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Research Paper

Impact of Blue Economy and Sustainable Development in India with correlation to SDG14: Life under water

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I. Introduction

Honorable Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi recently said " To me, the Blue Chakra or wheel in India'snational flag represents the potential of Blue Revolution or the Ocean Economy. That is how central the oceaneconomyistous."

Oceansaretheworld'ssingle largest ecosystem, covering nearly three-fourths of the earth's surface, therebyproviding a massive arena for emerging complex and interconnected development issues such as climate change,livelihoods, commerce, and security. According to estimates by the Global Ocean Commission, ocean resourcescontribute five percent of the world's GDP, secure the jobs of three billion people, and sustain the livelihoods of 350million.

Among the world's oceanic divisions, the Indian Ocean is the third largest, covering an area of more than 70 millionsq km that includes extensive Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ) of different countries and large "high seas". Theeconomic and sustainable development issues in the Indian Ocean rim are particularly challenging since the majorityof littorals are developing countries. These countries are home to one-third of the world's population that relyextensivelyonmarineresources for livelihood and food security. The sheer size of this population subjects theIndian Ocean's resources to pressures from pollution, habitat degradation, and over-exploitation. As the populationof the region is projected to increase significantly in the coming decades, its impact on food security and theeconomyfrommarine resources would become more substantial. Moreover, the region and its resources facemulti-dimensional challenges from climate change impacts such as sea-level rise, ocean acidification, and extremeweather events—the latter, in turn, leading to changes in the distribution of aquatic species, community structuresduetomigration,anddecreasedeconomicproductivity.

It is imperative, therefore, to increase cooperation towards conservation and sustainable use of the oceans, seas, andmarine resources as outlined in Goal 14 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). Serious efforts are needed toaddressthegrowingpressuresonoceanresources,toensureglobalfoodsecurityandsecurelivelihoodsforfuture generations. Theconcept of 'Blue Economy'—aimed at generating livelihoods and building resilience againstclimate change and its concomitant environmental challenges—inspires the use of seas and oceans for sustainabledevelopment and inclusive growth. In their Mauritius Declaration on Blue Economy of September 2015, the IndianOcean Rim Association (IORA) recognized the need for urgent action towards improved governance structures topreservetheocean'sresourcesforfuturegenerationsandsomustwe.

Research Statement

We aim to introspect the current architecture for Blue Economy and its potential in the Indian Ocean region,particularly in the context of fisheries, environmental protection, and climate change impacts. We then aim toanalyzeapreliminaryassessmentofdifferenttargetsunderSDG14thatIndiahastriedtoachieveandfinallyofferrecommendationsforfuturecoursesofaction.

BlueEconomyintheIndian Ocean

The Indian Ocean is projected to become a dominant global geopolitical and economic force in the 21st century.Indeed, the region's contribution to global GDP has significantly increased over the last century: from an average ofsix to seven percent in 1980to 10 percent or USD 78 trillion in 2014 (See Figure 1). However, based on GrossNational Income, onlythree IORcountries—i.e.,Australia, Singapore,and UnitedArab Emirates—feature among

