

Editorial

Marine Pollution: A Menace to the Ocean We Want

Life on earth, as we know it, started in the oceans. 76% of Planet Earth's surface is water, and the survival of humanity depends upon it. However, the ocean we want for a healthy planet is now in peril. One of the most significant environmental issues threatening our planet today is Marine Pollution. With the increasing number of industries, and the careless disposal of waste into the ocean, our marine ecosystem is facing a severe threat. Marine pollution is not only hazardous to marine life, but it also has a severe impact on human health. Marine pollution causes the accumulation of toxic substances in the fish we eat, resulting in severe health problems, including neurological damage and cancer.

Marine pollution can be attributed to a wide range of human activities, with industrial waste dumping, plastic waste disposal, and oil spills, among many others. The impacts of marine pollution are far-reaching, including the destruction of marine habitats and the death of millions of marine species. It is long overdue that we act to protect our oceans and marine life before it is too late. To combat marine pollution, we need a collective effort from every individual, corporation, and government to work together and find sustainable solutions. We must reduce the number of single-use plastics we use and recycle as much waste as possible. Industries should adopt environmentally-friendly methods of production, and governments should impose strict laws and regulations to ensure that corporations are held accountable for their waste disposal practices.

Marine conservation organizations and maritime institutes play a significant role in raising awareness about the issue and implementing measures to prevent further pollution of the ocean. The current issue of PAAL is also a small contribution in that direction. However, it is essential to note that each individual plays a part in reducing pollution. Simple and small actions on a person's behalf, such as proper disposal of trash, reduction of plastic use, and societal awareness, can have a significant impact. The problem of marine pollution is a significant concern that requires immediate attention from all of us. We must take responsibility for our actions and make conscious efforts to protect our oceans and marine life. The future of our planet depends on it, and we owe it to ourselves and future generations to preserve the beauty and diversity of our oceans.

In that regard, the theme of the present issue is titled "Marine Pollution: A Menace to the Ocean We Want." This issue has been designed to provide insightful articles on different sources and aspects of marine pollution. It has covered wide-ranging topics related to marine pollution's scientific and socio-political explanations. This issue contains various articles related to marine pollution due to contamination of micro-plastics and heavy metals, land and tourism-based pollution, noise pollution, pollution from shipping and oil spillage, legal aspects of marine pollution, etc. This edition is enriched with a special article on feature news related to Bay of Bengal security. The magazine also includes other exciting sections like BIMRAD Feats and Marine News. The coastal window on coastal lives and livelihood has been included as a regular awareness-building section for the readers.

We hope this issue of PAAL will respond to readers' calls for contemporary marine issues. It will likely attract all relevant maritime stakeholders and readers to build awareness with evidence-based information about marine pollution.

Thanking you
Editorial Board