



Information Fusion Centre

Colombo - Sri Lanka

IFC Monthly Report

August 2025



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www.ifccolombo.org



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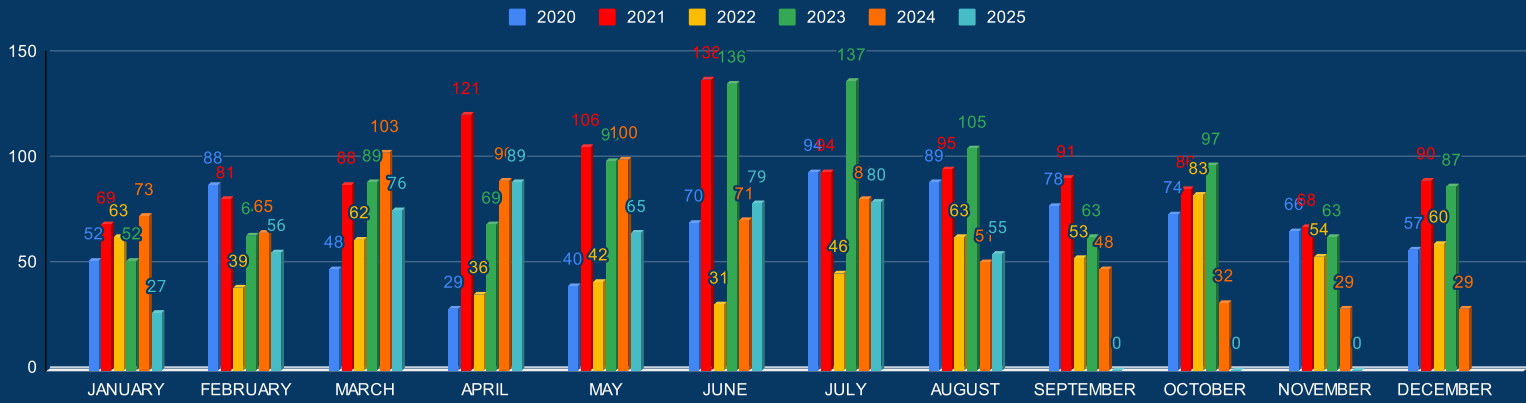


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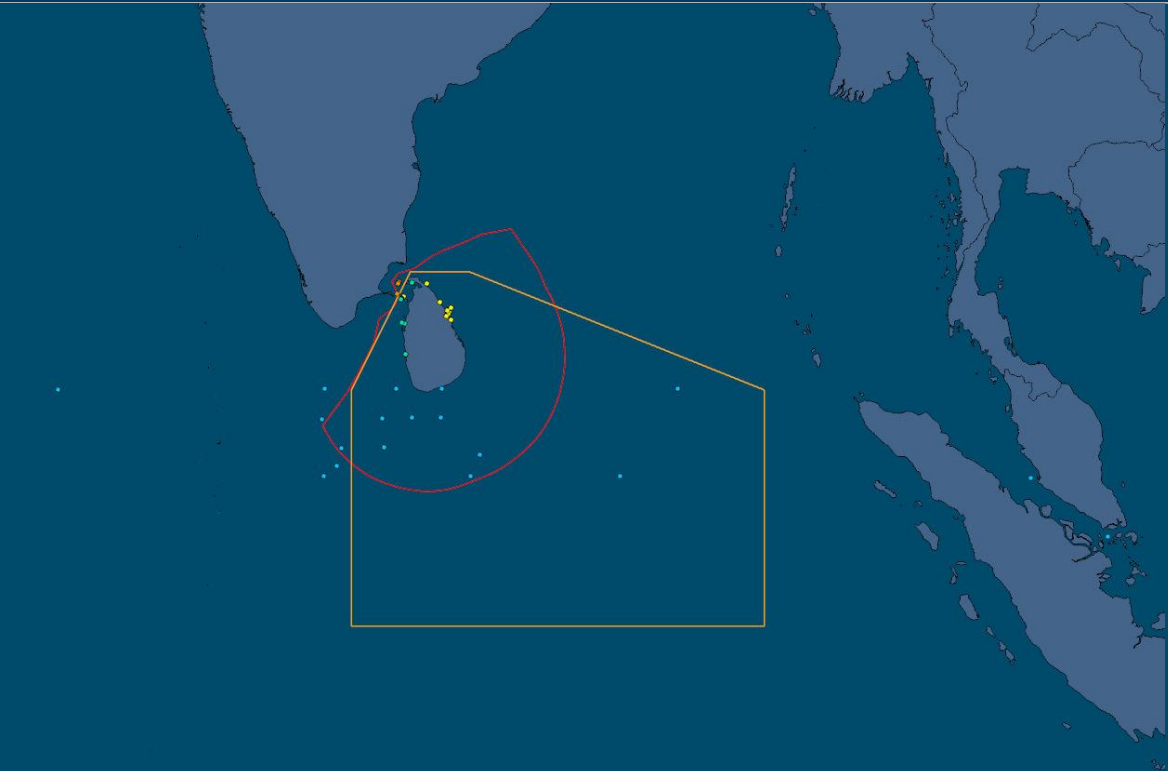
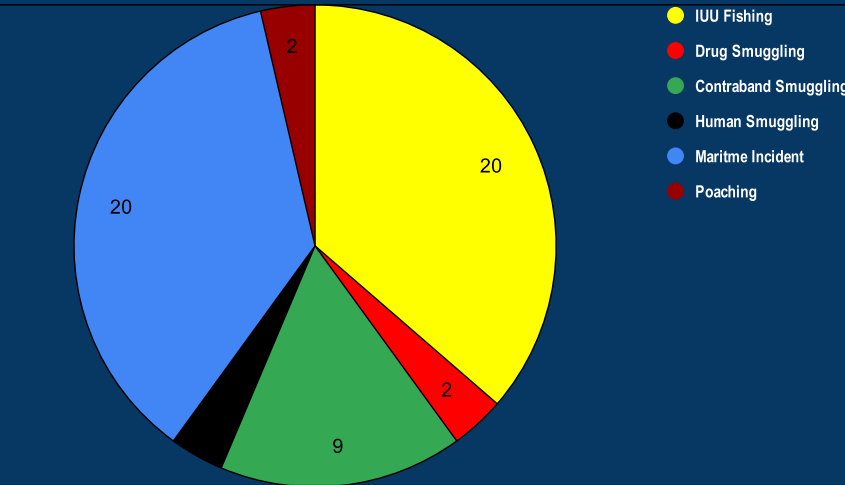
OVERVIEW

MARITIME SECURITY INCIDENTS (2020-2025)



