

PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS IN ASIA

JANUARY-MARCH 2021

15
YEARS

ReCOAAP
Combating
Piracy and Sea
Robbery in Asia

ReCOAAP
Information Sharing Centre

NUMBER OF INCIDENTS

January-March 2021

17
Incidents

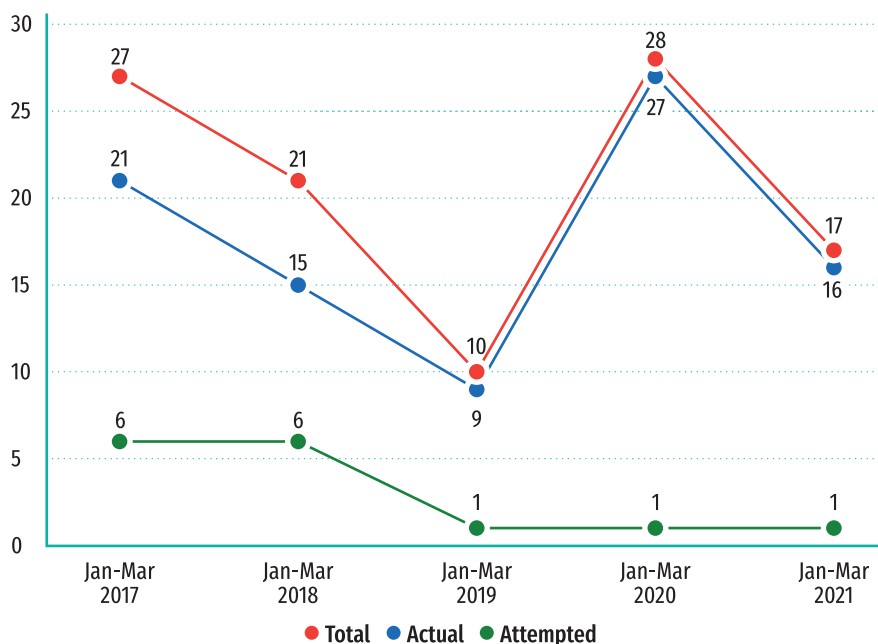
16 Actual

1 Attempted

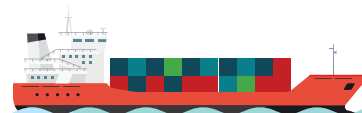
All armed robbery against ships,
no piracy incident

Compared to Jan-Mar 2020

39% Decrease
in total number
of incidents



STATUS OF SHIPS



53%

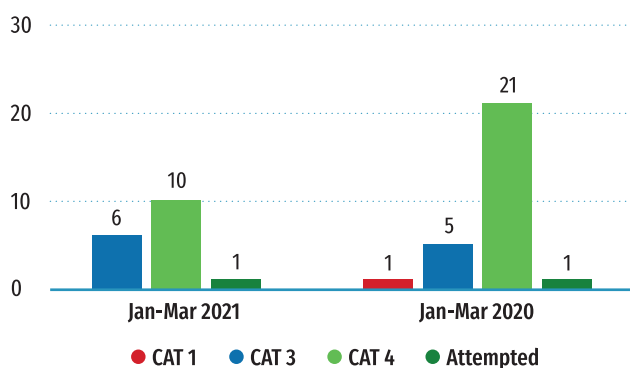
9 incidents on board ships
at anchor/berth

47%

8 incidents on board ships
while underway

JANUARY-MARCH 2021 COMPARED TO JANUARY-MARCH 2020

Severity of incidents



CAT 1 No incident during Jan-Mar 2021

CAT 2 No incident during Jan-Mar 2021 and Jan-Mar 2020

CAT 3 Slight increase: 5 incidents (Jan-Mar 2020) → 6 incidents (Jan-Mar 2021)

CAT 4 52% decrease: 21 incidents (Jan-Mar 2020) → 10 incidents (Jan-Mar 2021)

Majority of incidents during Jan-Mar 2021 (59%)



