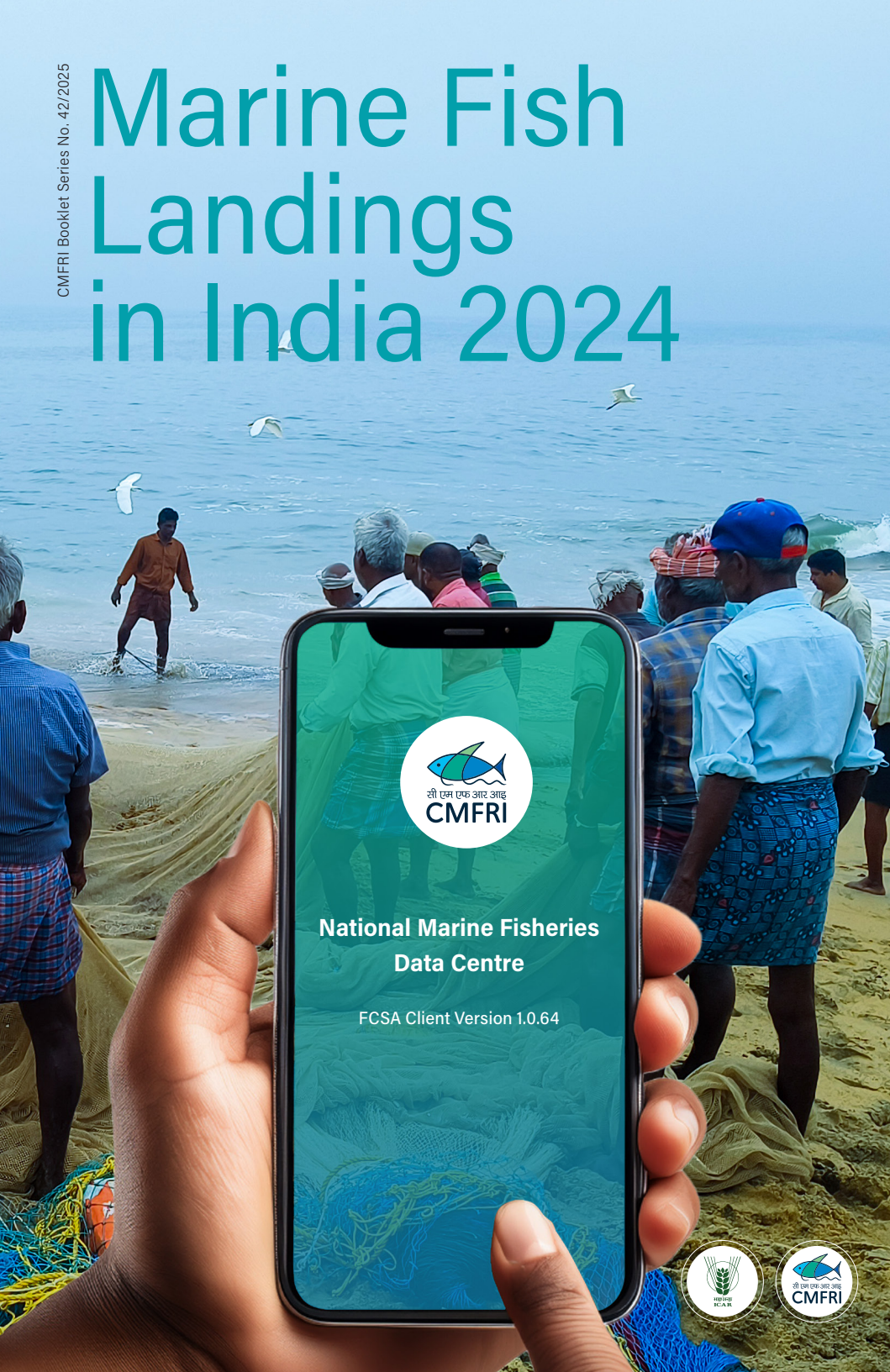
CMFRI Booklet Series No. 42/2025

Marine Fish Landings in India 2024



Marine Fish Landings in India 2024

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Marine Fish Landings in India 2024

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Marine Fish Landings in India 2024 At a Glance

- In 2024, the estimated marine fish landings along mainland India stood 3.45 million tonnes, marking a 2% decline from 3.53 million tonnes in 2023. Meanwhile, the Andaman & Nicobar Islands recorded 16,990 tonnes, an 8% decrease, bringing the country's total marine fish landings to 3.47 million tonnes.

- This year, the motorized sector registered an increase of around 1 lakh tonnes, primarily due to growth in Tamil Nadu and the Eastcoast, while the mechanized sector saw a decline of about 1.7 lakh tonnes. The total contribution stood at 76% from the mechanized sector, 23% from motorized vessels, and 1% from the non-motorized sector.

- Gujarat retained its top position in fish landings with 7.54 lakh tonnes, despite an 8% decline, contributing approximately 22% of the total landings. Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, and Maharashtra recorded notable increases, with Maharashtra experiencing the highest growth of 47% compared to the previous year.

- The westcoast recorded an overall decrease, whereas the eastcoast showed an increasing trend, with exceptions in Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh.

- Indian mackerel remained the most landed resource in the country, totalling 2.63 lakh tonnes, followed by oil sardine at 2.41 lakh tonnes.

- Pelagic species dominated the landings with a 54% share, followed by demersal fishes, crustaceans, and molluscs. Indian mackerel, Oil sardine, Ribbonfishes, Lesser sardines, and Anchovies were the top contributors among pelagic species. Among demersal species, Threadfin breams, Croakers, and Catfishes played a significant role.