INCIDENTS IN BRIEF

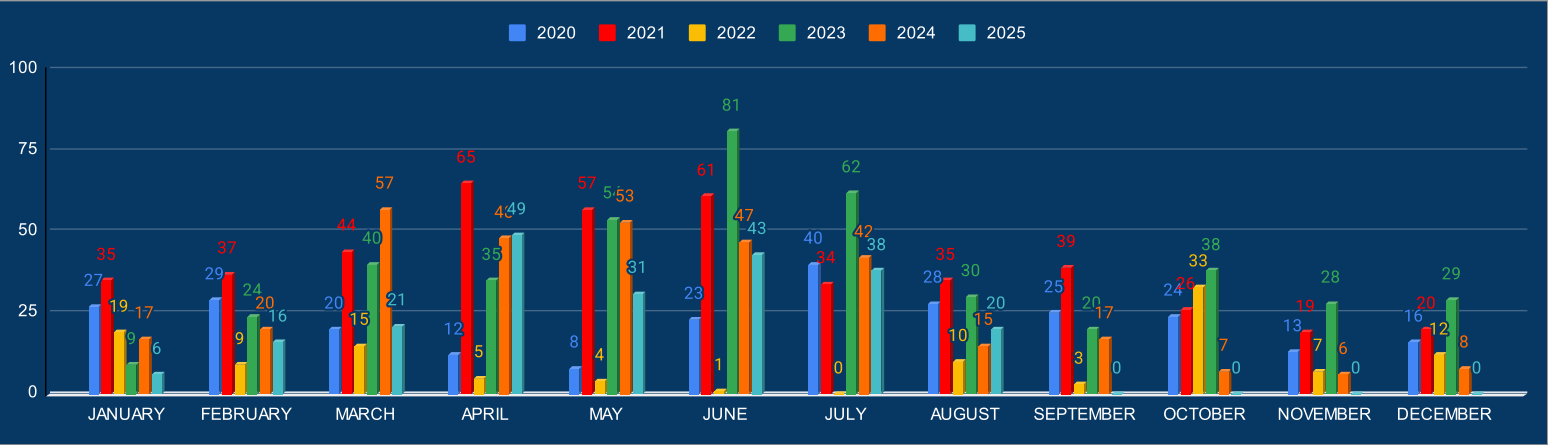
| INCIDENT TYPE | AUG 2022 | AUG 2023 | AUG 2024 | AUG 2025 |
|------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| IUU Fishing | 10 | 30 | 15 | 20 |
| Drug Smuggling | 1 | 5 | 1 | 2 |
| Contraband Smuggling | 0 | 5 | 11 | 9 |
| Human Smuggling | 4 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Maritime Incident | 34 | 35 | 14 | 20 |
| Poaching | 14 | 30 | 9 | 2 |
| Explosive and Firearms | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |





IUU FISHING

NUMBER OF IUU FISHING INCIDENTS (2020-2025)

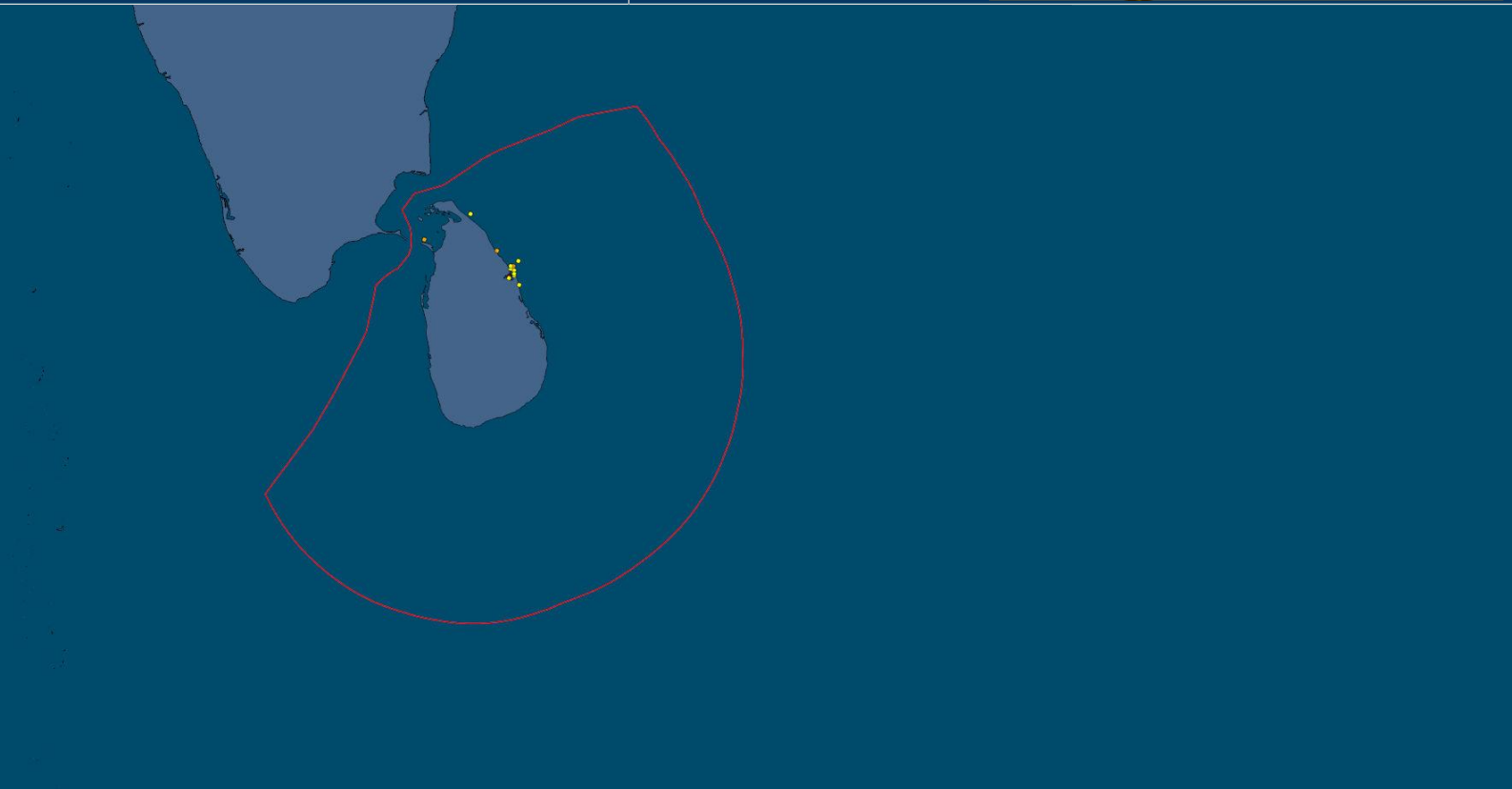
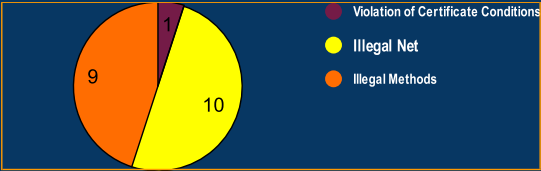


