



**Government of Karnataka
Fisheries Department**

Office of the Joint Director of Fisheries Udupi, Maple- 576108

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To

Mr. Udaya Kumar Salian
Lead – Small Pelagic Purse Seine Fisheries
Karnataka State FIP

Subject: Response to Request for Information on Monitoring, Control and Surveillance of
IUU Fishing Activities

Dear Mr. Uday Kumar Salian,

With reference to your letter dated 29-08-2025 regarding information on Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) of Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing activities, please find below the details for your kind perusal:

1. Formation of Task Force for Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance (MCS)

Recognizing the critical threat posed by IUU fishing to marine ecosystems and coastal livelihoods, a dedicated **Task Force** has been constituted to strengthen MCS efforts in Karnataka.

Objectives of the Task Force include:

- Establishing a coordinated framework for real-time surveillance and enforcement.
- Preventing, detecting, and acting against IUU fishing incidents.
- Enhancing compliance with state and national fisheries management obligations.
- Conducting regular inspections and monitoring activities both at harbour and at sea.

Composition of the Task Force: Details of members are attached for reference.

2. Monitoring and Surveillance Strategy

a) Harbour-Based Surveillance

- Monitoring vessel movements and landing procedures at fishing harbours and landing centres.
- Verification of licenses, vessel registrations, and fishing gear.
- Routine inspection of landed catch for compliance with fisheries regulations.

b) Sea-Based Surveillance

- Deployment of patrol boats (with the help of fishermen's) for at-sea inspections.
- Real-time vessel tracking using transponders and radio communications.
- Boarding and inspection of vessels suspected of non-compliance.

3. Enforcement Actions Taken

As part of intensified surveillance measures:

- Multiple vessels have been inspected both at harbour and at sea.
- Violations recorded included:
 - Operating without valid licenses,
 - Use of banned fishing gear and methods.
- Penalties were imposed in line with applicable fisheries laws.

A list of penalized vessels and fine amounts is attached for your review.

4. Current Status of Transponder Installation

To enhance real-time vessel monitoring, **a total of 1,735 fishing vessels have been equipped with transponders featuring a two-way communication system.** This system facilitates continuous tracking and enables direct communication between fishing vessels and monitoring authorities.

The remaining installations are under progress in coordination with vessel owners and relevant agencies.

5. Coordination and Reporting Mechanism

- A central coordination cell oversees inspections and maintains enforcement records.

- Standardized procedures are followed for issuing penalties to ensure due process and transparency.

6. Expected Outcomes

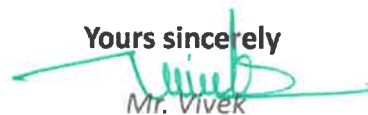
- Strengthened deterrence against IUU fishing activities.
- Improved inter-agency coordination and enforcement capacity.
- Greater compliance from the fishing sector.
- Contribution to the long-term sustainability of fisheries and marine resources.

Conclusion

The Task Force is fully functional and continues to enforce strict measures through both harbour-based and sea-based surveillance. The successful installation of transponders on 1,735 vessels with two-way communication represents a significant step towards effective monitoring, compliance, and sustainable fisheries management.

We trust this information will assist you in your ongoing initiatives under the Karnataka State FIP.

Yours sincerely



Mr. Vivek

Joint Director of Fisheries
Malpe Fishing Harbour, Udupi, Karnataka