

	<b>THE NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES (REGULATION AND MANAGEMENT) BILL, 2019</b>	
	<b>A BILL</b>	
	to provide for regulation and management of fisheries in the Exclusive Economic Zone of India and Indian fishing vessels in the high seas and for responsible and long term sustainable and optimal utilization of marine fish resources; ensuring monitoring, control and surveillance; supporting safety and security of fishers at sea; protecting livelihoods of traditional and small-scale fishers; protection of biodiversity in the marine ecosystems; promotion of fishery conservation and management measures and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.	
	Be it enacted by Parliament in the Seventieth Year of the Republic of India as follows:	
	<b>CHAPTER I PRELIMINARY</b>	
<b>Short title and commencement.</b>	1. (1) This Act may be called the National Marine Fisheries (Regulation and Management) Act, 2019. (2) It shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may, by notification, in the Official Gazette, appoint.	
<b>Definitions.</b>	2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires, (a) “authorized officer” means any officer or subordinate officer of the Indian Coast Guard constituted under the Coast Guard Act, 1978, or such other officer of Central or State Governments as may be authorized by the Central Government. (b) “authorized entity” means any organization, department, agency or society of the Central or State / UT Government authorized to regulate, manage and coordinate, with authorized officer with regard to certain provisions of the Act as may be prescribed by the Central Government. (c) “code of conduct for responsible fisheries” means establishment of guiding principles and standards applicable for conservation, management and development of fisheries in the maritime zones of India and to provide a necessary framework for sustainable exploitation of aquatic living resources in harmony with the environment. (d) “conservation and management measures” means measures to conserve and manage the concerned species of living marine resources in the maritime zones of India and in the high seas that are adopted and applied consistent with the relevant rules of international law. (e) “ecosystem approach to fisheries management” means a practical way to implement sustainable development and sustainably optimize the ecosystem benefits of a fishery system, including ecological well-being, human well-being and good governance. (f) “endangered, threatened and protected species” include forms of marine animals that are endangered or threatened and need protection by state or national legislations or applicable international instruments or in need of a protected status, and <i>inter alia</i> include sea turtles, marine mammals and some species of fishes as may be notified by the Government. (g) “exclusive economic zone” means the exclusive economic zone of India as defined under section 7 of the Territorial Waters, Continental Shelf, Exclusive Economic Zone and Other Maritime Zones of India Act, 1976;	Notification Provision  Rules Provision          Notification Provision

	<p>(h) "fish" means finfish, molluscs, crustaceans, and all other forms of marine animals and plants other than marine mammals, reptiles and birds.</p> <p>(i) "fisheries" means "fishing" and "fishing related activities" including post harvest activities.</p> <p>(j) "fishing" and "fishing related activities" includes -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) catching or taking or harvesting of fish by any method;</li> <li>(ii) searching for or tracking or trailing or pursuing fish;</li> <li>(iii) engaging in any other activity that <i>inter alia</i> includes landing, packaging, marketing, processing, transshipping, or transporting of fish that have not been previously landed at a port;</li> <li>(iv) any operation(s) at sea directly in support of or linked to or in preparation of any activity described in this definition or for processing of or preservation of any fish;</li> <li>(v) conservation and management of marine living resources.</li> </ul> <p>(k) "fisheries management plan" means any document issued by the Central Government in relation to long term conservation of fishery resources, optimization of fishing fleet with respect to available resources and sustainable use of fish stocks, development and management of fishery resources including monitoring, control and surveillance and maintenance of law and order for fishing and fishing related activities in the maritime zones of India, as may be prescribed.</p> <p>(l) "fishing vessel" as defined in the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958;</p> <p>(m) "foreign fishing vessel" means any fishing vessel other than an Indian fishing vessel;</p> <p>(n) "high seas" means the waters that are outside the outer limits of the sovereign exclusive economic zone of India, and which do not fall within the exclusive economic zone of any other country;</p> <p>(o) "illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing" includes following activities:</p> <p>(A) Illegal fishing means any fishing activity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) conducted by Indian fishing vessels in the Exclusive Economic Zone of India without the license issued under this Act;</li> <li>(ii) conducted by foreign vessels in the maritime zones of India;</li> <li>(iii) conducted by Indian fishing vessels in contravention of the conservation and management measures adopted by India within the Regional Fisheries Management Organization to which India is a signatory;</li> </ul> <p>(B) Unreported fishing means any fishing activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) undertaken by Indian or foreign vessel(s) which have not been reported, or have been misreported to the authority notified under this Act, in contravention of this Act and the Rules and Regulations framed there under;</li> <li>(ii) undertaken by an Indian vessel in the area of competence of relevant regional fisheries management organization to which India is a signatory.</li> </ul> <p>(C) Unregulated fishing means any fishing activity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) undertaken by an Indian or fishing vessel, in a manner that is inconsistent with the provisions related to the conservation and management measures as provided under this Act in areas beyond the maritime zones of India; or</li> <li>(ii) undertaken by Indian and foreign vessels within the maritime zone of India and by Indian Vessels in areas beyond the maritime zone of India, for fish stocks in relation to which there are no applicable conservation or management measures and where such fishing activities are conducted in a manner inconsistent with the provisions of this Act.</li> </ul> <p>(p) "Indian fishing vessel" means a fishing vessel registered under the provisions of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 and is owned by:</p>	<p>Rules Provision</p>