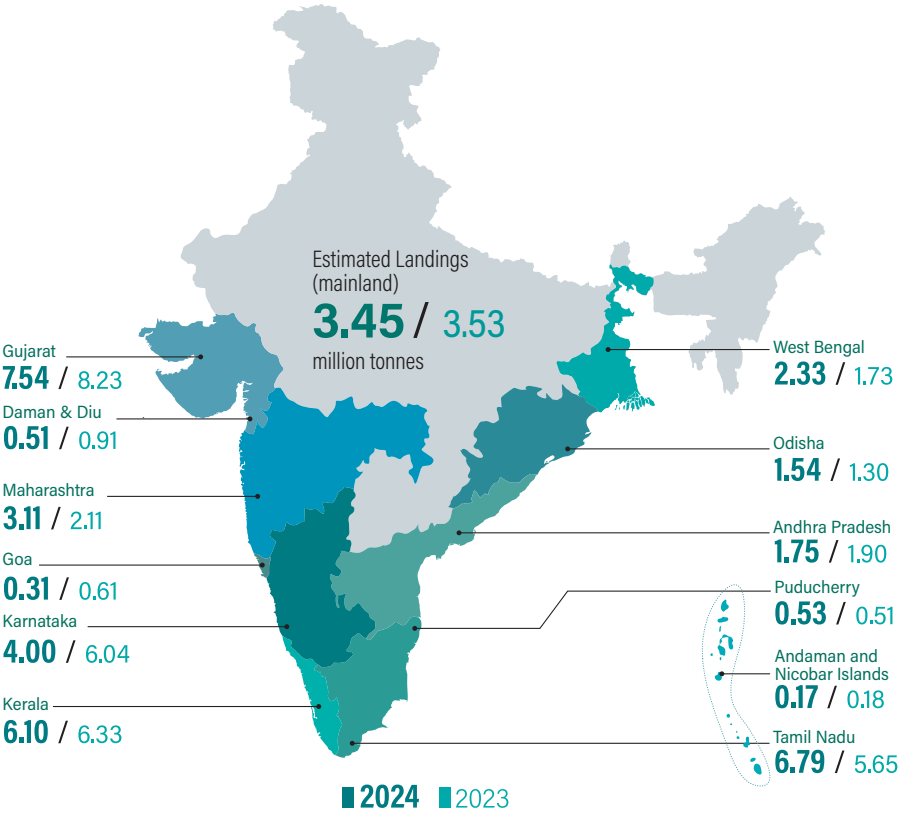
- In 2024, the major gainers in terms of landings were Lesser sardines, Penaeid shrimps, Anchovies and Tunnies. On the other hand, species like Indian mackerel, Threadfin breams, Oil sardine, Ribbonfishes, Non-Penaeid shrimps and Cephalopods recorded a decline.

- The cyclonic storms *Dana, Fengal, Remal,* and *Asna* significantly impacted fishing activities, with *Asna* affected the westcoast, while the others impacted the eastcoast. Additionally, the rise in heatwave days in Andhra Pradesh and Kerala further disrupted fishing operations.

- The fourth quarter (Oct–Dec) contributed the most (31.8%) to the total landings, while the second quarter had the lowest share, mainly due to the southwest monsoon and seasonal fishing bans.

- The Fish Catch Survey and Analysis (FCSA) 2.0 app has transformed fisheries data collection, offering real-time insights into landings, fish quality, and disaster impacts. It now maps fishing ground geolocations, enabling precise catch and biomass estimates at gridded level, enriching the National Marine Fisheries Data Centre (NMFDC).

India



The Shifting Tides: A Chronicle of India's Marine Fishery Landings - 2024

India, a titan in the global fisheries arena, commands an impressive eight percent of the world's catch, securing its position as the second-largest producer. While aquaculture's vibrant growth is undeniable, the stalwart marine capture fisheries sector continues to anchor the nation's economic and social fabric, sustaining millions of livelihoods.

The government's Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana, born from a dedicated ministry, has injected fresh impetus into this vital sector. Guided by the scientific rigor of institutions like ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (ICAR-CMFRI), a sustainable approach permeates research and development, ensuring the long-term health of these precious resources.

ICAR-CMFRI, the nation's marine fisheries sentinel, employs a time-tested survey methodology, a beacon amidst proposed alternatives. This unique, self-evolving system, relying on trained, neutral data collectors, stands as a testament to robust scientific inquiry, a gold standard recognized by nations committed to conservation.

The "two-stage stratified random sampling" method, a marvel of statistical precision, allows for rapid, economical, and comprehensive data collection across 1190 landing centres on the peninsula and 70 in Andaman and Nicobar Islands. This meticulously executed scheme, spearheaded by ICAR-CMFRI, captures the intricate dance of fishing activities, reflecting the true pulse of the ocean's bounty. Around 150 dedicated technicians (harbour-based observers) with species identification expertise visit landing centres according to work schedules generated under the

Estimated marine fish landings (tonnes) in India-2024

PELAGIC FINFISH	
CLUPEOIDS	
Wolf herring	12660
Oil sardine	241273
Lesser sardines	170228
Hilsa shad	19310
Other shads	28751
Anchovies	
Coilia	49266
Setipinna	11888
Stolephorus	66944
Thryssa	31943
Other clupeids	80844
Bombayduck	94814
Half beaks & Full beaks	6883
Flying fishes	2844
Ribbon fishes	229359
CARANGIDS	
Horse mackerel	36381
Scads	81612
Leather-jackets	13888
Other carangids	112207
MACKERELS	
Indian mackerel	262984
Other mackerels	24
SEER FISHES	
Scomberomorus commerson	27165
Scomberomorus guttatus	14658
Scomberomorus lineolatus	2
Acanthocybium solandri	1072
TUNNIES	
Euthynnus affinis	40806
Auxis	26752
Katsuwonus pelamis	18451
Thunnus tonggol	6537
Thunnus albacares	25620
Other tunnies	903
Bill fishes	21321
Barracudas	35798
Mullets	15003
Unicorn cod	540
OTHERS	
Odonus niger	51348
MISCELLANEOUS	156180