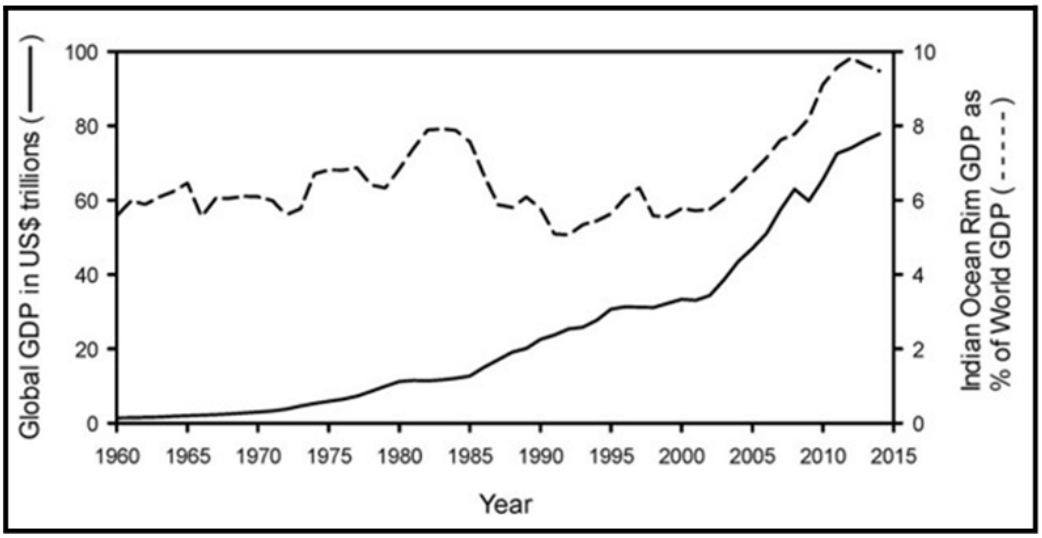


Figure1:GlobalGDP(US$)since1960andthepercentcontributionofIndianOceannations

the top 20 nations with the highest per capita gross national income. Owing to the limited land resource base, manyofthecoastalandislandIORCsaredependentonmarineresourcesforeconomicopportunities.Therefore,pursuingt hegoalsofablueeconomywouldbecriticaltotheregion'sprosperityanddevelopment.

BlueEconomyprospectsintheIndianOcean

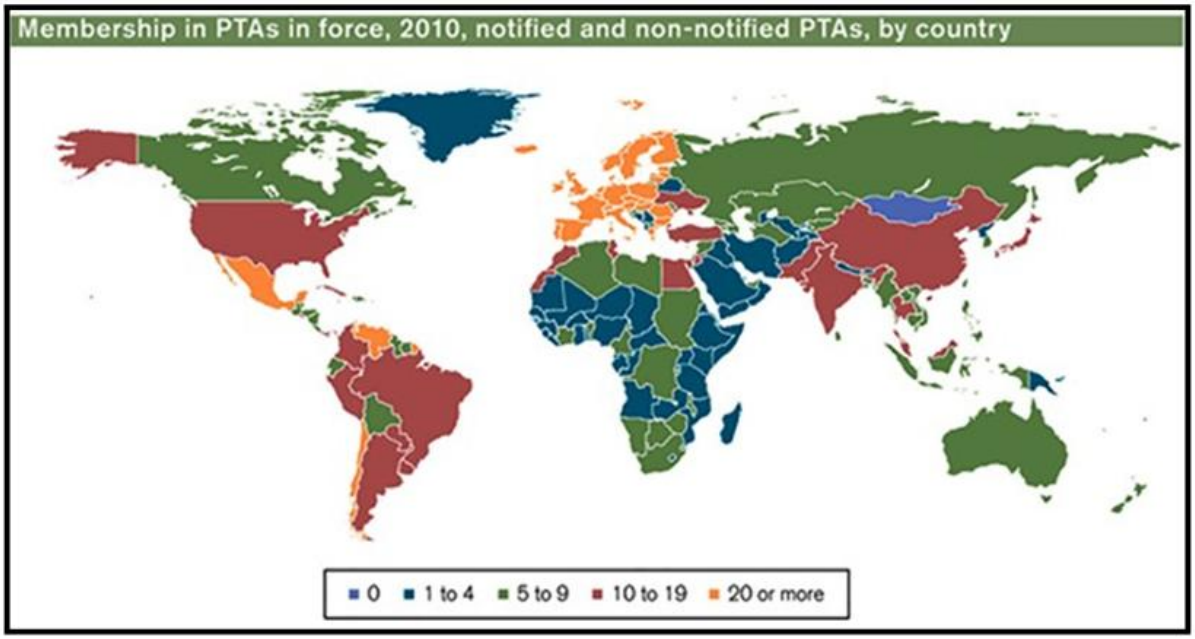
The idea of 'blue economy' was first articulated by Gunter Pauli in 2010 and later discussed at the United NationsConference on Sustainable Development, Rio + 20 in 2012. BE has since emerged as an influential concept in theIndian Ocean region and is a powerful and contested discourse among the member states of the leading regionalgovernance organization, the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA). Since its conceptualization, a number of IORAstateshavebeenstronglyadvocatingforincreasedcooperationandimprovedgovernanceofBE.Bangladesh,foron e, has been at the forefront of regional attempts to promote BE; in 2014 it became the first country to host a majorconferencefocusedonproposingaBayofBengalpartnership for Blue Economy. This was followed by anIORA-organised conference, 'Enhancing BE for Sustainable Development, in 2015. Such efforts led to an increasedfocus on sustainable development in the Indian Ocean region and the emergence of the IORA Declaration onEnhancing Blue Economy Cooperation for Sustainability. Subsequently, BE gained importance in India's strategicand development vision. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has stated it as a tool for India's development, emphasizingtheprotectionof sharedmarinespacesfor'SecurityandGrowthforAllintheRegion.'

