

# INDIAN JOURNAL OF GEO-MARINE SCIENCES

## Instructions to Authors

### SCOPE

The Indian Journal of Geo-Marine Sciences (IJMS; Indian J Mar Sci), a multidisciplinary, peer-reviewed monthly periodical devoted to the publication of communications relating to various facets of research in Marine sciences. The articles should contribute significantly to physical oceanography including climate change; chemical oceanography including marine pollution; biological oceanography including aquatic biology and fisheries; geological oceanography including geochemistry, micropalaeontology, marine archaeology and marine geotechniques; satellite oceanography; and marine instrumentation/engineering and naval architecture. For more details on subject areas please [visit](#). Therefore, original research, review articles and book reviews of general significance to marine sciences excluding core geosciences which are written clearly and well organized will be given preference. Authors are required to read the '**Instruction to Authors**' guidelines thoroughly before preparing the manuscript.

### NATURE OF MANUSCRIPTS

Research articles, review articles, short communications, book reviews, meeting reports, and historical commentaries /notes are the categories of manuscripts to be submitted to IJMS.

**Research articles** [should not exceed 6000 words; display items should be limited to 10 numbers including tables and figures; and references should be limited to 40-45] discuss current trends in research in marine sciences that would be of interest to readers outside the field. The articles should include an appropriate title, abstract, keywords, introduction, materials and methods, results, discussion, conclusions, references, and appropriate illustrations including tables, figures and supplementary information that will help a general reader. The author(s) should also provide acknowledgements and funding details, conflict of interest, and author's contribution statements, at the end of the manuscript before reference section.

**Review articles** [should not exceed 8000 words, display items should be limited to 10 numbers including tables and figures; and references should be limited to 70-80] survey and discuss the current developments in fields related to marine sciences. They must dwell more on research work done during the last couple of years in the field and authors should integrate their own work with that of others with acumen and authenticity, mere compilation of references by a third party is discouraged.

**Book reviews** [should not exceed 1000 words] should feature commentary on new book(s) that are likely to be of broad interest to our readership.

Kindly contact the Journal Editor at [ijms@niscair.res.in](mailto:ijms@niscair.res.in) before you begin preparing your review articles/book reviews, indicating why you believe the work would be of interest to IJMS readers, and why you are well-positioned to write the review.

**Short communication** [less than 1500 words; display items should be limited to 04 numbers] serves to rapidly communicate important new findings.

Contributions dealing with technical advances or advances in instrumentation will be published as **Technical notes**.

**Meeting reports** [less than 800 words] deal with highlights/technical contents of a conference/symposium/discussion-meeting, etc. conveying readers the significance of important advances.

**Historical commentary/notes** [limited to about 2000 words] inform readers about interesting aspects of personalities or institutions of marine sciences, and about developments of marine sciences. Illustrations and photographs are welcome.

### SUBMISSION OF MANUSCRIPT

Authors should submit their manuscripts online at: <http://op.niscair.res.in/index.php/IJMS>. Submission of a manuscript to this journal implies that it is not under consideration for publication elsewhere. Author (Corresponding) may provide names of four potential reviewers including at least two active foreign researchers of repute along with their complete postal and email addresses.

### PREPARATION OF MANUSCRIPT

**General Style:** Manuscripts should be presented as concise as possible, and should be typed in Times New Roman, 12 fonts and in double line space. The main manuscript file should be typed in single column; and each page and line should be numbered using standard MS-Word insert and page layout options. The matter should be arranged in the following order: Title, Name(s) of Author(s), Department(s) and Institution(s) details; Abstract; Keywords; Introduction; Materials and methods; Results; Discussion; Acknowledgement; Conflict of Interest statement, Author(s) contribution, References and Appendix/Supplementary data. Legends to Table and captions for Figures should be typed on separate pages at the end of the manuscript.

Symbols, units and nomenclature as recommended by the International Association for the Physical Sciences of the Ocean should be used [*The international system of units*

(SI) in oceanography: *Unesco technical papers in marine sciences*, no. 45, IAPSO Publication Scientifique no. 32; <http://www.vliz.be/imisdocs/publications/ocrd/259194.pdf>

Special attention should be given to the mathematical portions of the paper. Equations must have variable parameters in *italics* and the constants in roman. Superscripts, subscripts, capital and small letters as well as letters or symbols likely to be confused one for the other should be clearly distinguished.

**Title:** The title should be such as to be useful in indexing and information retrieval. If a paper forms part of a series, a subtitle indicating the aspects of the work covered in the paper should be provided. Title should not be too long. It should be brief and self-explanatory. Only the first letter should be in Capital and rest in lower case and in regular font. A short running title should also be supplied (length not exceeding 50 characters).

**Abstract:** The abstract should indicate the scope and significant content of the paper, highlighting the methodology adopted, principal findings and conclusions. It should be in such a form that abstracting periodicals can use it without modification. For full papers, it should not exceed 250 words and for short communications, about 100-150 words.