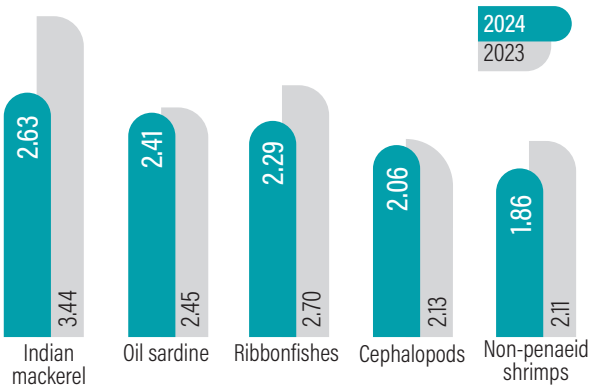
DEMERSAL FINFISH	
ELASMOBRANCHS	
Sharks	23375
Skates/Guitarfish	1353
Rays	13871
Eels	16048
Catfishes	66869
Lizard fishes	62665
PERCHES	
Rock cods	51865
Snappers	10686
Pig-face breams	12003
Threadfin breams	150969
Bullseyes	38581
Other perches	60768
Goatfishes	17190
Threadfins	10517
Croakers	110142
Silverbellies	52465
Whitefish	5915
POMFRETS	
Black pomfret	17186
Silver pomfret	26638
Chinese pomfret	7929
FLAT FISHES	
Halibut	1902
Flounders	152
Soles	36724
CRUSTACEA	
Penaeid shrimps	164748
Non-Penaeid shrimps	186063
Lobsters	3126
Crabs	73100
Stomatopods	8179
MOLLUSCA	
Bivalves	12017
Gastropods	5018
CEPHALOPODS	
Squids	95409
Cuttlefish	97262
Octopus	13111
TOTAL	**3450105**

Total estimated landings from Andaman and Nicobar Islands	16990
TOTAL	**3467095**

Production of resources that are harvested by localized effort

Seaweed	65225	Mussels, Oysters & Clams	105361
TOTAL			**3637681**

Major species/groups with their contribution (lakh tonnes) towards total marine fish landings in India



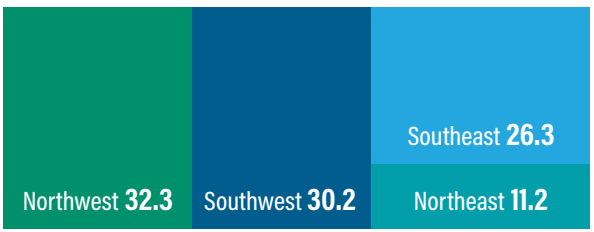
sampling scheme, documenting various aspects of the fishery from sampled boats. To enhance their species identification skills in the field, these observers receive regular training in taxonomy.

This system, a confluence of scientific resplendence and statistical robustness, boasts efficiency, economy, and continuous evolution. The digital leap, embodied by the Fish Catch Survey and Analysis (FCSA) 2.0 app, has revolutionized data collection, providing near real-time insights into landing centre dynamics, fish quality, and the impact of natural calamities on fishermen's livelihoods. Crucially, the app now maps estimated fishing ground geolocations, enabling the calculation of catch per unit effort and biomass across spatial grids, enriching the National Marine Fisheries Data Centre (NMFDC). Approximately 70,000 boat trips were observed out of 2.5 lakh trips that landed marine resources in 2024.

In 2024, the tides have shifted slightly. Mainland marine fish landings experienced a marginal 2% decline (≈80,000 tonnes), from 3.53 million tonnes in 2023 to 3.45 million tonnes. This ebb and flow, within acceptable deviations, reveals a nuanced regional pattern: a general decline along the westcoast, countered by growth on the eastcoast, with notable exceptions like Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh.

The marine fish landings of the Andaman & Nicobar Islands (ANI) totalled 16,990 tonnes in 2024, reflecting an 8% decline. This contributed to the country's total estimated marine fish landings of 3.47 million tonnes. To maintain consistency in sequential comparison, the figures are being discussed without including ANI estimates.

Region-wise landings (%)

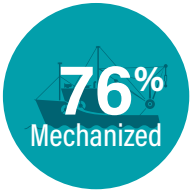


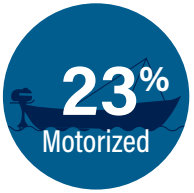
Karnataka witnessed a striking 34% fall, while Goa and Daman & Diu experienced precipitous drops of 50% and 44% respectively, highlighting the inherent volatility of regional fisheries. Conversely, Puducherry maintained its landings, while the northeastern states of West Bengal and Odisha surged by 35% and 18% respectively. Tamil Nadu, a major eastcoast contributor, saw a substantial 20% increase.

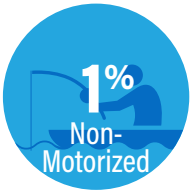
Regionally, the northwest has slightly surpassed the southwest in contributions, largely due to Karnataka's decline and Maharashtra's surge. Pelagic species dominated the catch, accounting for 54%, followed by demersal, crustacean, and molluscan species, nearly mirroring the previous year's proportions. The top five contributors to the pelagic assemblage retained their 2023 performance with a slight change in order. In the case of demersal resources, the deep-dwelling Threadfin breams and Croakers maintained their robust performance. Penaeid shrimps saw a slight increase, while Non-penaeid shrimps declined. Squid and Cuttlefish remained top molluscan contributors.

