



Wadge Bank

[Source: TH](#)

Fishermen in **Kanyakumari** oppose the Union government's proposed **hydrocarbon exploration** project at **Wadge Bank** under [Hydrocarbon Exploration and Licensing Policy \(HELP\)](#), fearing it will harm their livelihoods and the ecologically sensitive marine area.

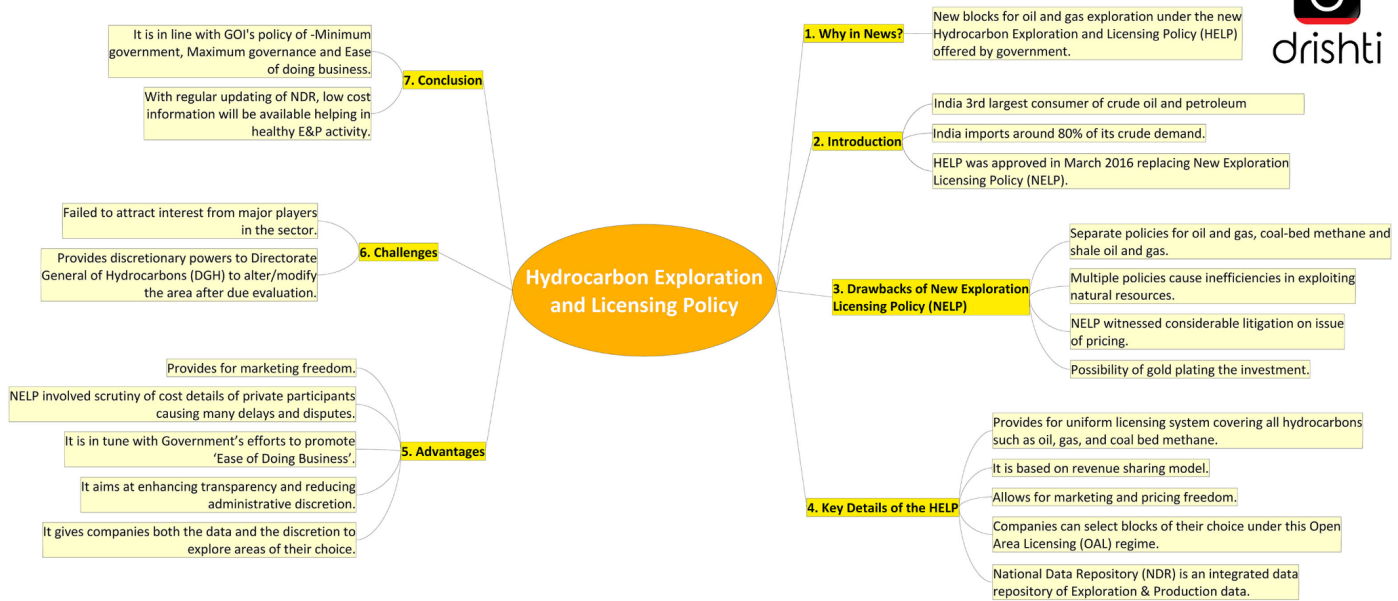
Wadge Bank

- **Wadge Bank** is a **submarine plateau** in the **Indian Ocean**, located **80 km off Kanyakumari (Cape Comorin)**, lying in India's [Exclusive Economic Zone \(EEZ\)](#).
 - A **bank** is a shallow elevation on the **continental shelf**, usually **less than 200 meters deep**, formed of **continental origin**.
- It is known for its **rich marine biodiversity** and **abundant fishery resources**.
- The [1976 India-Sri Lanka Maritime Boundary Agreement](#) grants India **sovereign rights** over **Wadge Bank**, including the right to explore **petroleum and minerals**, while **Sri Lankan fishermen are prohibited** from fishing in the area.
- It is one of the **world's richest fishing grounds**, with **high organic productivity**, serving as a **key feeding and breeding ground for fish**.
- Wadge Bank **peak fishing season is from July to October**, boosted by [seasonal upwelling](#) that enhances nutrient availability.



Hydrocarbons

- **Hydrocarbons** are organic compounds (made of carbon & hydrogen) that form the basis of fossil fuels like **coal, petroleum, and natural gas**.



Read More: [Katchatheevu Island](#), [Hydrocarbons Exploration and Extraction](#)

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