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# Daily Mains Practice Answer 18-09-2026

**Q. "India's vast Exclusive Economic Zone remains an underutilised economic resource." Discuss the potential of deep-sea fisheries in strengthening India's Blue Economy. (10 marks, 150 words)**

**Directions:** Intro-----Potential of deep-sea fisheries + Challenges-------Conclusion.

### Introduction:

Describe India's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) – India possesses an EEZ of about 2.37 million sq. km.

### Main Body

#### Potential of deep-sea fisheries

- Expanding the fisheries resource base – Deep-sea resources such as tuna, tuna-like species, squid and other high-value marine species.
- Employment & livelihood diversification – Provide alternative livelihood opportunities for fishing communities in vessel operations, processing, cold chains, logistics, marine services, etc.
- From subsistence fishing to a fisheries economy – Generate employment across the entire value chain — vessel manufacturing, marine equipment, fishing, processing, cold storage, exports, etc.
- Strengthening food and nutritional security – Fish is an important source of protein, omega-3 fatty acids and micronutrients.
- Export potential and foreign exchange
- Growth of the wider Blue Economy – Stimulate associated sectors like shipbuilding, marine equipment, cold chains, etc.

#### Challenges

- High capital costs of deep-sea vessels and equipment.
- Limited access of small-scale fishers to finance, technology and training.
- Inadequate cold-chain, landing and processing infrastructure.
- Risks of overfishing, by-catch and ecosystem degradation.
- Safety challenges due to long voyages and extreme weather.

### Conclusion:

Give a balanced conclusion and suggest some measures.