The motorized sector experienced a significant increase of around 1 lakh tonnes, particularly in Tamil Nadu and the eastcoast, while the mechanized sector saw a decline of about 1.7 lakh tonnes, shifting the balance from 76% to 23% mechanized and motorized respectively. Non-motorized contributions dwindled further to 1%. A gear-wise comparison gives out the following interesting facts: (a) In the motorized sector, outboard gill net units recorded an increase of nearly 15,000 tonnes in landings, while their estimated boat trips decreased by about 2 lakh units; (b) Bagnet landings have nearly doubled as the units estimated for the year with a 20% increase in unit operations; (c) In case of OB Ring

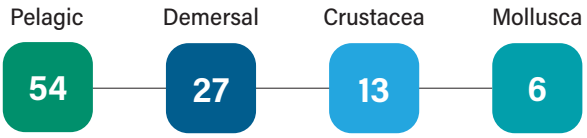
Sector-wise landings







Assemblage (%)



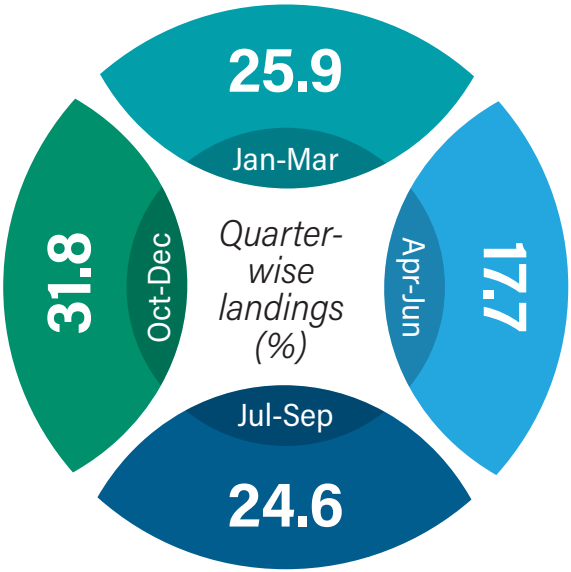
impacted by fishing regulations and the southwest monsoon, contributed the least, though slightly more than the previous year. A diverse array of 1147 taxa were landed, showcasing the rich biodiversity of India's marine ecosystems.

This chronicle of India's marine harvest is a testament to the nation's commitment to sustainable fisheries management, a delicate dance between economic prosperity and ecological preservation. The data, meticulously collected and analysed, paints a vivid picture of the shifting tides, guiding policy decisions and ensuring the enduring health of these vital resources.

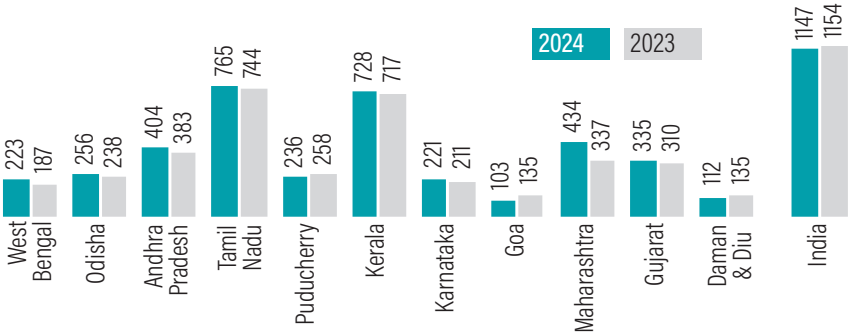
Seines the landings showed a jump of roughly 30,000 tonnes despite marginal decline in units estimated.

The overall catch rate estimates for 2024 indicate that mechanized fishing crafts recorded 2,959 kg/trip, motorized fishing crafts reported 174 kg/trip, and non-motorized fishing vessels registered 41 kg/trip.

Seasonally, the fourth quarter contributed 31.8% of the annual landings, followed by the first and third quarters. The second quarter,

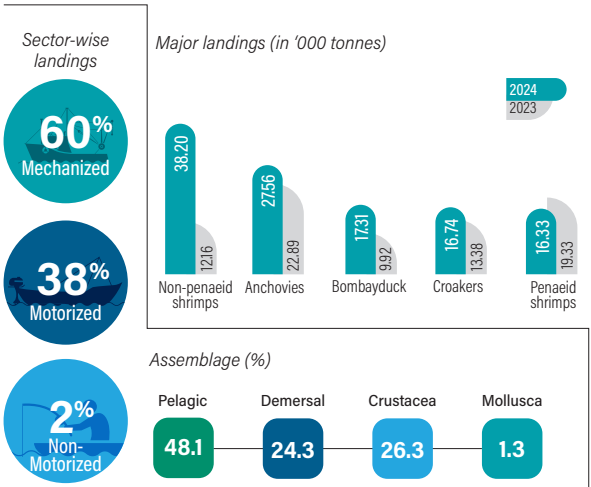


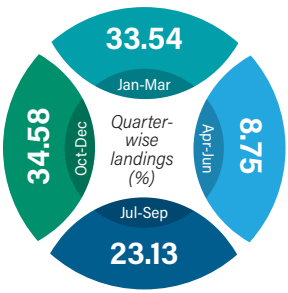
Species count across Indian maritime states



West Bengal Estimated Landings: 2.33 lakh tonnes

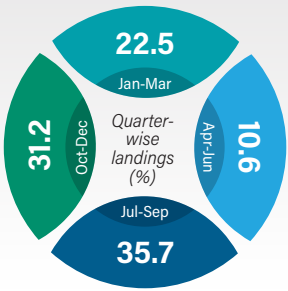
- A significant increase of 35% was recorded in the marine fish landings compared to 2023.
- Non-penaeid shrimps (*Acetes* spp.) landings in the state reached a record high, nearly tripling the previous year's total. About 85% of this landing occurred in the last quarter (Oct-Dec) and was caught by motorized bagnet operations.
- State experienced the impact of two cyclones during the year but fishery was not much affected as the first cyclone *Remal* occurred during the fishing ban period of May. The second cyclone *Dana* occurred in October which caused the loss of some fishing days.
- While South 24 Parganas district accounted for the majority of total landings (61%), motorized crafts in Purba Medinipur district landed the bulk of *Acetes* during the last quarter, primarily at medium and minor landing centres.