INCIDENTS IN BRIEF

| INCIDENT TYPE | AUG 2022 | AUG 2023 | AUG 2024 | AUG 2025 |
|-------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Violation of Certificate Conditions | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Harvesting Prohibited Species | 1 | 7 | 0 | 0 |
| Illegal Net | 3 | 14 | 5 | 10 |
| Illegal Methods | 6 | 9 | 9 | 9 |
| Explosive Fishing | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

IUU FISHING – AUGUST 2025 SUMMARY

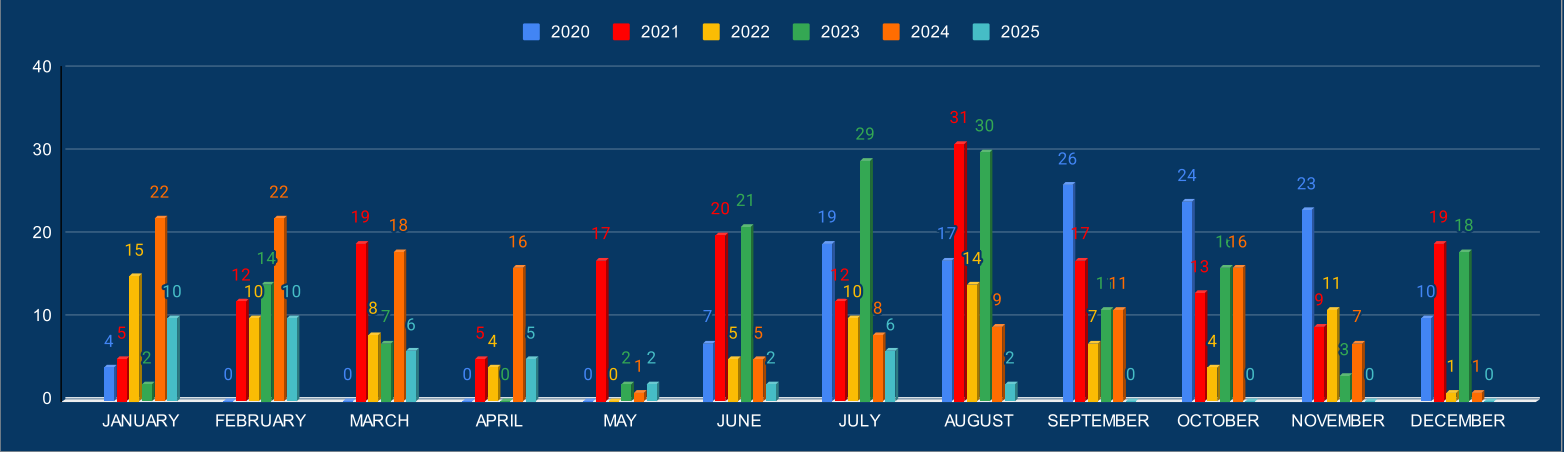
- Statistics:
- A total of 20 incidents were reported, representing an increase of 5 incidents compared to August 2024.
 - A total of 10 incidents were reported for illegal net use, and 9 incidents were reported for illegal fishing methods.
 - Violation of certificate conditions were reported in One incident.
 - No Incidents reported to Harvesting Prohibited Species and Explosive.
- Comments:
- Illegal net usage continues to be the main issue, while a few cases involved certificate violations.





POACHING

NUMBER OF POACHING INCIDENTS (2020-2025)



INCIDENTS IN BRIEF

| INCIDENT TYPE | AUG 2022 | AUG 2023 | AUG 2024 | AUG 2025 |
|----------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Eastern Coast | 3 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Palk Strait | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Gulf of Mannar | 2 | 10 | 3 | 1 |
| Palk Bay | 8 | 19 | 4 | 1 |
| Others | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

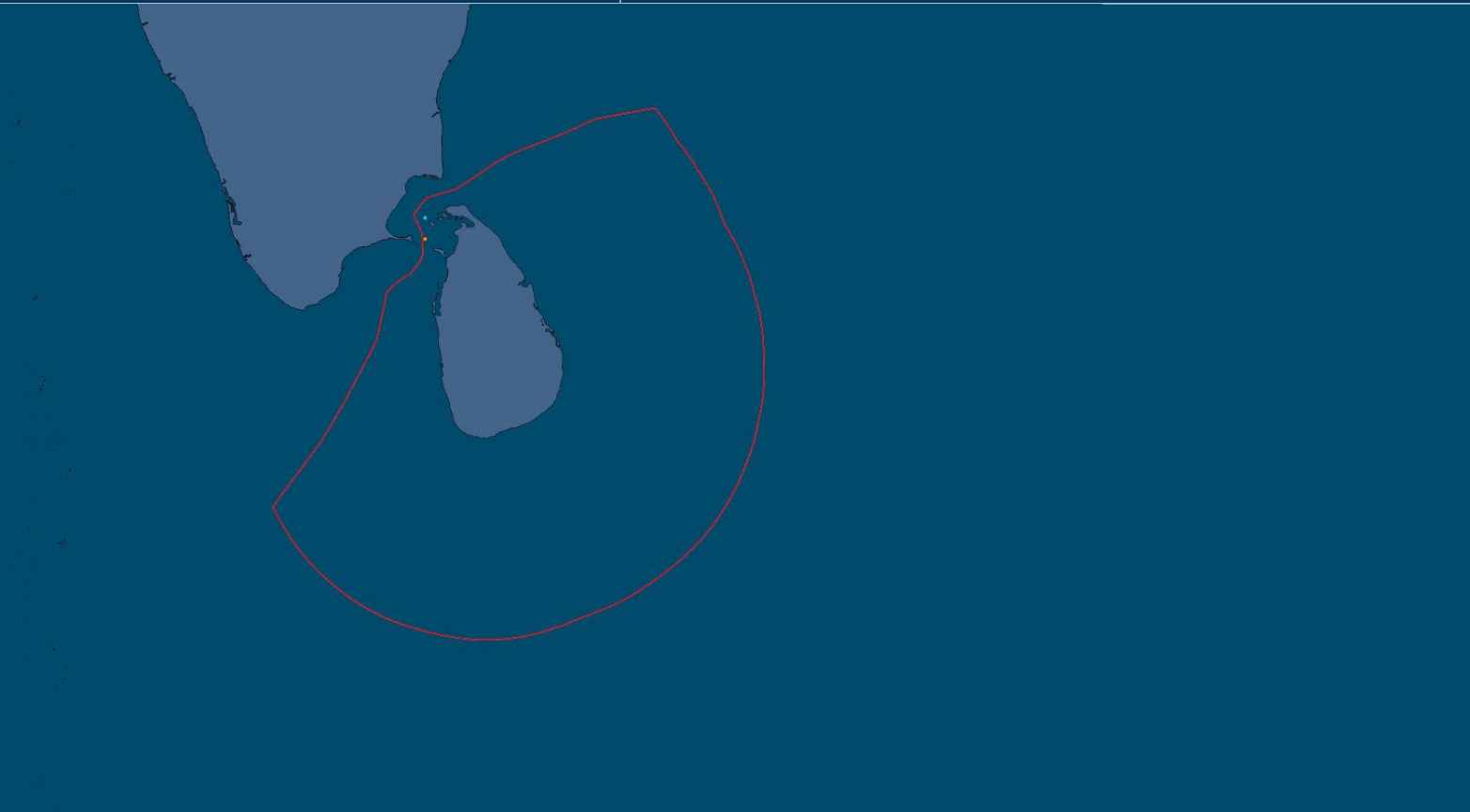
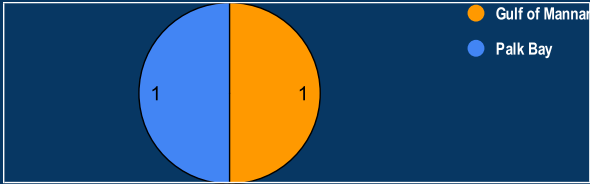
POACHING INCIDENTS – AUGUST 2025 SUMMARY