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	<p>(i) the Government of India or by the Government of any State, or by a corporation established by a Central Act or a State Act; or</p> <p>(ii) by persons to each of whom any of the following descriptions apply, namely-</p> <p>(a) a citizen of India; or</p> <p>(b) a company in which the entire share capital is held by Indian citizen(s); or</p> <p>(c) a duly registered firm wherein every partner whereof is a citizen of India; or</p> <p>(d) a fisher organization/association registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1890 or any other such Law enacted by the coastal States/UTs and every member whereof is a citizen of India; or</p> <p>(e) a registered co-operative society, every member whereof is a citizen of India or where any other cooperative society is a member thereof, every individual member of such other cooperative society is a citizen of India; or</p> <p>(f) any boat or craft of any type other than those specified as above, which the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, specify to be an Indian fishing vessel.</p> <p>(g) “maritime zones of India” means the territorial waters, contiguous zone, continental shelf, exclusive economic zone and other maritime zones determined in accordance with the Territorial Waters, Continental Shelf, Exclusive Economic Zone and Other Maritime Zones Act, 1976;</p> <p>(r) “master” in relation to a vessel, means any person having command, or charge of the vessel or who has assumed the responsibility for the operation of the vessel;</p> <p>(s) “No fishing zone” means an area prescribed by the Government through a notification where fishing by any means is prohibited for the time period promulgated;</p> <p>(t) “notification” means notification published in the Official Gazette and the expression ‘notified’ shall be construed accordingly;</p> <p>(u) “operator” means any person or enterprise that controls the operation or management of a vessel; or who has assumed the responsibility for the operation of the vessel;</p> <p>(v) “owner” in relation to a vessel means the owner of the vessel as well as any other person, including any organization or association of persons, whether incorporated or not, by whom the vessel or a share in the vessel is owned;</p> <p>(w) “license” including ‘unified license’ means a license issued under section 3 of this Act for fishing and fishing related activities;</p> <p>(x) “prescribed” means prescribed by Rules made under this Act;</p> <p>(y) “processing” in relation to fishing, includes cleaning, cutting and removal of spines, fins, shells, viscera (guts and other internal soft parts), beheading, bleeding, filleting, peeling, icing, freezing, canning, salting, smoking, cooking, pickling, drying and otherwise preparing or preserving fish by any other method;</p> <p>(z) “specified ports” means such ports as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, specify for the purpose of this Act;</p> <p>(aa) “territorial waters of India” means the territorial waters of India in accordance with the provisions of section 3 of the Territorial Waters, Continental Shelf, Exclusive Economic Zone and other Maritime Zones of India Act, 1976;</p> <p>(ab) “vessel” includes any ship, or vessel, sailing vessel, chase boats, pilot boats, transport, or carrier vessels, or any vessel used for research on fisheries or any other vessel of any other description that is capable of fishing, stocking or storing or processing or transporting fish, fuel or other supplies from or to a fishing vessel or is otherwise capable of providing logistical or any other support to fishing vessels.</p>	<p>Notification Provision</p>
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<b>CHAPTER II REGULATION OF FISHERIES IN THE EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE AND HIGH SEAS</b>		
Prohibition of fishing without license.	3.(1) No Indian fishing vessel shall engage in fishing and fishing related activity within the maritime zones of India and the high seas, except with a license issued by the Central Government or any authority notified under this Act and the license issued shall be subject to such restrictions and conditions as prescribed.	Rules Provision
Issue of Unified License	(2) The Central Government on its behalf may authorize the State Government/Union Territory Administration for issuance of Unified License for fishing and fishing related activity in the areas of their territorial waters, the exclusive economic zone and the high seas as prescribed.  (3) Issuance of License under this Act shall be in such form and manner and subject to payment of license fee as prescribed.	Rules Provision  Rules Provision
Levy of Fee, charges and exemptions thereof	(4) Further, fishing and fishing related activity shall be subject to such levies and charges in such form and manner as prescribed.  Provided that Central Government may exempt from the requirement of payment of levies and charges for fishing and fishing related activities for research vessels and such other vessels as prescribed.	Rules Provision  Rules Provision
Utilization of revenue collected	Provided further that the license fee, levies and charges so collected shall be used for welfare of fishers, research, traceability and conservation and management measures for sustainable fishing in the maritime zone of India as prescribed and matters incidental hereto.	