Improvement

• Bangladesh

2 incidents → 0 incident

• India

6 incidents → 1 incident

• The Philippines

4 incidents → 2 incidents

• Singapore Strait

9 incidents → 7 incidents

• Sulu-Celebes Seas

1 incident → 0 incident

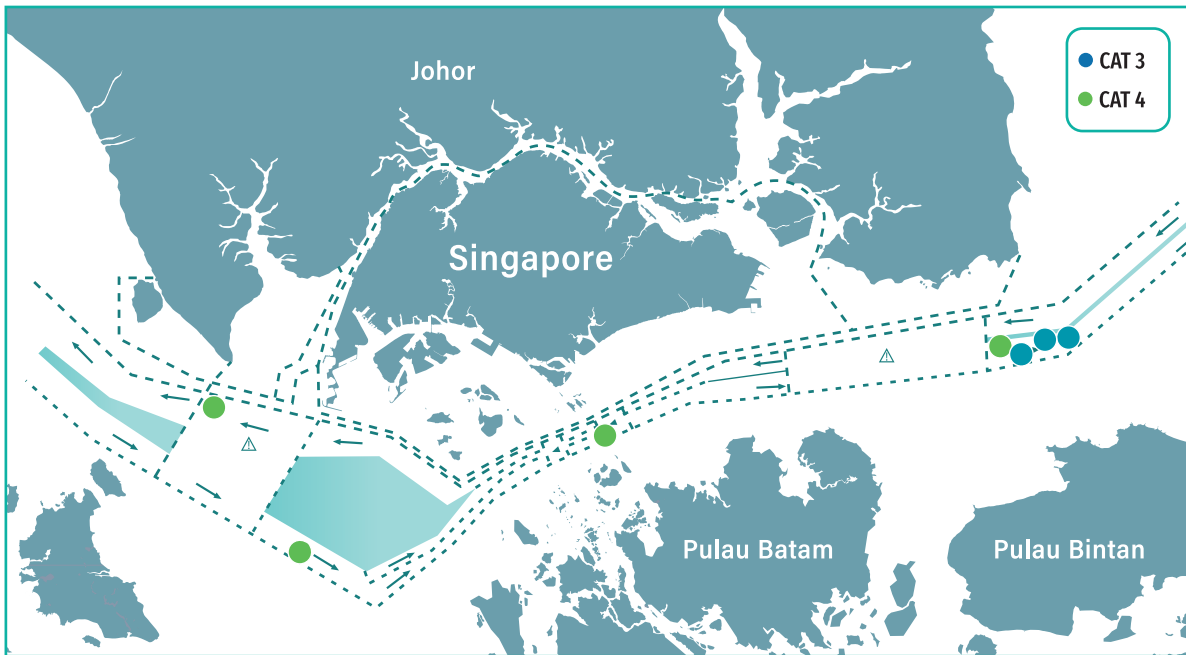


Increase of number of incidents

Vietnam

0 incident → 2 incidents

SITUATION IN THE SINGAPORE STRAIT



Decrease

of **2**

incidents
compared to
Jan-Mar 2020

7 incidents

6 incidents in eastbound lane of Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS)

1 incident in westbound lane of TSS

The Indonesian Navy arrested 5 perpetrators and recovered stolen items from a barge on 21 Feb 21

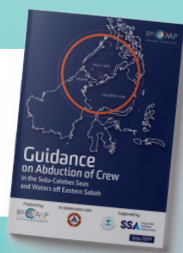
Recommendations

- Littoral States to increase patrols and enforcement
- Strengthen coordination and cooperation; and promote information sharing among littoral States to make more arrests
- Ships to exercise enhanced vigilance and report all incidents to nearest coastal State immediately

ABDUCTION OF CREW IN SULU-CELEBES SEAS AND WATERS OFF EASTERN SABAH

- No abduction of crew incident reported during Jan-Mar 2021
- On 18 and 21 Mar 21, rescue of the remaining 4 crew who were abducted by the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) on 17 Jan 20
- No crew is held in captivity (as of 31 Mar 21)

Refer to *Guidance on Abduction of Crew in the Sulu-Celebes Seas and Waters off Eastern Sabah*



WARNING AND ADVISORY

- **The risk of abduction of crew is high**
 - The Philippine authorities foiled a kidnap-for-ransom plan by the ASG in an operation on 3 Nov 20
- **ReCAAP ISC Advisory to ships to re-route where possible, otherwise:**
 - Exercise enhanced vigilance
 - Adopt piracy countermeasures to mitigate risk
 - Maintain comms with authorities
 - Make timely report to national reporting centres