

**AGRICULTURE, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRY DEVELOPMENT AND FISHERIES
DEPARTMENT**

Mantralaya, Madam Cama Marg, Hutatma Rajguru Chowk,
Mumbai 400 032, dated the 2nd November, 2023.

Order

MAHARASHTRA MARINE FISHING REGULATION ACT, 1981.

No. MATSYAVI-1118/C.R.266/ADF-14.—Whereas, the Government of Maharashtra has decided to protect the interest of different sections of persons engaged in fishing particularly traditional fishing and to conserve the fish stock by adopting best management practices on a Sustainable fishing such as regulating the size of the catch, avoiding the catch of small fishes and juveniles ;

And Whereas, it is necessary to apply a precautionary approach to restrict juvenile fishing, so as to avoid catching huge quantities of immature fishes, as most of the fishes are caught before reaching the minimum size of maturity and not even having the opportunity to reproduce one during their lifetime thereby affecting the next year's production of the fishery ;

And Whereas, due to fishing of juvenile or fish seed it will hamper the reproductive cycle of fishes and ultimately affecting the marine fish resources, which may become difficult to maintain sustainable fish stocks in the territorial water in future ;

And Whereas, Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI), Mumbai Center has recommended for the Minimum Legal Size (MLS) of fifty eight (58) commercially important species which are caught while fishing in the territorial waters of the State of Maharashtra ;

And Whereas, State Advisory and Monitoring Committee has recommended that the Minimum Legal Size (MLS) of fifty four (54) commercially important species of fishes to be caught by any fishing vessel and any fishing gear in the territorial waters of the State of Maharashtra.

Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 4 of the Maharashtra Marine Fishing Regulation Act, 1981 (Mah. LIV of 1981), the Government of Maharashtra hereby regulate that the Minimum Legal Size (MLS) of fifty four (54) commercially important species of fishes shall be caught by any fishing vessel and any fishing gear in the territorial waters of the State of Maharashtra as per specifications mentioned in SCHEDULE-A, appended to the order.

Schedule-A

Minimum Legal Size for commercially important species of fishes to be caught within the territorial waters of the State Maharashtra.

Sl.	Group	Species	English common name	Local name (Marathi)	MLS (mm)		Decision logic
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)		(7)
1	Squids	Uroteuthis (Photololigo) duvaucelii	Indian squid	नल म्हाकुल	100	DML	MSM
2		Uroteuthis (Photololigo) singhalensis	Long barrel squid	नल म्हाकुल	100	DML	MSM
3	Cuttlefish	Sepia Pharaonis	Pharaoh cuttle fish	म्हाकुल	100	DML	MSM
4	Octopus	Amphioctopus neglectus	Ocellate octopus	शेरा म्हाकुल	50	DML	MSM
5		Cistopus indicus	Old women octopus	शेरा म्हाकुल	85	DML	MSM
6	Crustaceans	Parapenaeopsis stylifera	Kiddi prawn	टाईनी	70	TL	MSM
7		Metapenaeus monoceros	Speckled prawn	कापशी	110	TL	SFM
8		Metapenaeus affinis	Jinga prawn	कोळंबी	90	TL	MSM
9		Metapenaeus dobsoni	Flower tail prawn	कोळंबी	60	TL	MSM
10		Solenocera choprai	Coastal mud prawn	गाँयनर	65	TL	MSM
11		Solenocera crassicornis	Coastal mud prawn	गाँयनर	65	TL	MSM
12		Portunus pelagicus	Blue crab	खेकडा/चिंबोरे	90	CW	MSM
13		Portunus sanguinolentus	Spotted crab	खेकडा/चिंबोरे	70	CW	MSM
14		Thenus unimaculatus	Crucifix crab	खेकडा/चिंबोरे	50	CW	MSM
15		Panulirus ornatus	Sand lobster	फटफटी	150	g	WFM
16	Panulirus polyphagus	Ornate spiny lobster	शेवंड	500	g	WFM	
17	Panulirus Polyphagus	Mud spiny lobster	शेवंड	300	g	WFM	
18	Panulirus homarus*	Mud spiny lobster	शेवंड	200	g	WFM	