Registration of Fishing vessels	(5) The fishing vessel licensed under the provisions of this Act shall be registered under the provisions of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958.	
Prohibition of fishing by foreign vessels	(6) No license shall be granted under this Act to foreign fishing vessel for fishing and fishing related activities within the maritime zones of India.	
Non-transferability of License	(7) A license granted under this Act shall be non-transferrable, and shall not be assigned to, or create interest in favour of any third party.	
Denial of License	(8) The Central Government may deny or withhold the issuance of license to a vessel or a class of vessels on the grounds of unsatisfactory sea worthiness, safety and manning conditions of the vessel including the accessories and fishing gears or for using prohibited fishing methods, as may be prescribed.  (9) The Central Government may also deny or withhold the issuance of license to a vessel or a class of vessels under this Act, having regard to matters relating to protection of national security of India, maintenance of law and order in the maritime zones of India or any other matter of public interest.	Rules Provision
Order in Writing	(10) Every order of accepting or rejecting an application for the grant of license shall be in writing.	

<p>Suspension or Cancellation of a License.</p>	<p>4. (1) The Central Government may cancel or temporarily suspend a license granted under this Act, if there is reasonable cause to believe that-</p> <p>(a) there has been a violation of any of the provisions of the Act; or</p> <p>(b) there has occurred a contravention of the provisions in the license or any conditions or restrictions specified in the license, or of any Rules made under this Act, or of any fisheries management plan; or engaged in fishing in 'no fishing zone', that may be prescribed; or</p> <p>(c) the vessel is not seaworthy or does not comply with safety and manning norms or is using prohibited fishing gears or methods as prescribed; or</p> <p>(d) the license or any renewal thereof has been issued on false or erroneous information.</p> <p>Provided that no license shall be cancelled or suspended under sub-section (1), unless the holder of the license is given reasonable opportunity of showing cause why the license should not be cancelled or suspended, as the case may be.</p> <p>Provided further that nothing in this sub-section shall apply where the Central Government is satisfied that, for reasons to be recorded in writing, it is not reasonably practicable to give to the holder of the license an opportunity for showing cause.</p> <p>(2) Every order of suspension or cancellation of a license shall be in writing.</p> <p>(3) Every person whose license has been cancelled or suspended under sub-section (1) above shall, immediately after such suspension or cancellation, stop fishing or undertaking any fishing related activity in respect of which the license had been given and shall not resume such fishing or fishing related activity, as the case may be, until such order has been revoked in writing.</p> <p>(4) The Central Government may also cancel a license issued under this Act, having regard to matters relating to protection of national security of India, maintenance of law and order in the maritime zones of India or any other matter of public interest.</p>	<p>Rules Provision</p> <p>Rules Provision</p>
<p>Monitoring, Control &amp; Surveillance</p> <p>Insurance &amp; Sea Safety</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>CHAPTER III</b> <b>SAFETY AND SECURITY OF VESSELS AND FISHERMEN</b></p> <p>5. The Central Government shall notify a system of monitoring, control and surveillance towards safety and security of fishermen and fishing vessels and for the compliance of fishery management measures in the maritime zones of India.</p> <p>6. The fishing vessel licensed under sub section (1) of section 3 of this Act shall comply with the manning, insurance, sea safety and seaworthiness norms of fishing vessels as provided under the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 and as prescribed.</p>	<p>Notification Provision</p> <p>Rules Provision</p>
<p>Transit of foreign fishing vessel</p> <p>Regulation of scientific research and recreational fishing</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>CHAPTER IV</b> <b>TRANSIT AND RESEARCH</b></p> <p>7. Every foreign fishing vessel or a vessel with a foreign flag that transits through the maritime zones of India shall follow the procedure as prescribed.</p> <p>8. The Central Government may, through a special license to be issued in writing, allow a vessel to carry out any scientific research, survey or investigation related with fisheries or for any experimental or recreational fishing or any other purpose in accordance with such terms and conditions as may be prescribed.</p>	<p>Rules Provision</p> <p>Rules Provision</p>