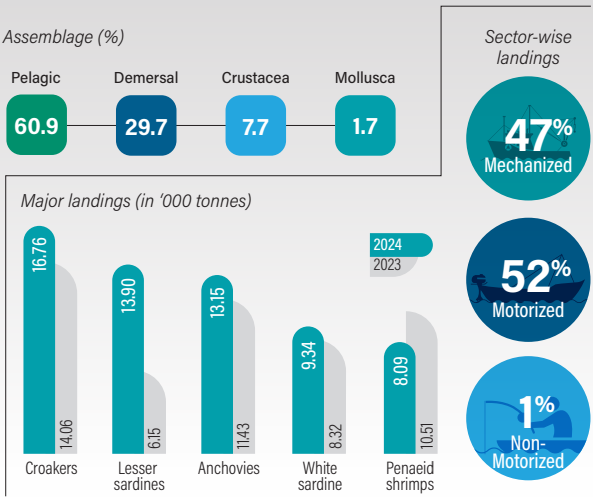




Odisha Estimated Landings: 1.54 lakh tonnes

- Odisha's marine fish landings reached 1.54 lakh tonnes in 2024, an 18% increase from 1.3 lakh tonnes in 2023.
- Croakers, Lesser sardines, Anchovies and White sardines, the top four marine fish resources in Odisha, showed an increase in landings compared to 2023, accounting for 26% of the total landings in the state. Croaker landings made up 9% of the total landings.
- Lesser sardine landings experienced the most significant change among the top five resources, with a sharp increase of 7,753 tonnes. This surge is primarily attributed to higher catches using outboard ring seine and gillnet in the districts of Puri and Ganjam. Conversely, Penaeid shrimp landings declined by 23%, totalling 8,093 tonnes.

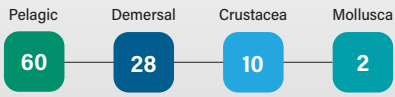




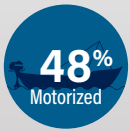
Andhra Pradesh Estimated Landings: 1.75 lakh tonnes

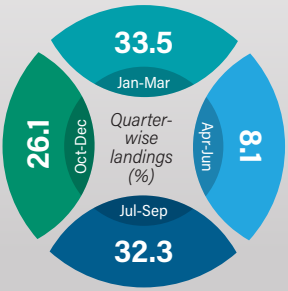
- In 2024, Andhra Pradesh reported marine fish landings of 1.75 lakh tonnes, marking an 8% decline from 2023 and a 19% drop compared to 2022.
- In 2024, Indian mackerel was the most landed species at 0.32 lakh tonnes, a 76% increase and the highest recorded in the past decade, while Lesser sardines rose 3%, recovering from a 72% drop in 2023.
- Kakinada district led with 40% of the total landings, followed by Visakhapatnam with a 22% share.
- The Juvvaladinne fishing harbour in Nellore district became operational in June 2024, contributing 3% of the state's major fishing harbour landings.
- The state experienced more heatwave days in 2024, along with frequent cyclones, including *Dana* in October and *Fengal* in November, which contributed to a decline in the fourth-quarter landings.

Assemblage (%)

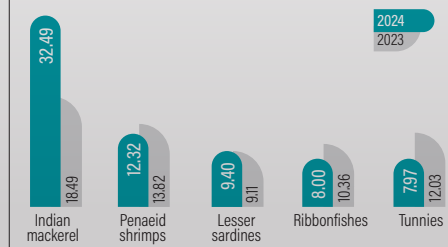


Sector-wise landings





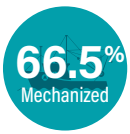
Major landings (in '000 tonnes)

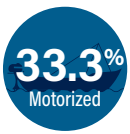


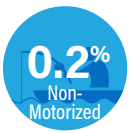
Tamil Nadu Estimated Landings: 6.79 lakh tonnes

- In 2024, the state harvested 6.79 lakh tonnes, a 20% increase from 2023, ranking second among maritime states, driven by a 29% rise in multi-day trawl net catches.
- Fourth quarter saw a nearly 15% decline in landings compared to 2023, primarily due to the impact of cyclone *Fengal* and its aftermath in November and December.
- Lesser sardines remained the most abundant landings with a 27% increase to 0.77 lakh tonnes, while *Odonus niger* entered the top five with a 2% rise in landings.
- Madras Fisheries Harbour recorded its highest-ever catch in 2024, contributing 13% of total fish landings.
- The number of unit operations by outboard crafts increased by nearly 2 lakhs, with outboard crafts using ring seines witnessing an almost twofold increase in catch.

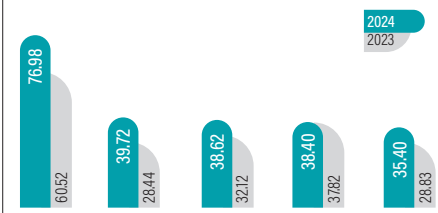
Sector-wise landings



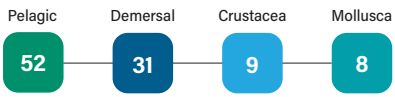


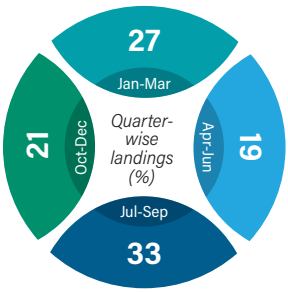


Major landings (in '000 tonnes)



Assemblage (%)

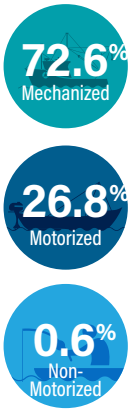




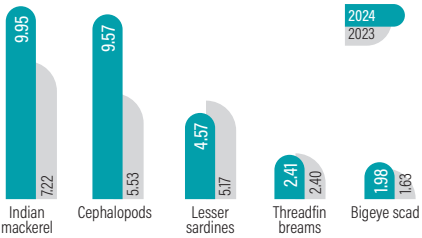
Puducherry Estimated Landings: 0.53 lakh tonnes