Statistics:

- A total of 2 incidents were reported representing a decrease of 7 incidents compared to August 2024.
- Each One incidents were reported in Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar. No incidents were reported in Palk Strait, the Eastern Coast, or other areas.

Comments:

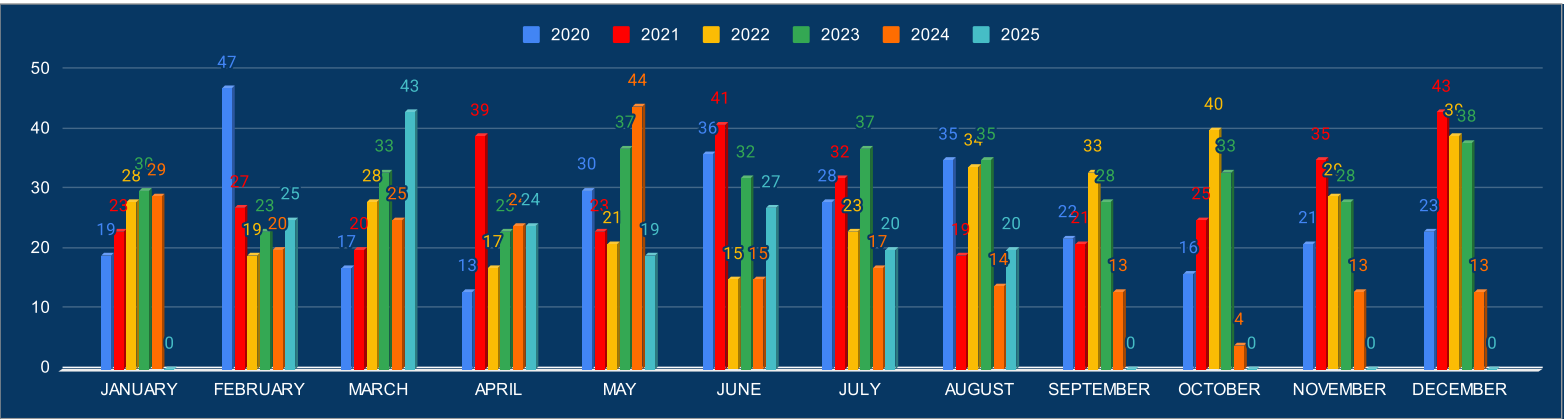
- There was a slight decrease in incidents compared to August 2024 Only one reported in the Gulf of Mannar & Palk Bay. No incidents were recorded in Palk Strait, the Eastern Coast, or other areas. Overall, the situation reflects a modest improvement





MARITIME INCIDENTS

NUMBER OF MARITIME INCIDENTS (2020-2025)



INCIDENTS IN BRIEF

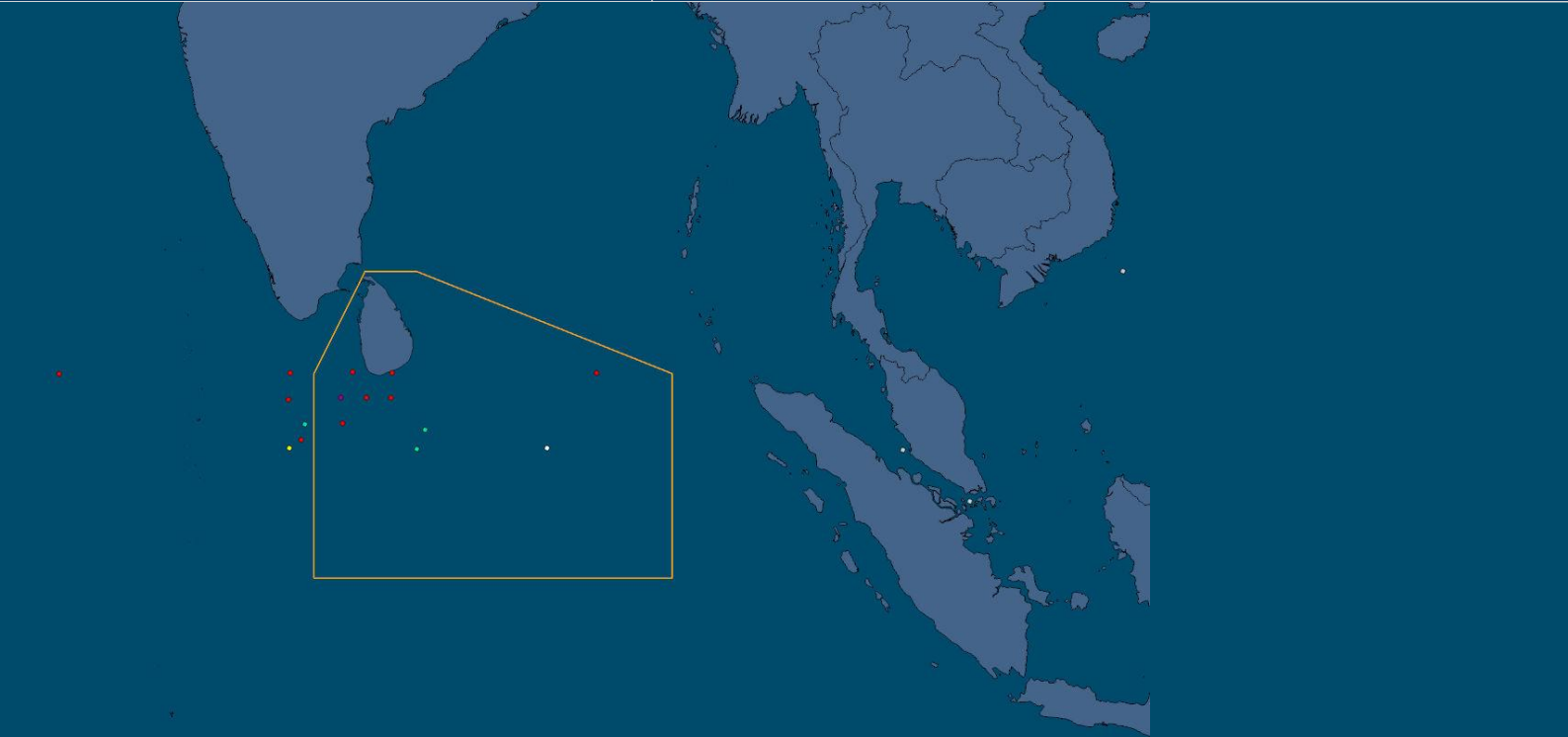
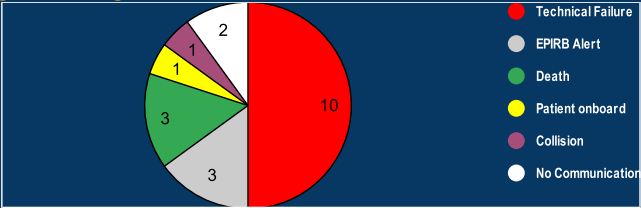
| INCIDENT TYPE | AUG 2022 | AUG 2023 | AUG 2024 | AUG 2025 |
|-------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Technical Failure | 15 | 11 | 2 | 10 |
| Fire onboard | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| EPIRB Alert | 10 | 11 | 6 | 3 |
| Man Over Board | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Arrival Overdue | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Capsized | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Ground | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Death | 1 | 1 | 0 | 3 |
| Patient onboard | 4 | 8 | 1 | 1 |
| Collision | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| No Communication | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| Other Incident | 2 | 1 | 2 | 0 |