Sl. (1)	Group (2)	Species (3)	English common name (4)	Local name (Marathi) (5)	MLS (mm) (6)		Decision logic (7)
19	Elasmobranchs	<i>Scoliodon laticaudus</i>	Scalloped spiny lobster	मुशी	375	TL	MSM
20		<i>Rhizoprionodon oligolinx</i>	Grey sharpnose shark	मुशी	530	TL	MSM
21		<i>Gymnura poecilura</i>	Longtailed butterfly ray	पाकट	500	DW	MSM
22	Teleosts	<i>Megalaspis cordyla</i>	Torpedo scad	काट बांगडा	260	TL	MSM
23		<i>Decapterus resselli</i>	Indian scad	तेल बांगडा	110	TL	MSM
24		<i>Parastromateus niger</i>	Black pomfret	हलवा	170	TL	MSM
25		<i>Scomberoides tala</i>	Barred queen fish	फलाई	300	TL	MSM
26		<i>Scomberoides commersonianus</i>	Queen fish	दागोळ	315	TL	MSM
27		<i>Sardinella longiceps</i>	Oil sardine	तारली	100	TL	SSD
28		<i>Coilia dussumieri</i>	Gold spotted Anchovy	मांदेली	115	TL	MSM
29		<i>Rastrelliger kanagurta</i>	Mackerel	बांगडा	140	TL	MSM
30		<i>Scomberomorus commerson</i>	Narrowbarred Spanish Mackerel	तूवर	500	FL	MSM
31		<i>Scomberomorus gutatus</i>	Spotted seer	सुरमई	370	FL	SFM/ Lm50
32		<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>	Little tunny	तेल्या कुपा	380	TL	SMS
33		<i>Auxis thazard</i>	Frigate tuna	कुपा/गेडर	250	FL	MSM
34		<i>Thunnus tonggol</i>	Longtail tuna	खवळया कुपा/गेडर	480	TL	MSM
35		<i>Thunnus albacares</i>	Yellowfin tuna	कुपा/गेडर	500	FL	MSM
36		<i>Rachycentron canadum</i>	Cobia	सकाळा/ मोडूसा	610	FL	SFM/ Lm50
37		<i>Sphyrnaena putnamae</i>	Sawtooth Barracuda	टोक/बद्री	275	FL	MSM
38	<i>Coryphaena hippurus</i>	Dolphin fish	पोपट/ हॅबनस	550	TL	MSM	
39	<i>Trichiurus lepturus</i>	Ribbon fish	बाला	450	TL	MSM	
40	<i>Nemipterus japnicus</i>	Threadfin bream	राणी/चिचरी	125	TL	MSM	

Sl.	Group	Species	English common name	Local name (Marathi)	MLS (mm)		Decision logic
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)		(7)
41		Nemipterus randalli	Threadfin bream	राणी/चिचरी	100	TL	MSM
42		Lactarius lactarius	False trevally	सौंदाडा	100	TL	MSM
43		Pampus argenteus	Silver pomfret	पापलेट	135	TL	MSM
44		Pampus chinensis	Chinese pomfret	पापलेट	140	TL	MSM
45		Epinephelus diacanthus	Spinycheek grouper	हेकरू	180	SL	MSM
46		Saurida tumbil	Lizard Fish	चोर बोंबील	170	SL	MSM
47		Saurida undosquamis	Lizard Fish	चोर बोंबील	120	TL	MSM
48		Harpadon nehereus	Bombay duck	बोंबील	180	TL	MSM
49		Otolithes cuvieri	Tiger toothed croaker	ढोमा	160	TL	MSM
50		Otoithes ruber	Tiger toothed croaker	ढोमा	180	TL	MSM
51		Protonibea diacanthus	Black spotted croaker	घोळ	700	TL	MSM
52		Cynoglossus arel	Largescale tongue sole	लेपा	150	TL	MSM
53		Plicofollis tenuispinis	Thinspine Sea Catfish	शिगाळा	290	TL	MSM
54		Osteogeneiosus militaris	Soldier Catfish	शिगाळा	250	TL	MSM

Abbreciations :

TL- Total Length ; **FL-** Fork Length ; **SL-** Standard Length ; **CW-** Carapace Width ; **DML-** Dorsal Mantle Length in case of Cephalopods ; **DW-** Disc Width ; **Lm50-** Length at which 50% of the fishes are mature ; **SSD-** Size at Sex Differentiation ; **MSM-** Minimum Size at Maturity or Size of the smallest mature fish ; **WFM-** Weight at first maturity or the wight of the animal where 50% of the fishes are mature ;

*- Notified as legally permitted weight for export by Marine products Export Development Authority, GOI.

By order and in the name of the Governor of Maharashtra,

K. M. JAKATE,
Deputy Secretary to Government.