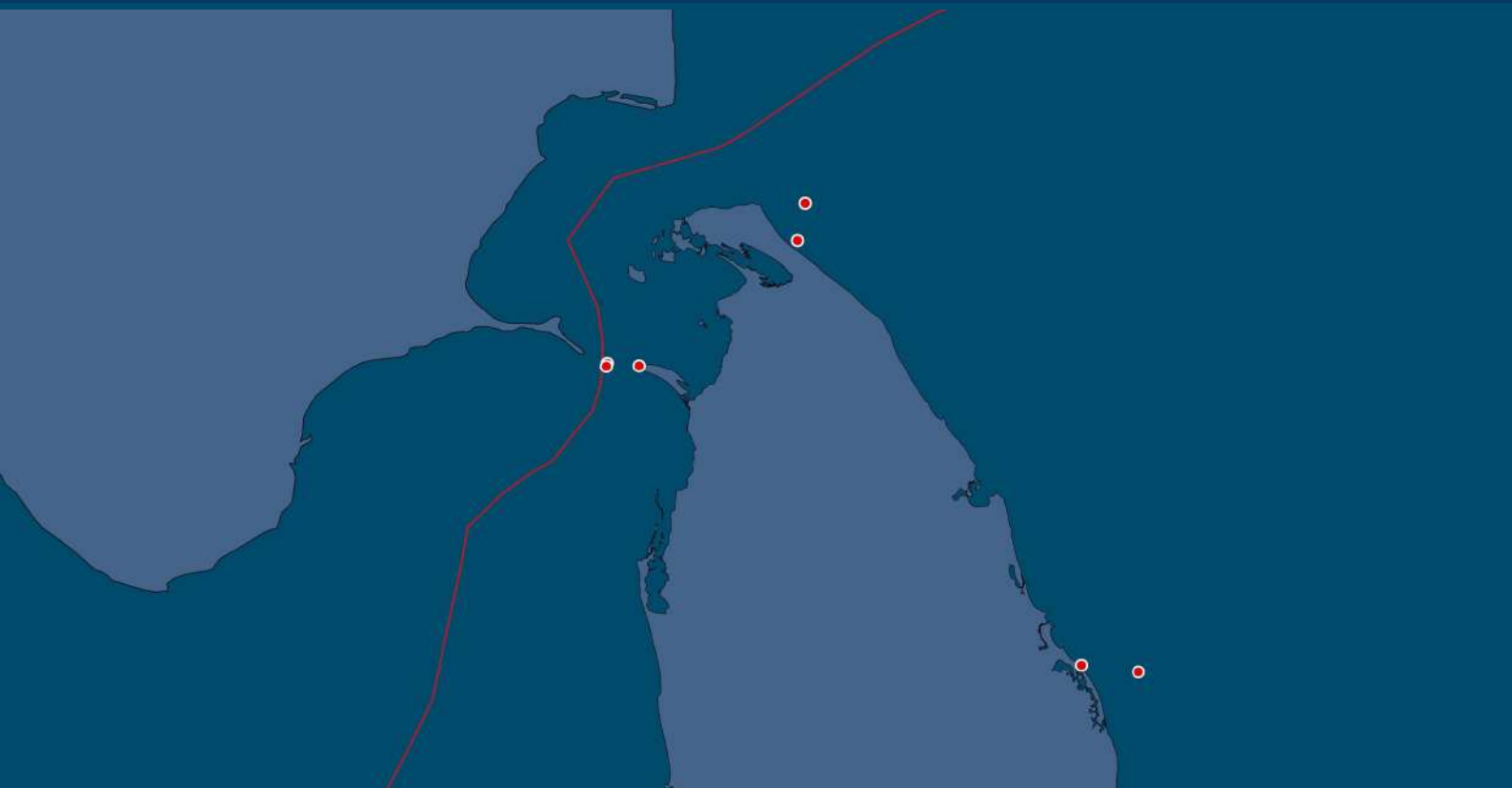


REPORTED INCIDENTS

INCIDENT TYPE	SEP 2022	TOTAL 2022	SEP 2021
Human Smuggling	7	36	0



HUMAN SMUGGLING INCIDENT



Human Smuggling

EVENTS

01. 06th September 2022

Navy seizes poaching trawler in island waters off Mullaitivu

Sri Lanka Navy seized an Indian trawler with 12 Indian fishermen, poaching in Sri Lanka's waters off Alampil, Mullaitivu on 06th September 2022. The apprehension was made during a special operation carried out by the Navy to chase away Indian trawlers poaching in the island's waters, via the International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL).

