

what is coral bleaching. Discuss its impact in light of recent bleaching events in Lakshadweep

Coral reefs are marine invertebrate organisms displaying a symbiotic relationship between the coral polyps and algae called zooxanthellae

### Coral bleaching

Coral bleaching is the withering of algae from the corals due to the increase in heat stress. The corals lose their colours and become white.

They ~~may~~ may recover their original condition if algae returns or die when the temperature remains high.

ocean acidification. Causes increase heat waves ocean acidification climate change

## Impact of coral bleaching

Loss of livelihood : Labridae, Labridae  
recently reported cases of  
coral bleaching. This causes

drop in the fish catch which can affect  
the population dependent on fisheries



Tourism : Tourists are turning towards  
Labridae instead of Maldives. Coral  
bleaching can reduce the footfall.

Softery : Coral reefs stabilises the  
shorelines and protects the coast  
from high tide events. Bleaching can  
cause death of the coral.

Labridae is made of  
coral atolls and islands. Constructing  
artificial reefs similar to one done in  
Antarctica can save the coral