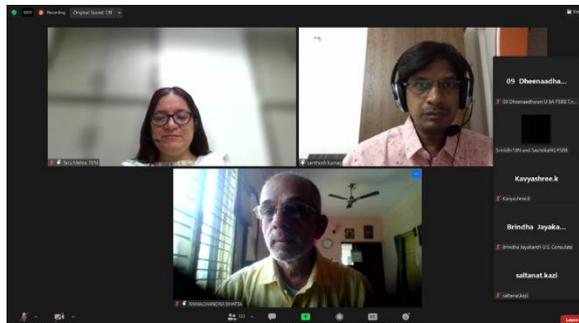


## ***REVITALISING OUR OCEANS***

***To commemorate World Ocean Day, and as part of “Oceans Matters” a collaborative project Webinar was organised by the US Consulate General Chennai in association with the Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) on June 8<sup>th</sup> 2022.***



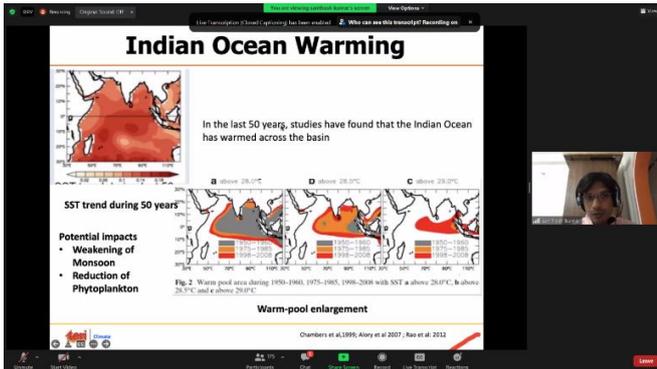
The Ocean serves as the largest museum containing more artifact remnants than any other museum in the world. As a result, it should be our number one priority to keep it clean and protected. “Ocean Matters” is a collaborative project that focusses to protect and conserve the ocean as well as spread awareness about it. This was the aim shared by all the eminent resource persons-Mr. Ramachandra Prof college of Fisheries, Mangalore, Dr. Angelin Archana, WCC, Chennai, Dr. Ravi Das Naik, NCPOR, Goa and Mr. Santhosh, TERI, New Delhi.

Spanned till March 23 this ongoing project showed that many parts of India need to clean and maintain the ocean. The history of Southern India and Tamil seafaring communities was briefed followed by how our ancestors loved and preserved the ocean, as well as how it has changed over time. In Oceanic health and Social Economy the vast expansion of aquaculture and how it has increased from 2.4% to 59.7% from 1950 to 2019 was discussed. The various threats faced by the coastal and marine ecosystem, like sandy beaches, mangroves, coral reefs and many more, due to which seagrass and other mammals are depleting in numbers were statistically represented.

The importance of Phytoplankton, which is the base of the marine food chain was explained. Then was the marvellous virtual journey into the Southern Ocean, where the research scientists conducted research on Phytoplankton. It was inferred that carbon dioxide is the most released gas and the primary reason behind global warming. The insight was on how we must convert Scientific Vision into Social Vision in order to protect the environment and life around us.

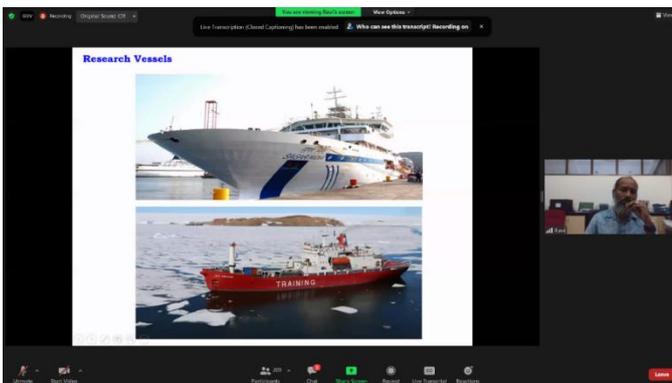
It was an interactive session as the audience were given sets of trivia questions, conducted in the form of a poll that kindled their minds on the broad topic of oceans. It was all about Conservation of the oceans and to protect the living creatures in it. This collaborative project has strengthened the efforts and voiced out the reasons to protect seas, fish and other ocean lives. Oceans are the reason

our Earth is called the blue planet and it is our responsibility to keep it that way. Overall, this was a learning and informative session that gave everyone an opportunity to extend our knowledge on oceans. Around 15 children and two teachers attended the session.



**How to deal with such problems?**

- > regular monitoring
- > awareness campaign
- > scientific vision to social vision



**Maritime History of Southern India - With particular reference to Tamil Voyagers**

*Thirai kodai odiyam thiraviam shetu!*  
(Seek your fortune even by venturing overseas)  
-Tamil poet Aravayal

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