



# Transforming Fisheries Sector

[Source: PIB](#)

## Why in News?

Recently, the **Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying** unveiled a series of initiatives to transform the **fisheries sector** and strengthen India's **blue economy** at the 4th Anniversary of **Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojna (PMMSY)**.

## What Important Initiatives Have Been Launched?

- **National Fisheries Development Program (NFDP) Portal:** It serves as a **central hub** for the registration of **fisheries stakeholders**, providing access to information, services, and support related to the sector.
- **PM-MKSSY Guidelines:** Operational guidelines for **PM-Matsya Kisan Samridhi Sah-Yojana (PM-MKSSY)** were launched to provide a structured approach to the scheme's implementation.
- **Rangeen Machhli App:** It is designed to meet the growing needs of the **ornamental fisheries sector** by providing crucial knowledge resources for **hobbyists, aquarium shop owners, and fish farmers**.
- **Amrit Catla:** It is a **genetically improved variety of Catla fish (Labeo catla)** to ensure its **wider distribution and availability for farmers across the country**.
- **Standard Operating Procedure (SOP):** It focuses on **three specialised clusters** for **Pearl cultivation, Ornamental fisheries, and Seaweed cultivation**.
- **Climate Resilient Coastal Fishermen Villages (CRCFVs):** Guidelines for developing **100 coastal villages** into CRCFVs were released.
- **Pilot Project on Drone Technology:** Use of drones for **fish transportation and monitoring inland fisheries** to improve efficiency and sustainability.
- **Centres of Excellence:** Mandapam Regional Centre of the **Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (ICAR-CMFRI)** as a Centre of Excellence for promoting **seaweed farming** and research.
- **Nucleus Breeding Centres (NBCs):** For enhancing **seed quality** through genetic enhancement of economically important marine and inland species.
- **Integrated Aqua Parks:** Five parks in Assam, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Tripura, and Nagaland.

## What is PM-Matsya Kisan Samridhi Sah-Yojana (PM-MKSSY)?

- **About:** It is a Central Sector Sub-scheme that falls under the **Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)**.
  - It aims to formalise the fisheries sector, provide support to micro and small enterprises, and boost the overall fisheries value chain.
- **Major Components:**
  - **Formalization of the Fisheries Sector: NFDP** to provide work-based digital identities for 40 lakh small and micro-enterprises.
  - **Support for Microenterprises:** Financial assistance to 6.4 lakh micro-enterprises and 5,500 fisheries cooperatives.
  - **Insurance Coverage for Aquaculture:** Incentive upto Rs 25,000 per hectare for farm

sizes of up to 4 hectares.

- **Improving Fisheries Sector Value-Chain Efficiency:** Performance grants **upto 25%** of total investment or **Rs 35 lakh for General Category** and **35% or Rs 45 lakh** for [SCs](#), [STs](#), and women-owned enterprises.
- **Adoption of Safety and Quality Assurance Systems:** Incentivizing small enterprises to adopt safety and quality assurance systems.
- **Investment:** It is supported by an investment of **Rs 6,000 crore** over a four-year period (**FY 2023-24 to FY 2026-27**) across all Indian states and Union Territories.
- **Intended Beneficiaries:**
  - **Direct Beneficiaries:** Fishers, fish farmers, fish workers, and fish vendors involved in the fisheries value chain.
  - **Micro & Small Enterprises:** Proprietary firms, partnerships, companies, cooperatives, [Self-Help Groups \(SHGs\)](#), [Fish Farmers Producer Organizations \(FFPOs\)](#), and startups engaged in the fisheries sector.

## UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Question (PYQ)

### Prelims

**Q. Which one of the following is a filter feeder? (2021)**

- (a) Catfish
- (b) Octopus
- (c) Oyster
- (d) Pelican

**Ans: (c)**

**Q. Under the Kisan Credit Card scheme, short-term credit support is given to farmers for which of the following purposes? (2020)**

1. Working capital for maintenance of farm assets
2. Purchase of combine harvesters, tractors and mini trucks
3. Consumption requirements of farm households
4. Post-harvest expenses
5. Construction of family house and setting up of village cold storage facility

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

- (a) 1, 2 and 5 only
- (b) 1, 3 and 4 only
- (c) 2, 3, 4 and 5 only
- (d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

**Ans: (b)**

