



# Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) Fisheries Rules

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**Subject Preference:** GS Paper III (Economy – Blue Economy) & Geography

- **The Basics:** The Centre notified the “**Sustainable Harnessing of Fisheries in the EEZ Rules, 2025**” to regulate fishing between **12 and 200 nautical miles** from the coast.
- **Key Features:**
- **Access Pass:** Mechanized vessels now need a digital "Access Pass" via the **ReALCRaft portal**.
- **Sustainability:** Bans harmful practices like LED-light fishing and bull trawling.
- **Fisher-folk Demands:** Traditional fishers are demanding representation in policy bodies to ensure that "Deep Sea Fishing" policies don't favor large corporate trawlers over artisanal cooperatives.
- **UPSC Insight:** Focus on the **UNCLOS (UN Convention on the Law of the Sea)** definitions: Territorial Sea (12 nm), Contiguous Zone (24 nm), and EEZ (200 nm).