It is becoming increasingly evident that the concept of BE—straddling principles of marine-led economic growth,protectionofthemarineenvironment,andenhancedmaritimesecurityinallnationalandregionalmanifestations —would have profound implications on regional foreign policy in the coming decades. Therefore, theconcept holds particular relevance to the Indian Ocean since the region is defined by "maritime regionalism", inpursuit of similar geopolitical goals. With nearly half the world's population projected to be residing in the IndianOceanRim(IOR)countriesby2050,theregionismakingageopoliticalshiftfromitsidentityasthe'Oceanofthe South' to the 'Ocean of the Centre', and further to the 'Ocean of the Future' as its core position in terms of globaltrade,industry,labor,environment,andsecurityislikelytoshapethe21st-centuryworld.

Table1: National Estimates of Blue Economy

Country	Size of Blue Economy			Indicative Employment	
	Year	Output (US$ Billion)	% of GDP	Year	No.
Australia	2004	17.00	3.6	-	-
Canada	2004	15.98	1.5	2006	1,71,365
France	2006	16.69	1.4	2009	4,59,358
New Zealand	2006	2.14	2.0	-	-
United Kingdom	2008	84.27	4.2	2006	5,48,674
United States	2009	138.0	1.2	2010	2,770,000
China	2010	239.09	4.0	2010	9,253,000
Ireland	2007	1.9	1.0	2007	17,000

The Indian Ocean region has been providing a unique ecosystem and connectivity routes to the resources forcenturies now. The growth of technology and capabilities has expanded the opportunities further. A sustained—and*sustainable*—growth of the blue economy in the Indian Ocean region would therefore require concerted efforts bygovernments, the private sector, and the broader community, including the scientific ones. In terms of domesticconsumptionandtrade, there has been a significant rise in the number of preferential trade agreements in the pasttwo decades (World Trade Organisation, 2011). Yet, the Indian Ocean countries lag behind the rest of the world,especially compared to the United States and Europe that have many more agreements in place (See Map). In theabsence of a non-regional approach to sustainable economic growth, recent improvements and efforts being pursuedbyIORcountriestowardsglobalintegrationandincreasedproductivitywouldbeundermined



Map1.Membershipinpreferentialtradeagreementsasof2010(reproducedwithpermissionWorldTradeOrganisation,2011).Source:Llewellyn,EnglishandBarnwell,2016

An increased policy focus of Indian Ocean littoral states towards BE would draw attention to the economic potentialof the shared marine resources and their capacity to contribute to larger development imperatives such as povertyreduction, food security, and enhanced economic opportunities. However, this realization should be accompanied byawarenesstoderiveeconomicdevelopmentfromthemarineresourceswhileensuringtheconservationandsustainable management of the marine ecosystem. In this context, increased political and economic attention tosustainable management of marine resources is imperative to foster better governance and security for its vastresources. Steinberg observed that the sea is now being understood as a "resource-rich but fragile space requiringrational management for sustainable development." It is critical, therefore, to explore existing law and policyframeworks,particularlyforfood security and sustainable management, to realize the gaps, and propose

solutionsforbettergovernanceintheregion.

PreliminaryAssessment ofsteps taken byIndia tomeet SDG14targets

a) Mangrove and Coral Reefs

Historically,Indiahashadastrategyformanagingmangroveforests.The scientific management of mangroveforestshasbeenstartedintheSundarbansmangroves,whichislocatedinthe Bay of Bengal; this is the firstscientific management of mangroves in the world. The government of India has given importance to developingspecial research and development activities on mangrove biodiversity. According to the forest survey of India, it hasbeen seen that as per the current assessment, the mangrove cover of the country is 4921 sq. km, which is 15% of thetotal geographical area of the country. Out of the total mangrove cover of India, 30.10% is under dense mangrovecover, 30.07% is under moderately dense mangrove forest and 39.89% is under open forest (FSI report 2017). Ascompared to the 2015 assessment, it has been seen that the net increase in the mangrove cover of the country is 181square km. It is also seen that the major reason for the increment of mangrove cover is plantation and regenerationand more than 80% of mangroves have been planted with the energetic participation of local communities under theICZMP(IntegratedCoastalZoneManagementproject).