MARITIME INCIDENTS –AUGUST 2025 SUMMARY

- Statistics:
- A total of 20 maritime incidents were reported in August 2025, marking an increase of 6 incidents compared to August 2024.
 - Ten incidents involved technical failures, and three incidents each were cases of EPIRB Alert & Death. Two incidents were reported No Communication.
 - No incidents were reported Fire onboard, Man Over Board, Arrival Overdue, Capsized, Ground & Other Incident.

Comments

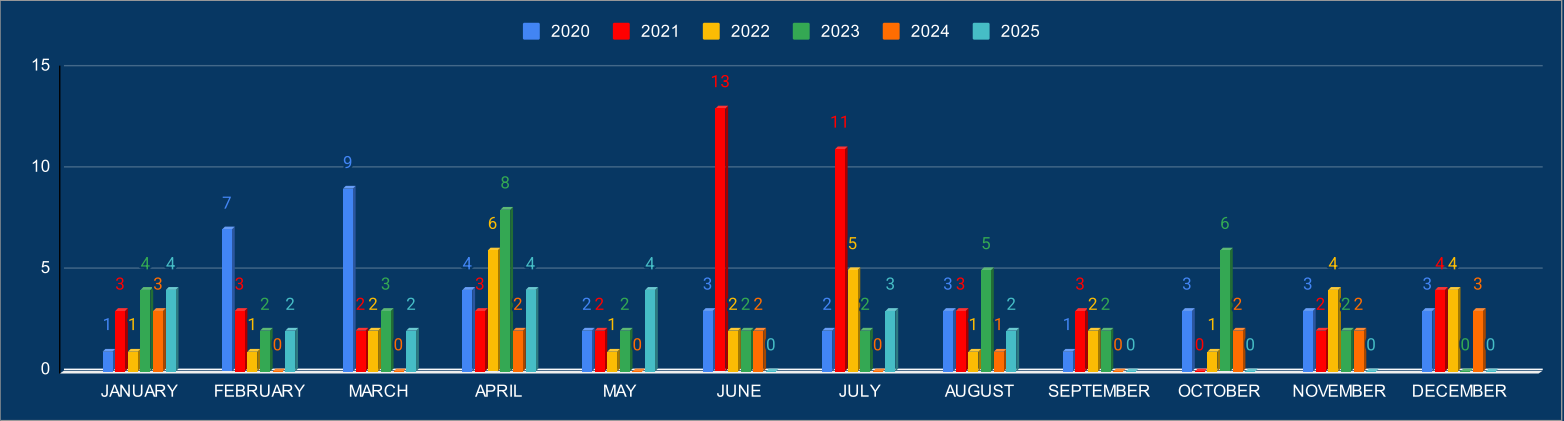
•The total number of maritime incidents increased compared to last year, with 20 reported in August 2025. Most incidents were due to technical failures. EPIRB alerts and deaths were also reported, while no incidents occurred related to fire, man overboard, capsizing, or other categories.





DRUG SMUGGLING

NUMBER OF DRUG SMUGGLING INCIDENTS (2020-2025)

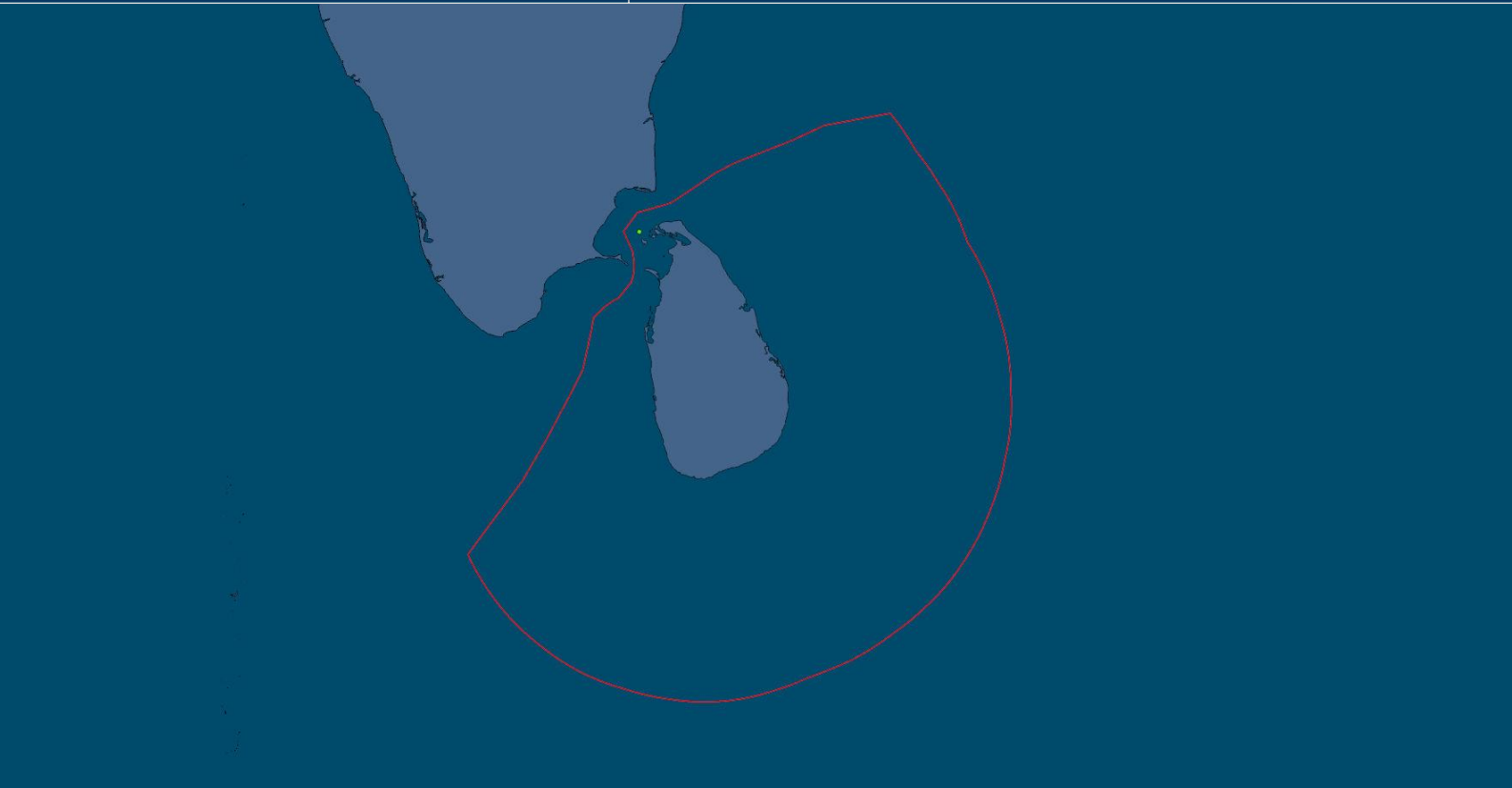
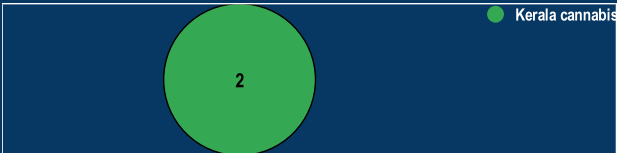


