

National Marine Fisheries Census (NMFC), 2025

Prelims: Current events of national and international importance | Economy

Why in news?

Union Minister of State for Fisheries, launched the Marine Fisheries Census (MFC) 2025 Household Enumeration and the VYAS - BHARAT and VYAS-SUTRA app in Kochi.

- **2025 Census** - It becomes India's **1st fully digitized & Geo-Referenced fisheries** census, introducing modern technology and real-time monitoring to collect data from marine fishing communities across the country.
- **Aim** - To provide comprehensive, accurate, and timely data essential for the sustainable development and governance of the sector, which supports over a million families.
- **Launched on** - World Fisheries Day on November 21, 2024, set to be completed by December 2025.
- **Funded by the** - Department of Fisheries, Government of India.
- **Nodal agency** - ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI).
- **Operational partner** - Fishery Survey of India (FSI).
- **MFC 2025's slogan** - 'Smart Census, Smarter Fisheries'.
- **Tenure** - The 45-day nationwide enumeration will be conducted from November 3 to December 18.
- **Coverage** - Over 1.2 million fisher households across 4,000 marine fishing villages in 9 coastal States and 4 union territories.

Features

- **Digital Architecture** - A custom-built, multilingual apps was launched -
 - **VyAS-NAV** (for validation of fishing villages and harbours),
 - **VyAS-BHARAT** (household and infrastructure enumeration) and
 - **VyAS-SUTRA** (for real-time supervision and monitoring of households and enumerators).

- **Efficiency & Accuracy** - Enables real-time, geo-referenced data collection, eliminating manual errors and significantly accelerating data processing.
- **Supervision & Oversight** - The entire operation is monitored through multi-tier web dashboards & a supervisory app, ensuring progress tracking across all levels of census management.
- **Expanded Socio-economic Data** - For the 1st time, the it includes detailed information on indicators like total family income, homeownership, outstanding liabilities, sources of credit, etc.
- **Granular Data for Targeted Welfare** - It aims to gain a detailed understanding of the coastal population's socio-economic conditions to help design more targeted and effective government interventions.
- **Focus on Vulnerability** - It will collect key information on fisher families' insurance coverage, pandemic-related hardships, and access to government support schemes like
 - Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana and
 - Pradhan Mantri Matsya Kisan Samridhi Sah-Yojana.
- **Institutional Mapping** - New schedules focusing on Fish Farmer Producer Organizations (FFPOs) and Self-Help Groups (SHGs) are introduced to facilitate collectivization and strengthen the value chain.

Reference

[PIB | Marine Fisheries Census 2025 Goes Fully Digital](#)