



## Sagar Parikrama

**For Prelims:** Sagar Parikrama, Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana, Palk Bay Scheme, Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF).

**For Mains:** Status of the Fisheries Sector in India, Challenges Related to India's Fishery Sector.

### Why in News?

The [Sagar Parikrama Phase III](#), a program by the **Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying and National Fisheries Development Board**, was started on **19<sup>th</sup> Feb 2023** from Surat, Gujarat.

### What are the Major Highlights of the Program?

- The main objectives of the program are to **disseminate information about various fisheries related schemes and programs**, promoting **responsible fisheries** with a focus on sustainable balance, and protection of marine ecosystems.
- The Phase-I of the program started in **March 2022 from Mandvi and ended on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at Porbandar, Gujarat.**
- [Kisan Credit Card \(KCC\)](#) cards were distributed to fishers and fish farmers.
- It was also declared that the **Satpati Fish Market** would be inaugurated according to the **state-of-the-art standards.**

### What is Sagar Parikrama?

- **About:**
  - It is a **navigation journey** to be conducted in all **coastal states/UTs** through a pre-decided sea route to demonstrate solidarity with all **fisherfolk, fish farmers** and concerned stakeholders.
- **Significance:**
  - It will focus on **sustainable balance between the utilisation of marine fisheries resources for food security** of the nation and livelihoods of coastal fisher communities and protection of marine ecosystems.

### What is the Status of the Fisheries Sector in India?

- **About:**
  - India is the **second major producer of fish** through aquaculture in the world.
  - India is the **4<sup>th</sup> largest exporter of fish in the world** as it contributes 7.7% to the global fish production.
    - **Also, India ranks 1<sup>st</sup>** in inland capture fish production and **3<sup>rd</sup> in overall fish production** in the world.
  - Currently, this sector provides livelihood to more than **2.8 crore people within the country.**

- **Initiatives related to Fisheries Sector:**
  - [Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana](#)
  - [Palk Bay Scheme](#)
  - [Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund \(FIDF\)](#)
- **Challenges Related to India's Fishery Sector:**
  - **Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing:** [IUU fishing](#) is a significant problem in India's fishery sector, and it often goes undetected.
    - IUU fishing can lead to a **decline in fish stocks**, and it also puts legitimate fishers at a disadvantage.
  - **Lack of Infrastructure:** The fishery sector in India lacks adequate infrastructure, such as **cold storage, processing facilities, and transportation**, which results in post-harvest losses and limits access to higher-value markets.
  - **Limited Access to Credit:** Small-scale fishers in India often struggle to access credit, which hinders their ability to invest in their businesses and improve their **livelihoods**.
  - **Climate Change:** Climate change is impacting India's fishery sector, causing changes in fish distribution and affecting **fish reproduction rates**.
  - It also leads to increased risks of natural disasters, such as [cyclones and flooding](#), which can destroy fishing boats and infrastructure.

## Way Forward

- **Promoting Sustainable Fishing Practices:** The government can encourage sustainable fishing practices such as promoting responsible fishing techniques and setting quotas and restrictions to prevent overfishing. This will ensure the **longevity of fish stocks** and protect the livelihoods of fishers.
- **Strengthening IUU Fishing Regulations:** The government should strengthen regulations to combat **illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing**. This can include measures such as satellite monitoring of fishing boats and penalties for violators.
- **Developing Infrastructure:** Investment in infrastructure such as cold storage facilities, processing plants, and transportation will improve the quality of fish products and reduce **post-harvest losses**.

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

### Prelims

**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)**

### Mains

**Q. Defining blue revolution, explain the problems and strategies for pisciculture development in India. (2018)**

**Source: PIB**

PDF Reference URL: <https://www.drishtias.com/printpdf/sagar-parikrama-1>