India is running an initiative 'Mangroves for the Future' with IUCN and UNDP. Under this initiative, India hasidentified four major coral reefs for rigorous conservation and management. Further, India has 25 Marine ProtectedAreas in the peninsular region and 106 in islands, collectively covering approximately 10,000 square km of thecountry'sgeographicalareas. A marine protected area (MPA) is basically an area in the ocean where humanactivitiesarestrictlyregulatedcomparedtothesurroundingwaters.Theseareasarespecialintermsofprotectionsf ornaturalorhistoricmarineresourcesbythegovernmentauthorities.

b) Coastal and Marine Ecosystems Protection

Toprotectandconservethemarineandcoastalenvironment,theGovernmentof India has developed a lot ofnational and sub-national legislation. Regarding the use of oceans and their resources, the Government of India hasdone ratification with some of the international conventions including the United Nations Convention on the Law ofthe Sea. An online mechanism has been developed to predict the movement of oil spills; in 2015, an Oil SpillAdvisorySystemhasbeenlaunched.ThegovernmenthasalsodevelopedtheNationalOilSpillDisasterContingenc yPlan,2015,whichbasicallyrevealstheimportantnationalandinternationalregulationsrelatingto

marineandoceans.Regardingcontrollingmarinepollution, the government has established some monitoringstations along the coastline. Further, levels of marine pollution are being monitored by the government at variouslocations along the country's coastline through the Coastal Ocean Monitoring and Prediction System (COMAPS).India is also setting up a Marine Observation System along the coast to gain a better understanding of coastalprocessesandmonitorwaterquality.

Through COMAPS Programme, the Ministry of Earth Sciences, Government of India, has been monitoring themarine pollution level at about 80 locations along the entire coastline of the country. The prime objective of thisprogram is to do a long-term assessment and know the tendency of coastal and marine environmental quality. Nearly25 environmental parameters (including physical, chemical, biological, and microbiological characteristics of waterand sediment) are being collected with the help of research and development institutions in the 0–10 km sector oftheselocations.

c) All-Inclusive Islands and CoastalAreas Development

To ensure the holistic development of the island and coastal areas, in 2016, the Government of India has launched

aflagshipprogramnamed'Sagarmala'.Thebasicobjectiveofthisprogramistheenhancementoftheportconnectivity, modernization and establishment of a new port, coastal community development, and port-linkedindustrialization. The vision of Sagarmala is to decrease the logistics cost (domestic and EXIM cargo) throughoptimization of infrastructural investment. The Sagarmala program predicts that the overall cost savings will bearound INR 35,000–40,000 cr. per annum.11 The Sagarmala program will continue up to 2025. The sustainabledevelopment of coastal communities is one of the key pillars of this program. For better livelihood opportunities, theGovernment of India is promoting coastal tourism under the Sagarmala program. According to the SDG 19 report,out of four estimated parameters, it has been seen that three (1) Mean area that is protected in marine sites importantto biodiversity (%) 29.0; (2) Ocean Health Index Goal-Clean Waters (0–100) 22.7; and

(3) Fish caught by trawling(%) 10.2 are in stagnating stage and only one is in improving stage (i.e. Percentage of Fish Stocks overexploited orcollapsedbyEEZ(%)12.4)

ImportanceofSDG14andBlueEconomyonlivelihoodopportunitiesinIndia

OneofthemajorfalloutsoftheCovid19pandemichasbeenthelossoflivelihoodsanddepletingjobopportunities .Home to the world's second-largest workforce (World Bank 2020), India now faces the challenge of ensuringadequate livelihoods and jobs. Some of the major sectors that provide millions of jobs and hold prospects for moreare ocean-based sectors including fisheries, shipping, tourism, deep-sea mining, offshore energy resources, marineresearch, ocean conservation, and ocean sciences. Additionally, India's blue economy framework also provides the rightagendaforallstakeholderstoexploreopportunitiesandinvestinthesesectorsforlong-termgains.
Blue economy for India means a vast ocean of economic opportunities playing an equally important role ingenerating and sustaining livelihoods. With an over 7,500-km-long coastline spread across nine coastal states, fourunion territories (UTs) - including two island UTs, 12 major, and 200 minor ports, India's blue economy supports95%ofthecountry'sbusinessthroughtransportationandcontributesanestimated4%toitsGrossDomesticProduct(GDP). India is also the third-largest fish producing and second-largest aquaculture fish producing country in theworld (NFDB 2020a). Therefore, all the sectors across the blue economy have the potential to engage a largeworkforce and have been doing so for the past many decades at least in sectors such as fishing, aquaculture, fishprocessing, marine tourism, shipping, and port activities. Now, engagement in new sectors such as offshore wind,marinebiology,biotechnology,andotheractivitieslikeshipbuildingandshipbreakingisalsorisingextensively.