- Puducherry's marine fish landings increased by 4% in 2024, reaching 0.53 lakh tonnes compared to 2023, driven primarily by a 62% increase from multi-day trawl net catch.
- Fourth quarter saw a significant decline in catch due to the landfall of cyclone *Fengal* in Puducherry, though this was effectively offset by higher landings in the third quarter.
- Indian mackerel emerged as the most landed species in Puducherry in 2024, marking a decade-high record with a 38% increase from 2023.
- Cephalopod landings surged by 73%, showing remarkable growth compared to the previous year.
- Multi-day trawl nets contributed the largest share (40%), followed by motorized gillnets (25%).
- Pondicherry Fisheries Harbour accounted for 42% of the total catch, making it the leading contributor.

Sector-wise landings



Major landings (in '000 tonnes)



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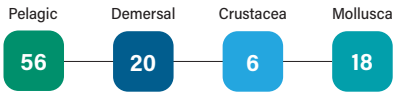
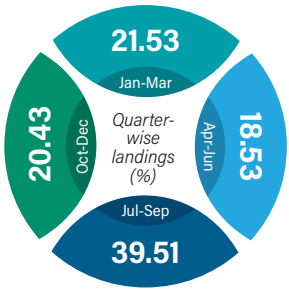


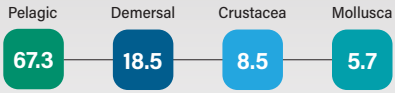
Quarter-wise landings (%)



Kerala Estimated Landings: 6.10 lakh tonnes

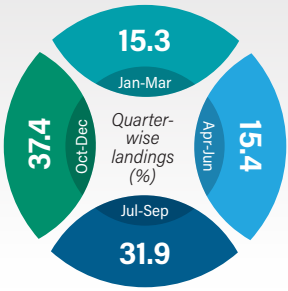
- A minor decrease of 4% was recorded in the total landings of Kerala when compared to the previous year.
- The first half of the year witnessed very low landings with a total of less than 2 lakh tonnes during when Oil sardine were scarce which drove its price up to Rs. 350-400 per kg.
- From September onwards, Oil sardine landings surged, exceeding one lakh tonnes in the last quarter (Oct-Dec), causing prices to drop to Rs. 20-30 per kg.
- Compared to 2023, southern districts (Thiruvananthapuram to Ernakulam) saw a decline in landings, northern districts (Malappuram to Kasaragod) had an increase, and Thrissur district's landings remined about the same.

Assemblage (%)

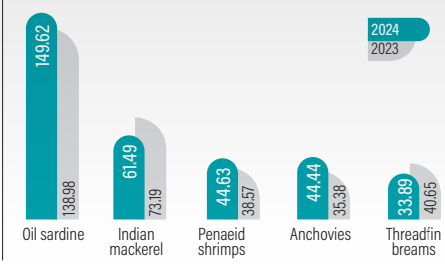


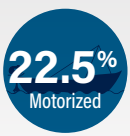
Sector-wise landings

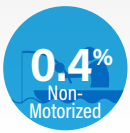
Quarter-wise landings (%)



Major landings (in '000 tonnes)



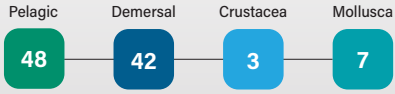




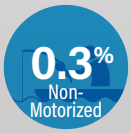
Karnataka Estimated Landings: 4.00 lakh tonnes

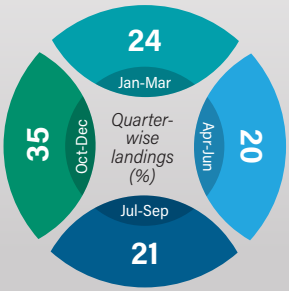
- The total marine fish landings from Karnataka during 2024 was estimated to be 4.0 lakh tonnes, which was a substantial, 34% lower than that of 2023.
- A considerable reduction of fishing days was reported during June, July and August due to heavy rain and unfavourable weather conditions.
- While the landings of Ribbonfishes, Indian mackerel, Threadfin breams and Oil sardine showed a decrease of 65.1%, 50.3%, 45.4% and 45.1% respectively, Tuna landings increased by 49%.
- A significant portion of the total landings was from the major harbours *viz*, Mangalore (48%) and Malpe (35%).
- Dakshina Kannada district contributed 49% of total landings, followed by Udupi (39%), and Uttara Kannada (12%).

Assemblage (%)

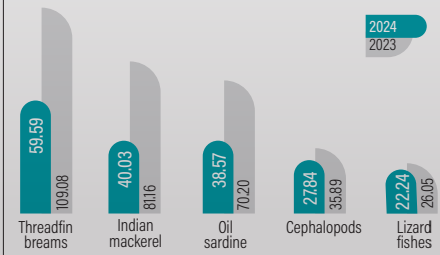


Sector-wise landings





Major landings (in '000 tonnes)

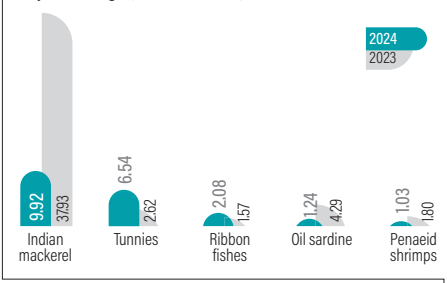


Goa Estimated Landings: 0.31 lakh tonnes

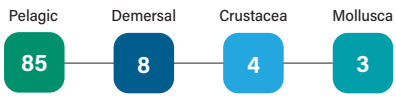
- The marine fish landings from Goa showed a drop of 50% as 2024 passed, when compared with 2023.
- The landings of Indian mackerel and Oil sardine saw a decline of approximately 70% each, whereas Tuna landings witnessed a twofold increase.
- Compared to 2023, there was a 35% decline in mechanized trawling operations.
- 49% decrease in landings was observed in the purse seine sector, with an 81% reduction in catch per hour.
- Landings in the third quarter experienced a substantial drop of 87% compared to the previous year.
- Around 25 fishing calendar days were lost during August and September due to heavy rain and weather warnings.