<b>CHAPTER V BIODIVERSITY, CONSERVATION, MANAGEMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY</b>		
Biodiversity Conservation	9. (1) Fishing shall be prohibited in marine protected areas, ecologically and biologically significant areas and vulnerable marine ecosystems, to ensure protection of endangered and threatened species and for the maintenance of the ecological balance of the marine environment and its biodiversity.	Rules Provision
Spatial and Temporal closures	(2) In order to ensure sustainable utilization of resources, and for safety of fishermen, during the breeding season, the spatial and temporal closures shall be implemented for conservation of stocks, as prescribed.	Rules Provision
Fisheries Management Plan	10. (1) The Central Government may, from time to time, notify one or more plans for the management of one or more fish species and fishing related activities consistent with the basic principles underlying the United Nation’s Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries and ecosystem approach to fisheries management, in such area(s) of the maritime zones of India as may be prescribed.  Provided that if a Fisheries Management Plan is prepared in relation to any area within the territorial waters of India, then such plan shall be formulated by the Central Government in consultation with the Government of the State or Union Territory under whose jurisdiction the relevant territorial waters falls.  (2) Fisheries Management Plan(s) will ensure the sustainable management of marine resources and maintenance of ecological balance in the maritime zone of India even as they provide for securing sustainable small-scale fisheries in the context of food security and poverty alleviation.  (3) All licenses granted under this Act, shall be subject to fisheries management plan(s) as may be notified by the Central Government and in the event of any inconsistency between a license so granted and a fisheries management plan, the said plan shall take precedence and its provisions shall be deemed to be applicable to the said license.	Notification Provision
Prohibition of destructive fishing methods	11. Destructive fishing methods including use of dynamite or any other explosive substance, poison or noxious chemicals, light or other destructive materials or any other methods to catch or destroy the fish in the maritime zone of India, as prescribed, is prohibited.	Rules Provision
Power to Regulate Fishing	12. The Central Government may regulate, restrict, or prohibit fishing in any area of EEZ by such class or classes of fishing vessels, the use of such fishing gear, the number of fishing vessels which may be used for fishing in any area within the EEZ, and the capture of such species of fish, of such size of fish and for such period(s) as may be prescribed.	Rules Provision
<b>CHAPTER VI IMPLEMENTATION AGENCIES</b>		
Power to create Implementation Authorities/ Agencies	13. The Central Government may by notification, designate a Court or Quasi-judicial Authority or one or more Central Government or State Government Authorities or Agencies or Officers to discharge any one or more function(s) under this Act.  14. A ‘National Marine Fisheries Authority’ shall be established for development, management and regulation of marine fisheries in the maritime zones of India.	Notification Provision

<p>Powers of authorized officers.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>CHAPTER VII</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>POWERS TO BOARD, SEARCH AND SEIZURE</b></p> <p>15. (1) Any authorized officer on being satisfied that there is sufficient information that any section of this Act has been violated, with or without a warrant, may board, search and seize a fishing vessel, along with its gear and catch on board, within the maritime zone of India as prescribed.</p> <p>(2) While taking any action under sub-section (1), the Authorized Officer may use such force as is reasonably necessary.</p> <p>(3) The vessel seized by the Authorized Officer shall be provided with docking facility by the port notified for this purpose and charges towards docking, maintenance and other related costs shall be borne as prescribed.</p> <p>(4) Where any vessel, and its gear or catch as the case may be, is seized under sub-section (1) of section 15, the same shall, as soon as possible, be produced before an Officer or a Magistrate competent to try an offence under this Act, as prescribed, and the Officer or Magistrate shall make such order as prescribed.</p> <p>(5) Where, in pursuance of the commission of any offence under this Act, a vessel is pursued beyond the limits of the exclusive economic zone of India, the powers conferred on an Authorized Officer by this section may be exercised in areas beyond national jurisdiction in the circumstances and to the extent recognized by international law and applicable laws of India.</p>	<p>Rules Provision</p> <p>Rules Provision</p> <p>Rules Provision</p>