Among these, the fisheries sector alone provides livelihood to about 16 million fisherfolk and fish farmers at theprimary level and almost twice that number along the value chain. The government envisions this sector to haveimmense potential to more than double the fisherfolk and fish farmers' incomes. The shipping sector is also one ofthe key livelihood providers in the blue economy as India has one of the largest merchant shipping fleets among thedeveloping countries and ranks 17th in the world. The number of Indian seafarers who are employed on Indian andforeign flag vessels crossed over two lakh in 2018, showing an unprecedented increase of 35% over the previousyear.

State	Fishing Villages	Fishing Families	Fisherfolk Population
Andhra Pradesh	555 (16.2)	163,427 (18.7)	605,428 (14.9)
Gujarat	247 (7.2)	62,231 (7.1)	336,181 (8.3)
Tamil Nadu	573 (16.7)	192,697 (22.0)	802,912 (19.8)
Odisha	813 (23.7)	114,238 (13.1)	605,514 (14.9)
Karnataka	144 (4.2)	30,713 (3.5)	167,429 (4.1)
Kerala	222 (6.5)	118,937 (13.6)	610,165 (15.0)
Goa	39 (1.1)	2,189 (0.3)	10,545 (0.3)
Maharashtra	456 (13.3)	81,492 (9.3)	386,259 (9.5)
West Bengal	188 (5.5)	76,981 (8.8)	380,138 (9.4)

Table2:PopulationdependentonfisheriesforlivelihoodamongcoastalstatesinIndia(accordingtoBlueEconomyWorking Group Report, EconomicAdvisory Council to the Prime Minister 2020)

Note:Figuresinbracketsshowthesharesinpercentages

Seaportsarealsoalargesourceofemployment.UnlikeIndia'smajorports,jobsinsmallerportshaveincreasedoverthe years from 1,933 in 2003 to 19,102 in 2017 (Blue Economy Working Group Report 4). In the past five years,smaller ports have edged out the major ports in the growth of cargo volumes as well. This is because they tend to beamorestrategiclocation,withmodernizedinfrastructureandmoreefficientoperations.

Marine tourism is also a sector that has been one of the fastest growing globally and in India. Particularly in coastalstates like Kerala, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu, coastal tourism has contributed largely to both the state economiesand livelihood creation. In Kerala, the total number of jobs created directly and indirectly by the sector between2009 and 2012 turned out to be around 23% of the total employment. In 2016, the total share of tourism in TamilNadu's employment was more than 22% and 23% in Karnataka's. This sector has been among

the worst hit becauseoftheCovid19fallout,butnowcoastalstatesarere-strategizingtoattractlocalanddomestictouristswithfocusonsingleorsmallgroupsinterestedinadventureandeco-tourism.Inanexampleofappealingtonewerinterests,acampaignnamed'KeralamKanaam'waslaunchedbytheTourism DepartmentofKeralathataimedtoofferluxurystaycations at affordable rates to people from the state itself. Similar initiatives are being taken up in other coastalstatestoincreasetourism.

NewoceaneconomyopportunitiesduetotheemergenceofSDG14principles
Blue economy is now expanding as it has never been before with new and emerging sectors that include varioustypes of energy generation, ocean thermal energy conservation (OTEC), marine biology and biotechnology. Out ofall the different renewable energy generated from oceans, the offshore wind energy industry is the most developed.Amongtherest,thelackofskillsandtraining,technologicalsupport,andinvestmentisamajorfactorthathasledtotheir slow growth. To aid their growth in India, the Union Minister of State for Power and New & RenewableEnergy (IC) and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship approved and declared ocean energy as Renewable Energyin 2019. However, the sector still requires more push to fully reach its potential in terms of both output andgeneratingemployment

With the increasing instances of climate change impacts on marine ecosystems, the role of marine biologists is alsobecoming important to help address many of these issues. Their work ranges from working for offshore oil and gascompaniestoreducethenegativeimpactoftheiroperationsonmarinelife,todevelopingdesignatedmarinereservesandcreatingartificialreefs/wrecksinordertoencouragemarinewildlifeintoanarea.