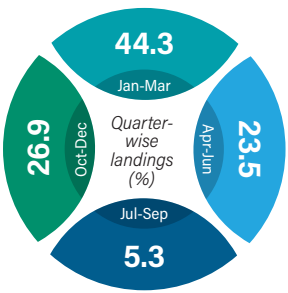
Sector-wise landings

Major landings (in '000 tonnes)



Assemblage (%)



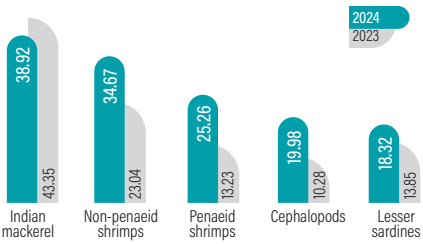


Maharashtra Estimated Landings: 3.11 lakh tonnes

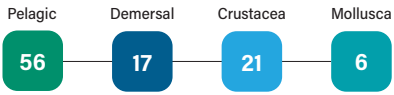
- Maharashtra recorded 3.11 lakh tonnes of landings in 2024, marking a 47% increase compared to 2023.
- Indian mackerel was the most landed resource in the state, though its landings decreased by 10% compared to 2023.
- The landings of shrimps and cephalopods in 2024 witnessed a twofold increase.
- In 2024, the major landings came from mechanized purse seine (32%), multi-day trawl net (29%), and mechanized dol net (19%).
- Mumbai City district accounted for 33% of the landings, which accommodates two major harbours, while Ratnagiri district contributed 25%.
- Among the major harbours in Maharashtra, Sassoon Dock New (16%) recorded the highest landings in 2024.

Sector-wise landings

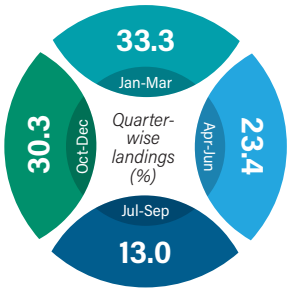
Major landings (in '000 tonnes)



Assemblage (%)



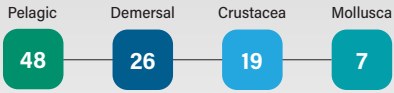
Quarter-wise landings (%)



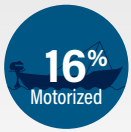
Gujarat Estimated Landings: 7.54 lakh tonnes

- In 2024, Gujarat's landings was estimated at 7.54 lakh tonnes, an 8% decrease, but it remained India's top maritime state by landings.
- Cyclone *Asna* brought severe weather in late August and early September, significantly disrupted fishing, damaged boats and caused loss of many fishing days.
- Ribbonfishes was the most landed resource in 2024, registering a 7% increase, with its landings in Gujarat being the highest in the past ten years.
- Non-penaeid shrimp landings saw a notable 37% decline compared to 2023, likely due to reduced fishing effort and catch rates in dolnets, thereby contributing to a 31% decrease in crustacea landings from the previous year.
- Majority of landings came from Gir Somnath (43%), followed by Porbandar (17%) and Junagadh (13%) districts.

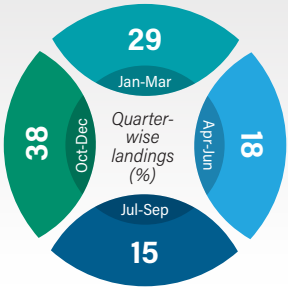
Assemblage (%)



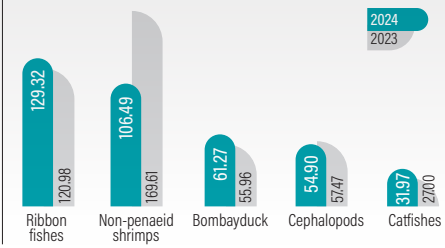
Sector-wise landings



Quarter-wise landings (%)

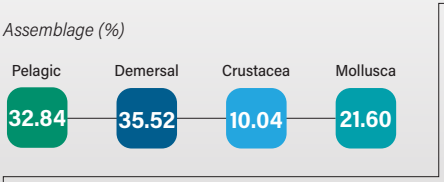


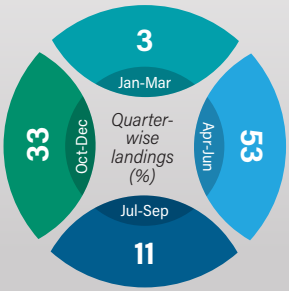
Major landings (in '000 tonnes)

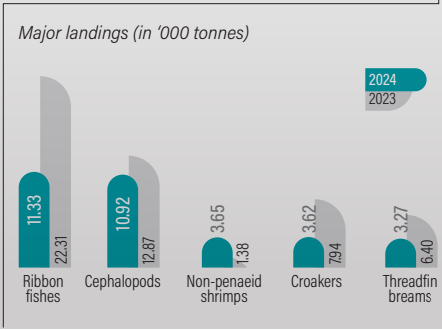


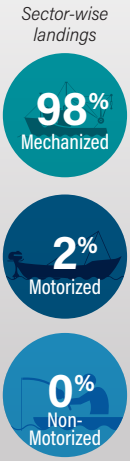
Daman & Diu Estimated Landings: 0.51 lakh tonnes

- Marine fish landings in Daman and Diu declined by 44% in 2024, reaching 0.51 lakh tonnes, primarily due to a significant reduction in unit operations of multi-day trawl nets and mechanized gillnets.
- The mechanized sector experienced a 45% decline, while the motorized sector saw a threefold increase.
- Cyclone *Asna* brought severe weather in late August and early September, resulting in the loss of many fishing days.
- Ribbonfish landings dropped by 49% but remained the top resource in 2024, while Non-penaeid shrimps saw a nearly threefold increase, reaching their highest landings in a decade.