**Keywords:** Authors must provide 4 to 6 carefully chosen keywords, separated by comma and arranged alphabetically. First letter of each keyword should be given in capital letter.

**Introduction:** The introductory part should be brief and state precisely the scope of the paper. A brief background indicating why this particular subject has been chosen for the study should be reported. Literature review should not exceed what is necessary to indicate the reason for the research undertaken and the essential background.

**Materials and Methods:** The nomenclature, the source of materials and the procedures should be clearly stated to enable other workers to repeat the work, if necessary. New methods should be described in sufficient detail, but if the methods are already well recognized, a mere reference to them will do; deviation, if any, should, however, be given. Details of statistical analysis, if carried out should also be provided with proper references.

**Results:** Only such data as are essential for understanding discussion and main conclusions emerging from the study should be included. The data should be arranged in a unified and coherent sequence so that the report is developed clearly and logically. The same data should not be presented both in tabular and graphic forms. Only such tables and figures as are necessary should be given. Interpretation of the data should be taken up under discussion; in some cases, however, it may be desirable to combine results and discussion in a single section.

**Discussion:** Long, rambling discussions should be scrupulously avoided. The discussion should deal with the

interpretation of results without repeating information already presented under results section. It should relate the new findings to the known, and include logical deductions.

**Conclusions:** The conclusion should be limited to 100 words, highlighting the principal findings and results. It should explain the significance of the results. Authors may also state future perspectives and may provide recommendations based on the results.

**Acknowledgement:** Acknowledgements should be brief and for specific assistance only including details of grants from funding agency(s), if any.

**Conflict of Interest Statement:** Authors should declare no competing or conflict of interest.

**Author(s) Contribution:** For transparency, we encourage authors to submit an author statement outlining their individual contributions to the paper such as Conceptualization; Formal analysis; Funding acquisition; Investigation; Resources; Software; Supervision; Roles/Writing - original draft; Writing - review & editing. Authorship statements should be provided using the initials of the names of authors. Example: Charu Lata should be written as CL.

**References:** References to literature should be numbered consecutively in the order of their occurrence in the text. Inside the text, citations should be indicated by superscripted numbers. Authors may also provide DOI link of the references cited in the Reference section.

If necessary, authors may cite a reference by name in a sentence itself by quoting last name of the author in the case of single author [e.g. Qasim\*]; last names of both the authors in the case of two authors separated by '&' in between [e.g. Padate and Revonker\*]; and by last name of the author followed by '*et al.*' in the case of three or more authors [e.g. Hegde *et al.*\*]. The '\*' indicates reference number in superscript as provided in reference list. If the reference number comes on any numeral, it should be given within parenthesis (e.g. ref. 2 or refs 2-8).

#### **Citation to research paper/article:**

In citing references to research papers, names and initials of authors should be followed, in order, by the title of the paper, title of the periodical in the abbreviated form (*in italics*), the volume number, the issue number in circular brackets, the year within circular brackets and the page numbers (first and the last page numbers of the research paper/article) separated by en dash [e.g. Vasuki S, Kokilam G & Babitha D, Mineral composition of some selected brown seaweeds from Mandapam region of Gulf of Mannar, Tamil Nadu, *Indian J Mar Sci*, 49 (1) (2020) 63–66.]. In case of articles having more than five authors, "*et al.*" should be written at sixth place [e.g. Hussain N A A, Ali S S A, Saad M N M, Ovinis M, Nordin N, *et al.*, Underactuated nonlinear adaptive control approach using U-Model incorporated with RBFNN for multivariable underwater glider control parameters, *Indian J Mar Sci*, 46

(12) (2017) 2482–2492.]. If a paper has been accepted for publication, the names and initials of the authors, paper title and the journal should be given followed by the words “in press” within circular brackets.

**Citation to book and book chapter:**

Reference to a book should include, in the following order, names and initials of authors, the title of the book (in *italics*), volume number, edition, name of publisher and place of publication within circular brackets, year and the pages [e.g. Sverdrup H U, Johnson M W & Fleming R H, *The Oceans*, (Prentice-Hall Inc., New Jersey) 1955, pp. 1087].

If the reference is to the work of an author published in a book (book chapter) by a different author or edited by a different person, the fact that it is cited from the source book (in *italics*) should be clearly indicated. [e.g. Azam F & Smith D C, Bacterial influence on the variability in the ocean's biogeochemical state: A mechanistic view, In: *Particle analysis in oceanography*, edited by S. Demers, (Springer-Verlag, Berlin) 1991, pp. 213-216].

**Citation to article presented in conferences or symposia:**

Proceedings of conferences, symposia and collected reprints should be treated in the same manner as books. Reference to a conference should include, in the following order: names and initials of authors, name of the conference (in *italics*), place where the conference was held within circular brackets, date and pages [e.g. Ramamoorthy Rao T N, Muntazir Ahmed & Parthasarathy M S, *Proc 24<sup>th</sup> Joint technological Conference of ATIRA, BTRA, SITRA & NITRA* (SITRA, Coimbatore), 1983, pp. 161.].