Marine biotechnology is another emerging field focused on investigating and developing technological applicationsof living marine organisms, their derivatives, and their bioprocesses. The Marine Biotechnology program wasinitiated during 1988-89 to support R&D and demonstration nature projects towards development of useful productsandprocessesfrommarineresources.However,only180peoplehavebeentrainedtilldatethroughtheprogramme7.At the national level, the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) also established a Task Force on Aquaculture andMarine Biotechnology in 1998 which has been overseeing individual research projects and network projects withnational and international partners since then.At the state level, states like Gujarat have identifiedamarine

biotechnology plan. This sector is, hence, undergoing the process of development and like many other new andemergingsectors,thistoorequiresbothfinancialandtechnologicalpush,followedbyskilldevelopmenttomeetfuture demands.

RecommendationsforthepathforwardinlinewithSDG14

NationalAccountingFrameworkforBlueEconomyandOceanGovernance

➔ The size of the Blue Economy in India has conservatively been estimated to be about 4% of GrossDomestic Product. It is likely to be even higher if the methodology is improved. A new robust mechanismneeds to be devised to collect data for estimating the Blue Economy in India. The first step should be toconstitute an Expert Group to identify sectors and sub-sectors/ activities, which fall under the purview oftheBlueEconomy.

➔ Inthiscontext,Indianeedstolearnfromglobalbestpractices.Forthisthereisaneedtoestablishactivescientific collaborations with leading countries/institutions to develop suitable scientific tools andmethodologiesrelevanttoBlueEconomymeasurementandmanagement.

➔ InordertogeneratereliabledataregardingtheBlueEconomy,thefollowingisrecommended

A) Enlargethe2008NationalIndustrialClassificationtoaccommodatevariousuntappedactivitiesassociatedwith the blue economy.

B) Engage with all relevant ministries for the collection of data.

C) Constituteor identify anofficial agency to securerelevant data at thedis-aggregated industry level.

D) InterveneintheformativeprocessoftheUNInternationalStandardIndustrialClassificationofAllEconomicAc

tivities (ISIC) Revision

IncreasingSustainableMarineCaptureFisheries

➔ Inordertoincreasethesustainabilityofmarinefishing Indiamusttakefollowingactionablesuggestionswithclearobjectives:

a) Developanewnationalpolicyforthemarinecapturefisheriessector,puttinginplacelegalandinstitutionalframeworksfortheeffectivemanagementofmarinefisheries.

b) PreventsignificantadverseimpactsonVulnerableMarineEcosystems(VMEs)toachievePotentialYieldEstimates(PYE).

c) Explorethedeploymentofadedicatedsatellitesystemformanagementandregulationoffisheriesandalliedactivities.

d) Ensuremandatorydatainputavailabilityfromprimarystakeholders(fishermen)vialogsheets;integrationofmarineresourcesurveydataandcommerciallandingsdata.

e) AssesscommerciallyvaluablestocksbyabodydesignatedbyDepartmentofFisheries(DoF).

f) StrengthentheFisheriesSurveyofIndia(FSI)withstate-of-artfisheriesresourcesurveyvessels.

g) StrengthenMonitoringControlandSurveillancesuchastheVesselMonitoringSystem(VMS)totrack the movement of fishing vessels in order to know where and when the fish are caught, how,andbywhom.

h) Regulatefisheriespracticesandrevisitfishingclosureseasonsandundertakepatrollinginhighseasand AreasBeyondNationalJurisdiction(ABNJ).

