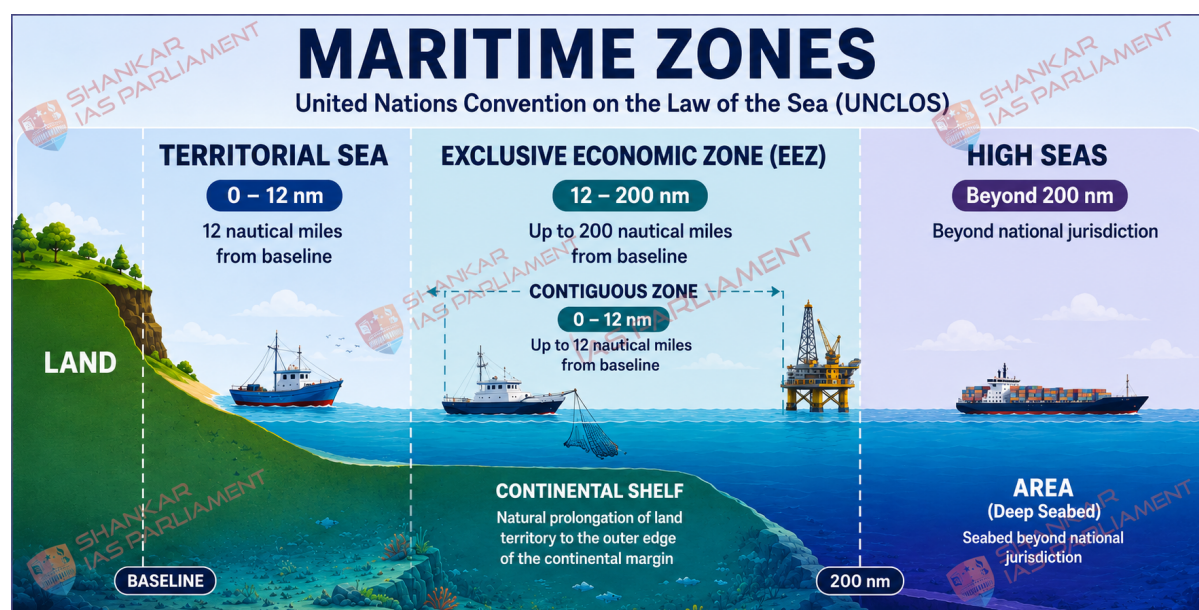


Fishing on Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)

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Why in News?

Recently SC clarified that Purse seine nets allowed only beyond 12 nm in EEZ under Centre's regulation, prohibited within 0-12 nm territorial waters under State control.



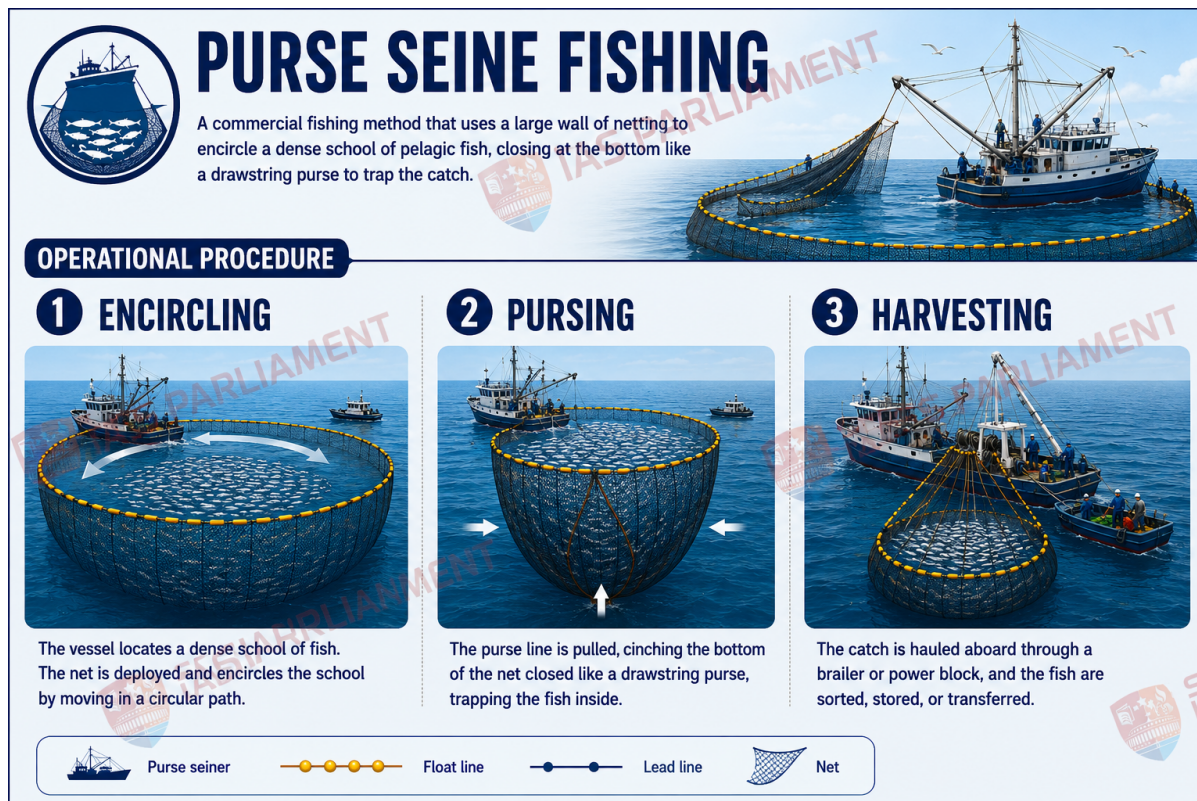
- **Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)** - It is an area of the ocean, generally **extending 200 nautical miles (230 miles)** beyond a nation's territorial sea, within which a coastal nation has jurisdiction over both living and non-living resources.
- It was adopted through the **1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea**.
- Under international law, within its defined EEZ, a coastal nation has:
- **Sovereign Rights** - Explore, exploit, conserve, and manage the seabed, subsoil, and waters.
- **Jurisdiction** - Artificial islands, research, marine environment protection.



- **Relevant Legal Framework**
- **Tamil Nadu Marine Fishing Regulation Rules, 2020** - It governs fishing activities within 12 nautical miles, corresponding to state waters.
- **Sustainable Harnessing of Fisheries in the EEZ Rules, 2025 (EEZ Rules, 2025)** - It regulates fishing in the Exclusive Economic Zone (12 to 200 nautical miles) under central government jurisdiction.

- **Marine Products Export Development Authority Act, 1972 (MPEDA Act, 1972)**
 - It establishes registration requirements for export-oriented and regulated fishing operations.
- The Court determined that there is no conflict between the 2020 state rules and the 2025 central EEZ rules, as each applies to a distinct maritime zone.

Purse Seine Fishing – A commercial fishing method that uses a large wall of netting to encircle a dense school of pelagic fish, closing at the bottom like a drawstring purse to trap the catch.



Reference

[Indian Express](#) | [Exclusive Economic Zone \(EEZ\)](#)