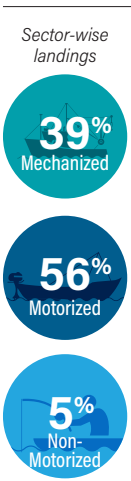


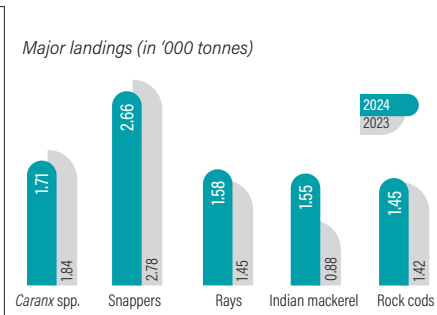


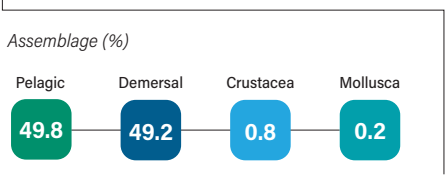


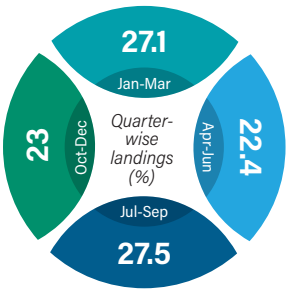
Andaman & Nicobar Islands Estimated Landings: 0.17 lakh tonnes

- The marine fish landings of Andaman and Nicobar Islands was estimated at 16,990 tonnes, with a decline of 8%, compared to 2023.
- There was a decline in landings of mechanized vessels operating drift gill net and hooks & lines and other combination gears.
- Cyclones *Remal* in May and *Dana* in October have adversely affected the fishery.
- 77.7% of landings was from the Junglighat landing centre.
- South Andaman district contributed about 85% of the total landings.
- Around twofold increase in the landings of Indian mackerel was observed.

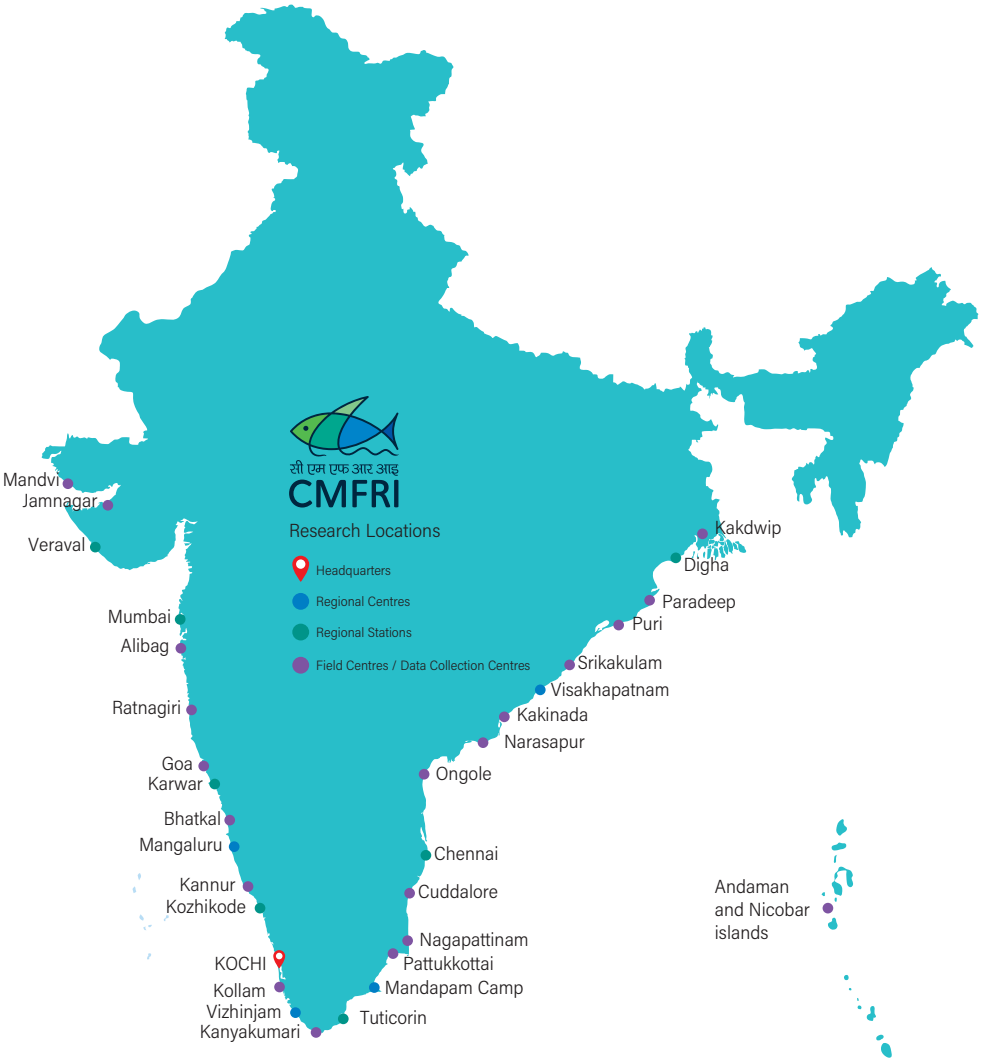








Data Collection Centres of ICAR-CMFRI



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