Enhancing Marticulture Production

➔ Maricutureisasubsetofaquacultureandisthefarmingofmarineorganismsinsaltwaterforfoodandother products such as pharmaceuticals and Jewellery items like pearls. This is an important emergingsubsector of the Blue Economy. In order to encourage sustainable mariculture production, India must takethefollowingsteps:

a) Form a newimplementing agency whichwill be calledthe ‘MaricultureAuthority ofIndia’.

b) DevelopacomprehensiveNationalMaricultur ePolicy

c) Developandcommercializemariculture,includingbroodbanks,nucleusbreedingcenters,hatcheriesandnurseriesandfeedsupplythroughapproachessuchasseacagefarmingforfinfish,bivalve farming, seaweed farming, Integrated Multitrophic Aquaculture (IMTA) and RecirculatingAquacultureSystem(RAS)andencouragingmarineornamentalfisheries.

d) Preventaquaticdiseasesandcreatehealthmanagementinfrastructurebytechnologicalbackstopping.

e) PromoteR&Dforlongtermsustainabledevelopmentofmariculture.

Monitoring,Assessment and Management of Ocean Health

➔ Oceanhealthneedseffectivemonitoringandmanagement,forwhichthefollowingstepsarerecommended:

a) Useoftechnologytomonitor,preventandmitigatemarinepollution,includingfromplasticsandmicroplastics.

b) Encouragelowcarbonfisheriestoimprovewaterqualitynearcoralreefsandputinplaceintegratedtracking-map-basedinformationsystemstoindicateclosedandprotectedareas.

c) Developinnovativetechnologieswhichwillbecriticalfortherestorationofthedeterioratedsensitiveecosystemslikecoralreefs,mangrovesandwetlands

MarineBiotechnologyandBioprospecting

➔ Thereisanurgentneedtocontrolmarinebio-prospecting,aninputintomarinebiotechnology.Todoso,thefollowingstepsarenecessary:

a) Mapthegeneticbiodiversityoftheoceansandgenerateagermplasminventory.Thiswillfacilitatewell-informeddecisionsontheconservationofoceanicresources.
b) Pursue interventions in mariculture by selective breeding, Qualitative Trait Loci (QTL) analysis,traitmanipulationetc.toenhanceproductivityofmaricultureactivities.
c) Create a separate National level institution for "Marine Biotechnology" that focuses on thenonfoodsectorforgenerationofnewtechnologiestotaptheimmensepotentialforcommercialization.
NationalMaritimePolicyandApexBody

➔ Theextremelycomplexandstrategicmaritimesectorhasmultiplestakeholderswithconflictinginterests.

Therefore,aNationalMaritimePolicyforintegrationandcoordinationwithinandbetweenvariousstakeholders in central and state governments for more effective management of maritime regions,resources,economy,ecologyandsecurityisanecessity.

➔ Currentlythereisnooverarchingnationalauthoritythatcoordinatesandintegratesmaritimeinitiativesand

programmes of the Ministries and states and creates 'common cause' with all stakeholders. There istherefore, an urgent need to institutionalize maritime affairs in an organized manner that maximizes thepotential of the Blue Economy. Such an organization should be at the Apex Level in Government drawing various stakeholders on a single platform to debate, discuss and balance conflicting interests, preventduplication of efforts and optimize utilization of maritime resources for the sustainable development ofIndia'sBlueEconomy.

II. Conclusion

These recommendations aim to significantly enhance the contribution of the Blue Economy to India's GDP in thenextfiveyears,improvethelivesofcoastalcommunities,preserveourmarinebiodiversityandmaintainthesecurityof our marine areas and resources. Today, the Blue Economy holds the promise of being the next multiplier ofeconomic growth and well-being, provided that the strategy places sustainability and socio-economic welfare at thecenterstage.

With their enormous resources, oceans are the ultimate frontier that shall help to transform the economy of thesocietyfromscarcitytoabundance.WiththeextendedExclusiveEconomicZone,India'sOceanjurisdictionequalsth elandarea.Henceanintegratedapproachwithlong-termvision,technology,management,monitoring,and

time-bound regulatory reforms are essential for building a sustained blue economy for India. It is beyond doubt thattheupcomingblueeconomyshallserveasagrowthcatalystfortherobustIndianeconomyenvisionedtoreachUS$10tr illionby2030.

India's asset is its diversity of institutions and expertise available to deal with issues related to achieving SDG 14.While the current plans and approaches need an overhaul to effectively deal with achieving the goal and targets ofthisSDG,itisalsoimportanttotaketheresponsibilityandownershipofachievingthesametoStates,localbodiesandthec ivilsocietyincludingthecorporatesector.

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