INCIDENTS IN BRIEF

| Drug Type | AUG 2022 | AUG 2023 | AUG 2024 | AUG 2025 |
|-----------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Heroin | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Kerala cannabis | 1 | 5 | 1 | 2 |
| Ice | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Tablets | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Hashish | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Local cannabis | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

DRUG SMUGGLING INCIDENTS – AUGUST 2025 SUMMARY

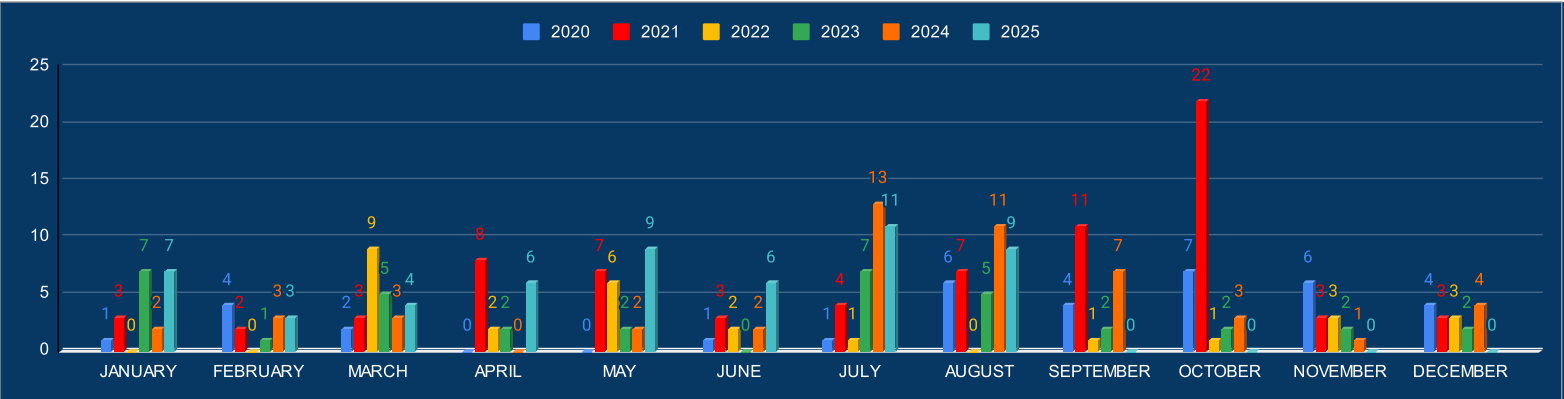
- Statistics:
- Two incidents were reported in August 2025, marking an increase of One compared to August 2024.
 - All Two incidents involved Kerala cannabis. No incidents were reported involving heroin, ice, tablets, hashish, or local cannabis
- Comments:
- This month saw an increase in incidents compared to the same period last year. All reported cases were linked to Kerala cannabis, with no other types of drugs detected. Focused attention is required to control Kerala cannabis activity





CONTRABAND SMUGGLING

NUMBER OF CONTRABAND SMUGGLING INCIDENTS (2020-2025)