<p>Penalty for fishing without a license or contravention of a license issued under section 3.</p> <p>Penalty for foreign fishing vessels</p> <p>Penalty for violation of MCS conditions u/s 5</p> <p>Penalty for violation of transit condition</p> <p>Penalty for contravention of section 8.</p> <p>Penalty for obstruction of authorized officers.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>CHAPTER VIII</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>OFFENCES AND PENALTIES</b></p> <p>16. (1) Where any Indian fishing vessel is fishing in the maritime zone of India or in the high seas without obtaining a license or in contravention of a license granted under sub-section (1) of section 3, such vessel shall be impounded and the owner or master or operator of such vessel shall be punishable with a fine as prescribed.</p> <p>(2) Where any foreign fishing vessel is fishing in the Maritime Zones of India, such vessel shall be impounded and the owner or operator or master of such vessel shall be punishable with a fine or imprisonment or both as prescribed.</p> <p>(3) Where any Indian fishing vessel contravenes the provisions of section 5 relating to monitoring, control and surveillance, the owner or operator and or master of such vessel shall be punishable with a fine as prescribed.</p> <p>(4) Where any foreign fishing vessel contravenes the provisions of section 7, the owner or operator and or master of such vessel shall be punishable with a fine and imprisonment as prescribed.</p> <p>(5) Whoever contravenes the provisions of section 8, shall be punishable with a fine as prescribed.</p> <p>(6) If any person intentionally obstructs any authorized officer in the exercise of any powers conferred under this Act or in the discharge of the duties of the authorized officer, he/she shall be punishable with a fine and or imprisonment or with both.</p>	<p>Rules Provision</p> <p>Rules Provision</p> <p>Rules Provision</p> <p>Rules Provision</p> <p>Rules Provision</p> <p>Rules Provision</p>

<p>Offence by companies.</p>	<p>(7) Where an offence under this Act has been committed by a company, every person who, at the time the offence was committed, was in charge of, was responsible for the conduct of the business of the company and the company shall be deemed to be guilty of the offence and shall be jointly and severally liable to be proceeded against as prescribed.</p> <p>Provided that nothing contained in this sub-section shall render any such person liable to punishment under this Act if he/she is able to satisfy beyond doubt that the offence was committed without his/her knowledge or that he/she had exercised due diligence to prevent the occurrence of such offence.</p>	<p>Rules Provision</p>
<p>Offences to be cognizable.</p>	<p>(8) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (7) of section 16, where an offence under this Act has been committed by a company and it is proved that the offence has been committed with the consent of, or is attributable to any neglect on the part of any director, manager, secretary or other officer, such person shall also be deemed to be guilty of that offence and shall be liable to be proceeded against and punished as prescribed.</p>	<p>Rules Provision</p>
<p>Cognizance and of Hearing of Offences.</p>	<p>17. Notwithstanding anything contained in the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, offences punishable under sub section (2), (4) and (6) of section 16, of this Act shall be cognizable.</p> <p>18. (1) No Court or quasi-judicial authority established under this Act shall take cognizance of any offence punishable under this Act except on a report in writing by an authorised officer.</p> <p>(2) No Court inferior to that of a Metropolitan Magistrate or a Judicial Magistrate of the first class shall try an offence under sub section (2), (4) and (6) of sections 16 of this Act.</p> <p>(3) No Officer below the rank of Sub Divisional Magistrate shall try an offence under sub section (1), (3), (5) and (7) of section 16 of this Act.</p>	
<p>Magistrate's power to impose enhanced penalties.</p>	<p>19. (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in section 29 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, it shall be lawful for any Metropolitan Magistrate or any Judicial Magistrate of the first class specially empowered by the State Government in this behalf to pass any sentence under sub section (2), (4) and (6) of Section 16 as authorized by this Act.</p> <p>(2) It shall be lawful for the Officer designated under section 18(3) to impose any fine or penalty under sub section (1), (3), (5) and (7) of section 16 as authorized by this Act.</p>	
