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## Message from the Chairman

It gives me immense pleasure to see the maiden publication of 'BIMRAD Journal' by Bangladesh Institute of Maritime Research and Development (BIMRAD) on Maritime issues. I would like to express my sincere thanks to the proficient national and international maritime scholars for their article in the maiden BIMRAD Journal. I hope that BIMRAD Journal will open a new maritime forum for open discussion and knowledge sharing with the like-minded researchers.

The ocean covers 71% of the Earth's surface, produces oxygen, regulates climate, transfers heat and offers trade, energy, food, medicine, leisure and many more. Our Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman with his prudent vision realized the vast potentials of sea resources and set the stage for further works through the adaptation of Maritime Zones Act 1974. The peaceful maritime boundary delimitation with our neighbouring countries under the dynamic leadership of his well- deserved successor, Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, offers vast untapped resources for further exploration. This creates an extensive demand for further research on sustainable exploration and exploitation of maritime resources and development of new technology. I am confident that the publication of 'BIMRAD Journal' will fill the void in the field of maritime research.

I am hopeful that BIMRAD Journal will make significant contributions for the development of maritime sectors of Bangladesh and beyond. The maritime researchers, scholars, analysts and policy makers will be benefitted through this annual peer reviewed Journal.

I am confident that BIMRAD will soon flourish as a well reputed and internationally recognised maritime research centre. I wish the magnificent success of BIMRAD Journal and its continuous publication with the research articles written by thoughtful maritime scholars.

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