

Our Ocean on Risk

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Our oceans are in a perilous condition. The effects of different types of pollutions affects the marine organisms (animals and Plants) and environment both by quantitatively and qualitatively but also hampers the commercial economy activities related to marine foods (e.g., fish). The pollution, especially the metals (either heavy or trace) poses a direct threat to marine life and ultimately the human health. The main sources of pollution entering in the oceans includes domestic and industrial waste; tanneries effluents; rainfall and associated pollutant from runoff; shipping and agricultural sources. The anthropogenic sources play a major role in increasing the concentration of metals in the oceans

The rapid industrialization and urbanization of any city/country has altered the quality of the environment and created ecological disturbances and associated problems for the local community. Many organisms liked bivalves, shrimps and seaweeds have high concentration of metals as compared to water. These organisms act as bio accumulators in sediments, estuarine, marine environment and in overlying water in fresh water. In view of this, continued monitoring of heavy metals should be undertaken to avoid reduction in the valuable export of bivalves and shrimps as well as the reduction of marine life in the coastal waters.

Immediate measures to control the indiscriminate discharge of effluent and domestic sewage directly or indirectly in to the sea need to be addressed. In addition, regular monitoring programs of marine pollution are essentially required and need to be well implemented. If this pollution persists, it can prove to be very detrimental in future.

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