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No evidence of cause of panic

By Ishara Jayawardane

The Kalutara North Police and the Navy declared yesterday that there is no evidence of a huge object that is said to have fallen out of the sky on Friday evening in to the sea near Waskaduwa.

On inquiry Navy acting Spokesman Commander Mahesh Karunaratne said that a woman had claimed to have seen an object fall into the sea about 5km from the shore sending up a 25-foot jet of sea water. However, search by Navy divers found no such evidence. The area of water covered was quite large.

The reported sighting caused panic in the area forcing Kalutara North Police and Disaster Management Centre staff to rush to the scene.

Dr. Chandana Jayaratne, Consultant on Astronomy at the Arthur C. Clarke Institute for Modern Technologies and Senior Lecturer in Physics, University of Colombo speculated that the object most probably was a meteorite and that the reason that no evidence has been found of an object is probably because that a crater has been formed and it would have got filled with sand.

