

World Oceans Day on 8th June

World Oceans Day is celebrated on 8th June every year in order to raise awareness about ocean conservation, the importance of ocean in our lives and also about how we can protect our ocean. The conservation action theme for **World Oceans Day 2018** is to prevent plastic pollution and encourage solutions for a healthy and beautiful ocean. Since it is one of the most important action taken to safeguard the bounties of our nature, World Oceans Day is going to be the preferred topic in all upcoming SSC, Railways & banking exams. Let's read about World Oceans Day in detail, starting with its history.

History of World Oceans Day

- The Government of Canada proposed the concept of a World Oceans Day, at the **Earth Summit** in Rio de Janeiro in 1992.
- From 2004 to 2008, a petition urging the United Nations to officially recognize World Oceans Day as 8th June each year was widely circulated.
- With help of hundreds of organizations, thousands of people from all parts of the world signed online and paper copies of the petition.
- A United Nations General Assembly Resolution was passed in December 2008 and **World Oceans Day** is now officially recognized by the UN as 8 June each year.

Themes of World Ocean Day

Year	Theme
2018	Preventing plastic pollution

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2017	"Our Oceans, Our Future"
2016, 2015	"Healthy Oceans, Healthy Planet."
2014, 2013	"Together we have the power to protect the ocean"
2012, 2011	"Youth: the Next Wave for Change"
2010	"Oceans of Life: Pick your favorite, Protect your favorite."

Events Under World Oceans Day

The World Oceans day is marked by various events like

- Launching new campaigns and initiatives
- Special events at aquariums and zoos
- Outdoor explorations
- Aquatic and beach cleanups
- Educational and conservation action programs
- Art contests
- Film festivals
- Sustainable seafood events

Moreover, youth has increasingly played an important role since 2015, including the development of a World Ocean Day Youth Advisory Council in 2016.

Listing of Oceans by Area & Oceans Facts

The Oceans, in descending order by area, are

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1. Pacific Ocean
2. Atlantic Ocean
3. Indian Ocean
4. Antarctic Ocean
5. Arctic Ocean

- Saline water covers approximately **360,000,000 sq.km** (140,000,000 sq mi).
- The ocean covers approximately **71% of Earth's surface** and **90% of the Earth's biosphere.**
- The total volume is approximately **1.35 billion cubic kilometers** (320 million cu mi) with an average depth of nearly **3,700 meters (12,100 ft).**

Ocean	Location	Area (sq.km)	Volume (cu.km)	Average Depth (m)	Coastline (km)
Pacific Ocean	Separates Asia & Oceania from the Americas	168,723,000	669,880,000	3,970	135,663
Atlantic Ocean	Separates the Americas from Europe and Africa	85,133,000	310,410,900	3,646	111,866
Indian Ocean	Washes upon Southern Asia and separates Africa and Australia	70,560,000	264,000,000	3,741	66,526

Antartic Ocean	Sometimes considered an extension of the Pacific, Atlantic and Indian Oceans	21,960,000	71,800,000	3,270	17,968
Arctic Ocean	Covers much of the Arctic and washes upon northern North America and Eurasia	15,558,000	18,750,000	1,205	45,389
Total		361,900,000	1,335,000,000	3,970	377,412

Must Know Facts -World Oceans Day

- Oceans cover **71%** of the Earth's surface, contain **97%** of the earth's water, and represent **99%** of the living space on the planet by volume.
- More than **three billion people** depend on marine and coastal biodiversity for their livelihoods.
- Oceans are home to nearly **200,000 identified species**, however the actual number of species it contains may be as high as the millions
- They absorb around **30% carbon dioxide** produced by humans, buffering the impacts of global warming.
- Similarly, oceans serve as the world's largest source of protein, with more than **2.6 billion people** depending on the oceans as their primary source of protein.

- As much as **40 per cent** of the world oceans are heavily affected by human activities like pollution, depleted fisheries, and loss of coastal habitats
- The Pacific Ocean is the largest ocean on earth. It covers **30% of the earth's surface**.

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