Having spotted a cluster of Indian poaching trawlers off Mullaitivu, the Eastern Naval Command mounted the special operation to chase away those trawlers from Sri Lanka's waters, deploying a Fast Attack Craft of the 4th Fast Attack Flotilla (4 FAF), attached to the Eastern Naval Command. The operation led to the seizure of an Indian poaching trawler with 12 Indian fishermen and their fishing gear, off Alampil, Mullaitivu.

The seized Indian trawler and 12 of its fishermen was brought to the Naval Dockyard, Trincomalee and handed over to the Fisheries Inspector of Trincomalee for legal proceedings.



SRI LANKA COAST GUARD APPREHENDED A FISHING VESSEL WITH ILLEGALLY HARVESTED SHARK PARTS

Sri Lanka Coast Guard personnel deployed in the Kalpitiya Fishery Harbor for fishery monitoring and regulating duties apprehended a Multiday Fishing Vessel along with six fishermen in possession of illegally harvested prohibited Shark fins and dried Sharks fish on 07th Sep 2022 during on arrival searching formalities.

The apprehension was made while conducting onboard inspection in Multiday Fishing Trawler and found 09 No's of Shark fins (approx. 0.5kg) and 14 Kg of dried Shark fish onboard when they returned after fishing.

The arrested personnel along with apprehended prohibited items were handed over to the Fisheries Inspector Puttalam for onward legal actions.



Navy nabs 85 individuals suspected to be attempting to illegally migrate from island, in eastern waters

Sri Lanka Navy took hold of a local multiday fishing trawler carrying 85 individuals, suspected to be a group on an illegal migration attempt to a foreign country via sea, during a patrol conducted off Batticaloa in the wee hours of 11th September 2022.

Sri Lanka Navy has been conducting regular search operations and patrols covering the sea and coastal areas around the island with the aim of suppressing illegal migration and other forms of illegal activities. In a similar effort, SLNS Ranawickrama attached to the Eastern Naval Command made this interception having spotted a suspicious local multiday fishing trawler, during a patrol off Batticaloa on 11th September. Subsequent search of the trawler led to the apprehension of 85 individuals who were suspected to be on an illegal migration attempt to a foreign country via sea. Among the apprehended individuals were; 60 males including the boat operators and 14 females who are over 18 years of age and 11 other individuals below 18 years of age. The Navy also held the multiday fishing trawler used for this illegal sea voyage.

The suspects held were identified as residents of Batticaloa, Trincomalee, Muthur, Kilinochchi, Jaffna and Madu. The group of would-be illegal immigrants and the multiday fishing trawler brought to the Trincomalee Harbour and handed over to the Harbour Police Trincomalee for onward legal proceedings.

Meanwhile, a search operation carried out in Mohoththiwaram beach area by the Navy with Police STF led to the apprehension of 05 suspects and 04 dinghies which were suspected to have used to transfer people to the multiday fishing trawler seized by SLNS Ranawickrama. Those suspects and their dinghies were handed over to the Kaththankudi Police for onward legal action.

As it is observed that human smugglers organize this nature of rackets using unsafe methods for the purpose of making fast money, the Navy urges the public to refrain from risking their lives by engaging in perilous sea voyages and be victims before the law.



Kerala cannabis worth approx. Rs. 130 million of street value held in Northwestern seas

A special operation mounted by the Navy and Sri Lanka Coast Guard led to the interception of an Indian dhow carrying about 434kg (wet weight) of Kerala cannabis and apprehension of 05 Indian suspects aboard, in Northwestern waters on the evening of 13th September 2022. The coordinated operation also made way for the apprehension of a local fishing trawler and 05 Sri Lankan nationals, suspected to have connection to the incident.

Both Sri Lanka Navy and Sri Lanka Coast Guard remain ever alert to prevent wide-ranging illegal activities stemming from sea routes around the island. As an extension of these efforts, SLCGS Suraksha engaged in this special operation inspected a suspicious Indian dhow in Sri Lankan waters west of the Kudiramalai Point, Puttalam through the International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL) on 13th September. The inspection led to the recovery of about 434kg (wet weight) of Kerala cannabis in 09 sacks and it prompted SLCGS Suraksha to seize the stock of narcotics with 05 Indian suspects aboard the dhow.

Meanwhile, SLCGS Suraksha also seized a local one day fishing trawler with 05 Sri Lankans, on suspicion that the trawler had reached the sea area to transfer the consignment from the Indian dhow and bring them ashore.