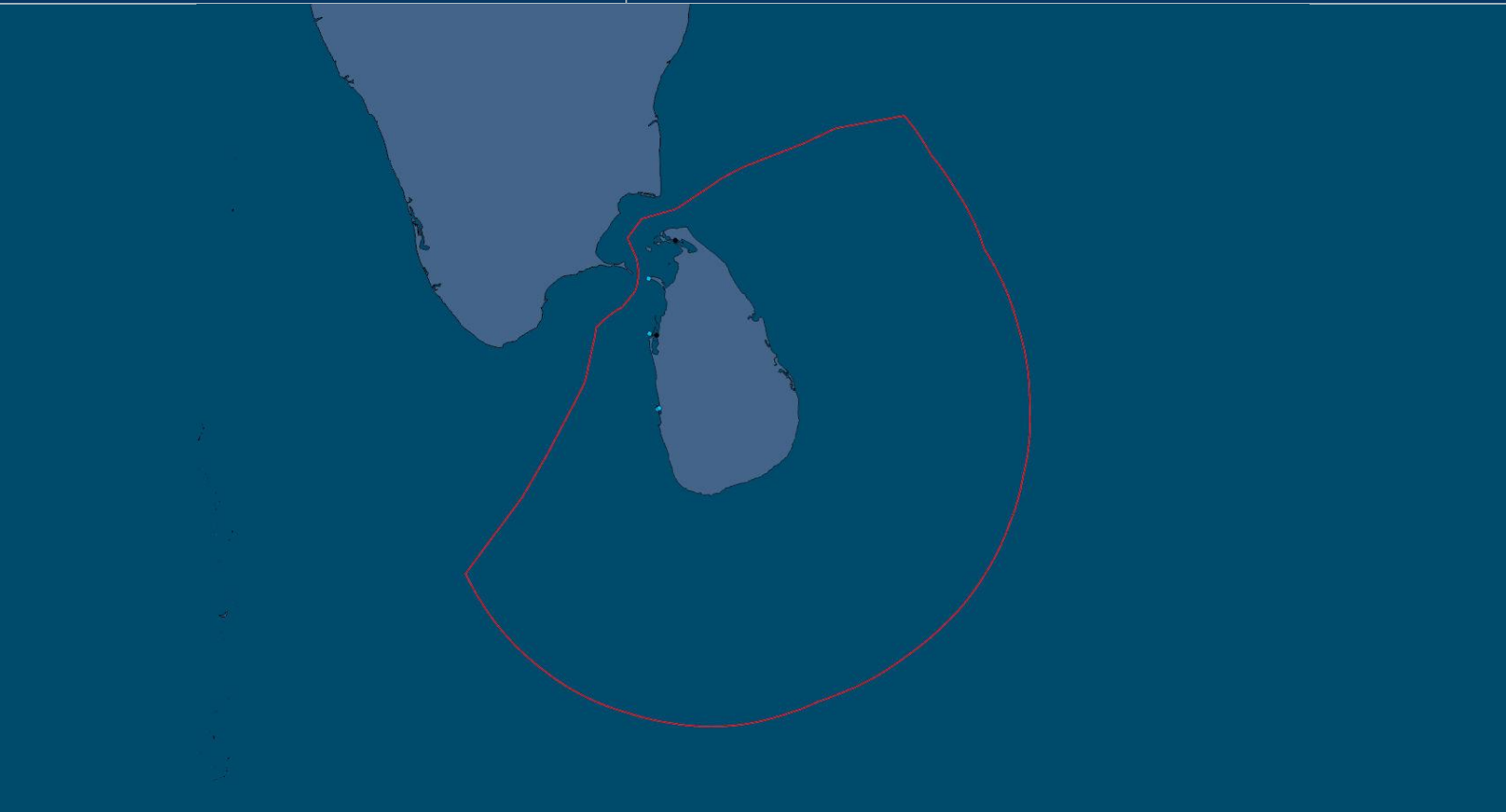
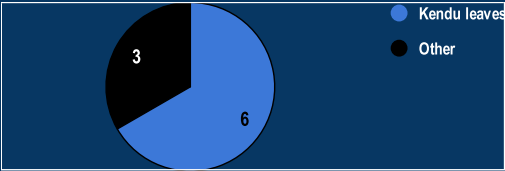


INCIDENTS IN BRIEF

| INCIDENT TYPE | AUG 2022 | AUG 2023 | AUG 2024 | AUG 2025 |
|---------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Cardamom | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Glyphosate | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Gold | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Kendu leaves | 0 | 5 | 10 | 6 |
| Other | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Turmeric | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

CONTRABAND SMUGGLING INCIDENTS – AUGUST 2025 SUMMARY

- Statistics:**
- Nine incidents of contraband smuggling were reported in August 2025, representing a decrease of two compared to August 2024.
 - Six incidents involved Kendu leaves, and three incidents involved other contraband. No incidents were reported involving cardamom, glyphosate, gold, or turmeric.
- Comments:**
- Smuggling incidents showed a slight decrease compared to last year, with Kendu leaves being the primary item smuggled. No cases were reported involving gold, turmeric, cardamom, or glyphosate. While the situation reflects a modest improvement, continued monitoring is necessary.



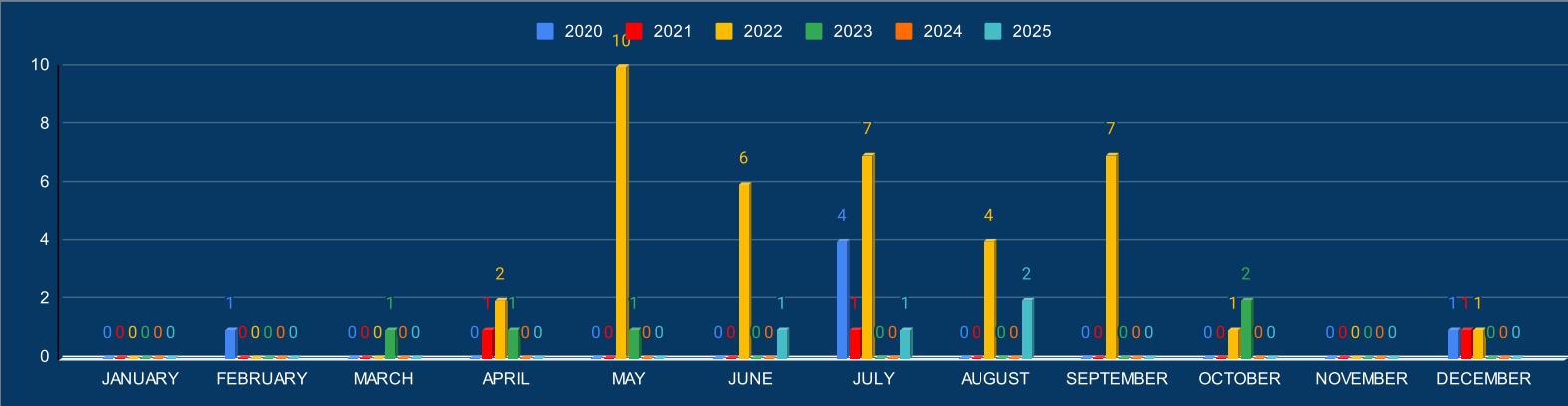


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MARITIME INCIDENT BULLETIN MONTHLY MAP AUGUST 2025

HUMAN SMUGGLING

NUMBER OF HUMAN SMUGGLING INCIDENTS (2020-2025)

