

# Editorial

## Save the Ocean, Save the Planet

Oceans are the lifeblood of planet earth and humankind, covering 71% of the earth's surface and hold 97% of the planet's water. The oceans generate 50% of the oxygen we breathe and absorb as much as 40% of CO<sub>2</sub> produced by humans, buffering the impact of global warming. It transfer heat, regulates climate and weather patterns and provides food, minerals, energy, medicine, recreation, carries 90% of internationally traded goods and many more. No matter how far from the shore that we live, oceans still affect our lives. As the nation's first maritime research institute, BIMRAD took this arduous effort to act as a common maritime platform, integrate & organize all maritime intellectuals, researchers, stakeholders to discourse for optimum utilization of maritime resources and support the Blue Economy policy of the government.

In 2008, the United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution officially recognizing 8 June to be "World Oceans Day". This year, the UN designated theme for World Oceans Day is "Gender and the Ocean", an opportunity to explore the gender dimension of humankind's relationship with the ocean. The annual conservation focus of this significant day is 'Together we can protect and restore our ocean'. The Day is an opportunity to raise global awareness against the pollution, degradations of biodiversity, ecology, climate change adaptation and the challenges faced by the international community in connection with the oceans. This auspicious day also inspired us to raise awareness against ocean pollution. Hence, we have presented our lead article focusing on the conservation of ocean biodiversity and ecosystem.

China's 'Belt and Road Initiative' is a much discussed topic of the researchers and intellectuals. The initiative is likely to connect Asia, Europe and Africa which is expected to have enormous economic and social impacts; the article 'Understanding China's Belt and Road Initiative' discussed the matter in detail.

As a maritime nation, we need to explore and grab the job opportunities in the maritime field towards the sustainable development of the country. In this connection an article has been presented on the specific issue.

Bangladesh is a leading ship scraping nation in the world which is contributing for the socio economic development of the country. We need to take appropriate measures to improve the livelihood of the concerned labor and reduce the impacts on the biodiversity and ecosystem of the coastal area; an article has been included on that specific topic.

Apart from the articles; an exclusive interview discussed widely in different maritime issues has also been presented.

We have also accumulated all the important news, events happened over the past quarter, BIMRAD Feats and maritime interesting facts are showcased in the publication to keep the readers informed.

From this edition we have also included 'Bangla Version' with an aim to circulate 'PAAL' among the wide range of readers.

We welcome you to share your thoughts and ideas with us to make this effort worthy. We always value your feedback.

Thanking you  
Board of Editorial