The street value of the stock of Kerala cannabis seized in this operation is believed to be over Rs. 130 million.

The intercepted Indian dhow, the stock of Kerala cannabis as well as Indian and local suspects brought ashore and handed over to the Kalpitiya Police for onward legal proceedings following preliminary investigation.



05. 13th September 2022

Navy apprehends 08 illegal immigrants in Pesalai

Sri Lanka Navy apprehended 08 individuals who were suspected to be on an illegal migration attempt to a foreign country by sea, during a foot patrol conducted at Kudiirippu Beach in Pesalai, Mannar on the night of 13th September 2022.

As a result of continuous naval patrols and search operations being conducted in coastal areas of the island by the Navy to prevent nefarious acts taking place via sea routes, this apprehension was made by SLNS Gajaba in the North Central Naval Command. Accordingly, the naval personnel engaged in this beach patrol interrogated 08 persons who were suspiciously remaining at Kudiirippu Beach on 13th September. As the group was suspected to be wandering around with the intention of fleeing to a foreign country via sea, they were held by the Navy. Among the apprehended persons were 03 males and 02 females over 18 years and 03 individuals below 18 years of age.

The apprehendees were identified as residents of Morawewa, Vavuniya, Jaffna and Point Pedro areas and they were handed over to the Pesalai Police for onward legal action.



Navy nabs 26 more persons suspected to be on illegal migration attempt in northern waters

The Navy apprehended 26 persons along with a dinghy and a local multiday fishing trawler, during a patrol and search operation conducted off Veththalakerni in northern waters on 15th and 16th September 2022. The group of individuals are suspected to be on an illegal migration attempt to a foreign country via sea, when they were apprehended by the Navy.

Sri Lanka Navy conducts regular search operations and patrols in coastal as well as sea areas around the island to thwart illegal activities stemming from sea routes. As an extension of these efforts, the Inshore Petrol Craft P 166 and P 178 attached to the Northern Naval Command made this apprehension off Veththalakerni. Having spotted a dinghy in this sea area, P 166 patrolling the waters searched the dinghy on suspicion, on the night of 15th September. The search made way to the apprehension of 21 individuals who are suspected to be on an illegal migration attempt to a foreign country by sea. Among the apprehended persons were 12 males including the boat operator and 04 females over 18 years and 05 more individuals who are below 18 years of age. Further, the Navy also took hold of the dinghy used by them for this illegal act.

Meanwhile, P 178 engaged in further search in the sea area intercepted a local multiday fishing trawler with 05 operators of the trawler, off Veththalakerni. It suspected that the trawler has remained in the sea area to take the above group of individuals by illegal means to a foreign country.

The 26 persons held in this search operation are residents of Pooneryn, Uduththurei, Ottamawadu and Valaichchenai areas and the individuals together with the dinghy and multiday fishing trawler handed over to the Maradankeni Police, Jaffna for onward legal action.



Navy seizes poaching trawler in Northern waters

Sri Lanka Navy conducted a special operation to chase away Indian poaching trawlers from Sri Lanka's waters on the night of 19th September 2022. The operation led to the seizure of an Indian trawler with 08 Indian nationals poaching in island's waters off Kovilan Lighthouse, Kankasanthurai.

Sri Lanka Navy continues to conduct regular patrols and operations in Sri Lanka's waters to curb illegal fishing practices of foreign fishing trawlers.

In a similar operation conducted in the dark hours of 19th September, the Northern Naval Command deployed a Fast Attack Craft of the 04th Fast Attack Flotilla to chase away a cluster of Indian poaching trawlers, after having spotted them engaged in illegal fishing in Sri Lanka's waters off Kovilan Lighthouse, through the International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL). Thus, the Navy held an Indian poaching trawler continued to remain in island's waters, with 08 Indian fishers and fishing gear.

The seized trawler together with 08 Indian fishermen was brought to the Kankesanthurai Harbour and handed over to the Mailadi Fisheries Inspector for onward legal proceedings.

Taking into account the consequences of illegal fishing practices by foreign fishermen in Sri Lanka's waters on the livelihood of local fishermen and ocean resources of the country, Sri Lanka Navy continues to remain vigilant and conduct its operations with a view to preventing such practices.



Navy renders assistance to bring ashore ill fisherman for treatment

Sri Lanka Navy brought ashore a fisherman who fell ill while at sea and rushed him to the hospital for treatment 23rd September 2022. The fisherman who was aboard a local multiday fishing trawler, in seas about 65 nautical miles (about 120 km) Northeast of the Foul Point, Trincomalee, had suddenly fallen ill and was in need of medical attention.

