

-  Risk of losing a valuable food source
-  Depletion of fish stock leads ultimately to unemployment and poverty
-  Scientists agree that at current exploitation rates, many important fish stocks will be removed from the sea within 25 years

### What we can do?

-  Reduce the number of boats in a particular area or no more license has to be given for new fishing vessels
-  Avoid catching juveniles, by-catch and /or discards by using fishing nets with permissible mesh sizes
-  Avoid all unsustainable and unscientific fishing methods
- Use Bycatch Reduction Devices (BRD), Turtle Excluder Devices (TED) and other escapement devices in fishing nets
-  Strictly observe fishing holidays/ seasonal fishing ban
-  Fishermen should come themselves forward to adopt sustainable fishing practices for protecting their future and sea

Sea is our mother and she provides livelihood for millions. But what we have done back? Killing all her children and destroying our own future. Let us take an oath that we never destroy sea by overfishing.



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# OVERFISHING

Stop Overfishing  
for Ever-fishing



## What is overfishing?

Overfishing is the unsustainable and irresponsible use of ocean's resources, which means catching too many fish thereby preventing fish populations from recovering and fishes get fewer and fewer, until there is

nothing to catch. All organisms in the sea are linked by chains and destroying even one link of that chain can breakdown the entire ecosystem.

## What causes over fishing?

- 🐠 Over capacity of fishing vessels ie. The number of fishing boats is two to three times more than what sea can sustainably support
- 🐠 Advanced technology in fishing vessels enable them to stay longer time in the sea and travel far from land and catch more fish
- 🐠 Following nonselective fishing practices which cause tremendous destruction of non-target species. By-catch, discards and destruction by bottom trawling are examples of this.
- 🐠 Use of very small meshed fishing nets, nonscientific and unsustainable fishing practices like bottom trawling, purse seining, blast fishing, poisonous fishing, juvenile fishing etc.
- 🐠 Increase in consumer demand ie. with increase in human population the demand for fish is also increasing

## Why is it dangerous?

- 🐠 We loss species as well as entire ecosystems and the overall ecological unity of our oceans will be under stress and at a risk of collapse