<p>Appeals.</p>	<p>20. (1) Any person aggrieved by the decision of the of the Metropolitan Magistrate or any Judicial Magistrate of the first class designated under sub section (2) of section 18 this Act may prefer an appeal to the High Court which has jurisdiction over such matters.</p> <p>(2). Any person aggrieved by the decision of the Officer designated under section 18(3) of this Act may prefer an appeal to the District Magistrate under whose jurisdiction the matter falls.</p>	
<p>Protection of action taken in good faith.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>CHAPTER IX</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>MISCELLANEOUS</b></p> <p>21. (1) No suit, prosecution or other legal proceeding shall lie against the authorized officer or any person for anything which is done in good faith or intended to be done in the discharge of his(her) duty in pursuance to the provisions of this Act.</p> <p>(2) No suit or other legal proceeding shall lie against the Government for any damage</p>	

<p>Power to make rules.</p> <p>Proviso to sub-section (5) of section 7 of Act No. 80 of 1976 not to apply.</p>	<p>caused, or likely to be caused, for anything which is done in good faith or intended to be done in pursuance of the provisions of this Act.</p> <p>22. (1) The Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, make rules to carry out the provisions of this Act.</p> <p>(2) In particular, and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing powers, such rules may also provide for all or any of the following matters, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the manner and form of payment of license fee, levies and charges under sub-sections (1), (2) and (3) of section 3;</li> <li>(b) the manner and form of issuance of license to a fishing vessel and the conditions and restrictions with regard to fishing and fishing related activities under sub-section (1) of section 3;</li> <li>(c) the manner and form of issuance of unified license to a fishing vessel by State Government/UT Administration under sub-section (2) of section 3;</li> <li>(d) the manner and form for exemption from the requirement of payment of levies and charges for fishing and fishing related activities under proviso to section 3;</li> <li>(e) the manner and form of usage of revenues collected from license fee, levies and charges under proviso to section 3;</li> <li>(f) the terms, procedure and conditions to deny or withhold the issuance of license to a vessel or a class of vessels on the grounds mentioned under sub section (8) of section 3;</li> <li>(g) the terms, procedure and conditions with reference to cancellation or suspension of a license under sub section (1) of section 4;</li> <li>(h) the manner and procedure for implementation of system of monitoring, control and surveillance under section 5;</li> <li>(i) norms regarding manning, insurance, sea safety and seaworthiness of fishing vessels under section 6;</li> <li>(j) the manner of keeping fishing gear and the procedure to be followed by the foreign fishing vessel that transits through the Maritime Zones of India under section 7;</li> <li>(k) the terms and conditions with regard to special license issued for scientific research, survey or investigation or for experimental or recreational fishing or other purposes under section 8;</li> <li>(l) the manner and procedure for conservation of fish during breeding season through spatial and temporal closures under sub section (2) of section 9;</li> <li>(m) the regulation of fishing methods, vessels, gear, area, species, size of fish and period of fishing etc. under section 12;</li> <li>(n) procedures regarding search and seizure of fishing vessel and matters related under section 15;</li> <li>(o) the penalty for different categories of offences under section 16;</li> <li>(p) cognizance and procedure for section 18 and 19.</li> </ul> <p>23. The proviso to sub-section (5) of section 7 of the Territorial Waters, Continental Shelf, Exclusive Economic Zone and Other Maritime Zones Act, 1976 shall not apply to the requirements for a license and other requirements specified under this Act.</p>	
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<p>Removal of difficulties.</p>	<p>24. If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of this Act, the Central Government may, by order published in the Official Gazette, make such provisions not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act as may appear to be necessary.</p> <p>Provided that no such order shall be made after expiry of a period of three years from the commencement of this Act.</p>	
<p>Repeal and Savings.</p>	<p>25. (1) The Maritime Zones of India (Regulation of Fishing by Foreign Vessels) Act, 1981, is hereby repealed.</p> <p>(2) Notwithstanding such repeal, anything done or any action taken under the Act so repealed, including any notification, order, appointment, certificate, notice, or receipt issued, application made, or license granted, which is not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act shall be deemed to have been done or taken under the corresponding provisions of this Act.</p>	