The multiday fishing trawler 'Dinudiya' (IMUL-A-1318 MTR) was on a fishing voyage having left the Nilwella Fishery Harbour on 07th August 2022, with 06 fishermen. Meanwhile, the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, disseminated the distress of this ill fisherman who was aboard the trawler off Point Pedro, to the Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre (MRCC) Colombo at Navy Headquarters.

In response to a request for assistance, Sri Lanka Navy sent out SLNS Ranawickrama attached to the Eastern Naval Command to bring the ill fisherman for treatment. Having taken over the patient to the Navy's ship on the night of 22nd September amidst rough sea condition, he was brought to the Trincomalee Harbour while administering first aid and rushed to the General Hospital, Trincomalee for further treatment.

Accordingly, the Navy stays prepared to respond to eventualities of this nature, with a view to assist naval and fishing communities in distress in Sri Lanka's Search and Rescue Region.



Navy apprehends 06 individuals suspected to be on illegal migration attempt in Talaimannar

Sri Lanka Navy apprehended 06 persons who were suspected to be attempting to illegally migrate to a foreign country by sea, during a search operation carried out in seas off Sand Banks, Talaimannar on 27th September 2022.

Sri Lanka Navy has been conducting regular search operations and patrols covering the sea and coastal areas around the island with the aim of suppressing illegal activities. During a special operation mounted by SLNS Thammanna in the North Central Naval Command on 27th September, a group of individuals remaining suspiciously at Sand Banks were approached and interrogated. Subsequently, the group of individuals who were suspected to be remaining there until the arrival of a boat to illegally migrate from the country were nabbed by the Navy. Among the apprehended persons were 02 males and 01 female above 18 years of age and 03 individuals below 18 years of age.

The suspects held in the operation were identified as residents of Vavuniya and Morawewa areas and they were handed over to the Talaimannar Police for onward legal proceedings.



10. 28th September 2022

Distressed Indian fishing trawler in Sri Lanka's waters handed over to Indian Coast Guard

Sri Lanka Navy handed over a distressed Indian fishing trawler, found in Sri Lanka's waters due to a mechanical failure, to the Indian Coast Guard Ship (ICGS) Annie Besant at the International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL) this morning (28th September 2022). The distressed fishing trawler with a ceased engine was spotted by the Sri Lanka Navy about 26 nautical miles (48 Km) off Point Pedro in northern waters.

Reportedly, the fishing trawler 'Bairavakali' was on a fishing voyage from Nagapattinam, India on 25th September. As the Indian trawler was reported to have swept towards Sri Lanka's waters due to a mechanical failure on 27th September, the Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre (MRCC) Chennai has disseminated a distress signal to MRCC Colombo in the Navy Headquarters, requesting assistance to locate the trawler.

In response to the request for assistance, the Navy made arrangements to rush P 484 Fast Attack Craft of the 4th Fast Attack Flotilla (4 FAF) in the Northern Naval Command to the sea area where the trawler was. Having located it in northern waters of the island, about 26 nautical miles off Point Pedro, the Navy provided food, drink and humanitarian assistance to 09 Indian fishermen who were aboard the distressed trawler.

Meanwhile, P 484 rendered towing assistance to the distressed Indian trawler and handed over it with 09 Indian fishers aboard to ICGS Annie Besant at the IMBL this morning.

Remaining committed to keep with obligations of the international conventions, MRCC Colombo in the Navy Headquarters is constantly ready to provide necessary assistance to the naval and fishing communities in distress in Sri Lanka's Search and Rescue Region.



11. 28th September 2022

Navy nabs 07 more illegal immigrants in Talaimannar

Sri Lanka Navy apprehended 07 more individuals who were suspected to be attempting to illegally migrate to a foreign country by sea, during a search operation carried out in seas off Sand Banks, Talaimannar on 28th September 2022.

Sri Lanka Navy conducts regular search operations and patrols in the sea and coastal areas around the island with a view to suppressing illegal activities. During a special operation mounted by SLNS Thammanna in the North Central Naval Command on 28th September, a group of individuals remaining suspiciously at Sand Banks were approached and interrogated. Subsequently, the group of individuals who were suspected to be remaining there expecting the arrival of a boat to illegally migrate from the country were nabbed by the Navy. Among the apprehended persons were 02 females above 18 years of age and 05 individuals below 18 years of age.

The suspects held in the operation were identified as residents of Kilinochchi and they were handed over to the Talaimannar Police for onward legal proceedings.