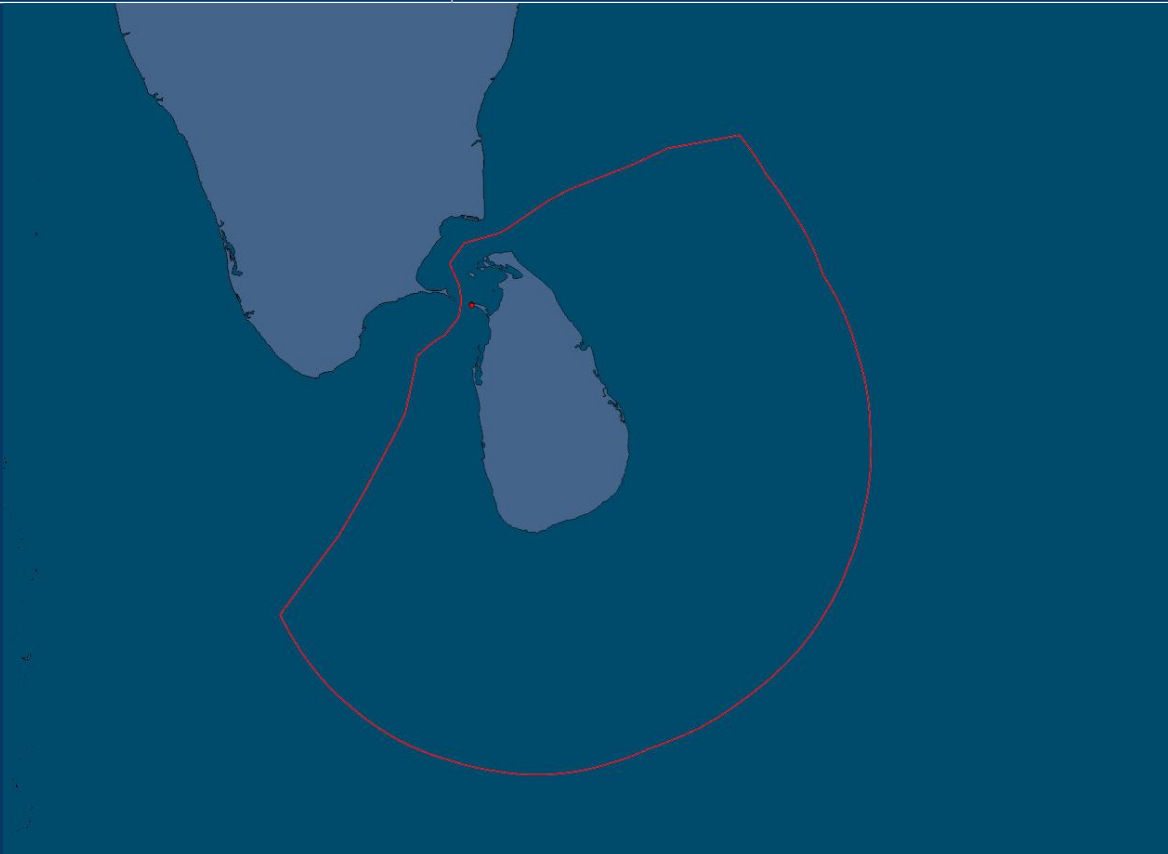


INCIDENTS IN BRIEF

| INCIDENT TYPE | AUG 2022 | AUG 2023 | AUG 2024 | AUG 2025 |
|-----------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Human Smuggling | 4 | 0 | 0 | 2 |

HUMAN SMUGGLING INCIDENTS – AUGUST 2025 SUMMARY

- Statistics:
- Two incidents reported in August 2025.
- Comments:
- Continuous monitoring is needed to prevent such cases. Authorities should stay alert to control human smuggling.



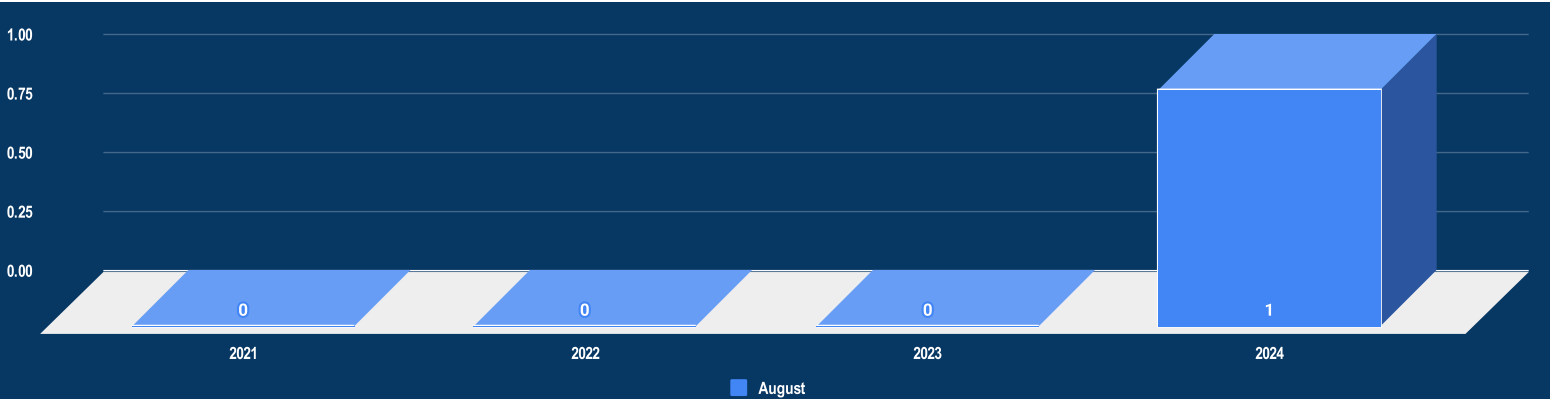


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MARITIME INCIDENT BULLETIN MONTHLY MAP AUGUST 2025

EXPLOSIVE AND FIREARMS

NUMBER OF EXPLOSIVE & FIREARMS INCIDENTS (2020-2025)



INCIDENTS IN BRIEF

| INCIDENT TYPE | AUG 2022 | AUG 2023 | AUG 2024 | AUG 2025 |
|------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Water Gel Sticks | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |

EXPLOSIVE AND FIREARMS INCIDENTS – AUGUST 2025 SUMMARY

Statistics:

- No incidents reported in August 2025.

Comments:

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – AUGUST 2025

Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing:

The total number of incidents in August 2025 showed a slight increase compared to August 2024. Illegal net usage remained the primary issue, accounting for most reported cases. A few incidents involved violations of certificate conditions. Although rare, explosive fishing continues to be a serious concern requiring ongoing attention.

Poaching: In August 2025, the total number of incidents showed a slight decrease compared to August 2024. Only one reported in the Gulf of Mannar & Palk Bay. No incidents were recorded in Palk Strait, the Eastern Coast, or other areas. Overall, the situation reflects a modest improvement.

Maritime Incidents: Maritime incidents in August 2025 showed a decrease compared to August 2024. Technical failures were the leading cause, followed by cases involving man overboard, fatalities, and medical emergencies. No major accidents, such as fire, collision, or capsizing, were reported during this period.

Drug Smuggling: In August 2025, drug-related incidents increased compared to the previous year. All reported cases involved Kerala cannabis, with no other drugs detected. Targeted efforts are needed to curb the spread and activities associated with Kerala cannabis.

Contraband Smuggling: In August 2025, smuggling incidents showed a slight decrease compared to the previous year. Kendu leaves remained the primary item smuggled, while no cases involving gold, turmeric, cardamom, or glyphosate were reported. Overall, the situation reflects a modest improvement but requires continued monitoring.

Human Smuggling: One incidents of human smuggling were reported in August 2025.

Explosive and Firearms Smuggling: No Incident.

Overall Analysis: In August 2025, the total number of incidents showed slight fluctuations compared to August 2024, with some areas recording decreases while others experienced small increases. Illegal net usage and technical failures remained the most common issues across both maritime and fishing-related incidents. Smuggling activities saw a slight decline, primarily involving Kendu leaves, while drug-related cases were exclusively linked to Kerala cannabis. Although serious incidents such as explosive fishing, human smuggling, and firearms-related cases remain rare, they require ongoing attention. Overall, the situation reflects some improvement; however, continuous monitoring and robust preventive measures are essential to maintain safety and curb illegal activities.