Reference to a paper presented at a conference, the proceedings of which are not published, should include, in the following order: names and initials of the authors, title of the paper, name of the conference (in *italics*), place where the conference was held within circular brackets and date [e.g. Sastry L S, The salinity minimum in the Arabian Sea, paper presented at the *Symposium on Indian Ocean and Adjacent Seas-Their Origin, Science and Resources* (Cochin), 1971].

**Citation to thesis:**

Reference to a thesis, technical reports should include the name of the author, title of the thesis (in *italics*), university or institution to which it was submitted and year of submission [e.g. Naqvi S W, *Relationships between nutrients and dissolved oxygen and nitrate reduction in the Arabian Sea*, Ph.D. thesis, University of Poona, India, 1986].

**Citation to patent:**

Reference to a patent should include names of patentees, country of origin (in *italics*) and patent number, the organization to which the patent has been assigned within circular brackets, date of acceptance of the patent and reference to an abstracting periodical where available

including periodical title, volume, issue, year of publication and page number(s) [e.g. Trepagnier J H, *US Pat.* 2,463,219 (to E.I. du Pont de Nemours & Co.), 1 March 1949, *Chem Abstr*, 43 (1949) 7258].

**Citation to website:**

Reference to website should include, in the following order: name of the editors, title of the website/organisation (in *italics*), followed by website details and month and year of accession in circular brackets [e.g. Froese R. and Pauly D. (eds.) *Fishbase*, world wide web electronic publication. <http://www.fishbase.org> version (07/2008)].

Unpublished papers and personal communications should also be included in the references [e.g. Pande A B, unpublished work/data]; (Pande A B, personal communication).

**ILLUSTRATIONS:**

**Tables:** Tables should be inserted at the end of the manuscript and should be typed on separate sheets of paper without any text matter on the page. They should be numbered consecutively in Arabic numerals and should bear brief titles. Column headings should be brief. Units of measurement should be abbreviated and placed below the headings. Negative result should be indicated as ‘Nil’ and absence of a datum by a dash. Inclusion of structural formulae inside the tables should be avoided. Tables should be set in Microsoft Word using the Table option available in the Menu Toolbar (i.e. by inserting table, inserting rows and columns). The columns and rows should not be bordered.

**Figures:** Figures must be numbered consecutively in Arabic numerals. Legends to the figures should be self-explanatory and should be typed on a separate sheet of paper. Figures should be inserted at the end of the text, one illustration per page, and figures should also be uploaded as supplementary files at the time of submission. Figures should be submitted in .TIFF or .JPEG format with at least 300 dpi resolutions for images/photographs; and up to 600 dpi for graphs/ plots/ line diagrams. Additional supplementary information can also be uploaded at the time of submission.

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**Footnotes:** Footnotes should be avoided as far as possible. Essential footnotes may, however, be indicated by superscripted reference marks (\*, †, ‡, δ).

**Identification:** It is particularly important that the authors get their biological material authentically identified and quote at least once, on its first citation in the paper, the scientific name of the species concerned in full preceded by author name and its popular name where possible [e.g. *Metapenaeus monoceros* (Fabricius, 1798), speckled shrimp].

**Cover photographs:** Figures and photographs of high quality, of a submitted paper may be considered for use on the cover.

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The system of formal communication in science through publication in primary journals is based on originality and quality of information being the only criteria for publication. However, there have been tendencies to misuse the system and vitiate the process of science communication for personal benefits. One of the ills afflicting science communication is plagiarism. Attempts at plagiarism may range from verbatim, copying of extensive material of other authors, misappropriating results/data of others with minor changes in language/presentation without giving credit to original source, to publish essentially the same information more than once.

As the premier publisher in India of primary scientific journals in various disciplines of science and technology, NISCAIR strongly reiterates its policy of discouraging plagiarism of all kinds. All efforts are made detect and frustrate attempts at plagiarism through editorial screening and rigorous peer review in respect of communications received for publication in NISCAIR publications. Cooperation of the scientific community is sought in our efforts to frustrate all attempts at plagiarism.

It is mandatory on the part of the corresponding author to furnish the following certificate at the time of submission of the manuscript for publication:

*This is to certify that the reported work in the paper entitled “.....” submitted for publication is an original one and has not been submitted for publication elsewhere. I/we further certify that proper citations to the previously reported work have been given and no data/table/figure has been quoted verbatim from other publications without giving due acknowledgement and without the permission of the author(s). The consent of all the authors of this paper has been obtained for submitting the paper to the ‘Indian Journal of Geo-Marine Sciences’.*

*[Signatures and names of all the authors]*

In case any attempt to plagiarize is brought to our attention accompanied with convincing evidence, following steps would be taken:

- (a) After consulting the respective Editorial Board Members, authors guilty of plagiarism will be debarred from publishing their papers in NISCAIR journals;
- (b) Heads of the departments/institutes of the offending authors will be intimated of such incidences of plagiarism; and
- (c) Such incidents of plagiarism will be publicized through the concerned NISCAIR journals in consultation with the respective Editorial Board Members.