

4 International Maritime Organization's move to reduce pollution of the air by ships, ironically, draws up water sea-water pollution. Explain.

## International Maritime Organisation

Sulphur 2020 revision focus on capping emission standards for sulphur content in ships fuel which will lead to 77% drop in overall sulphur emissions from ships thus reduces 8.5 MT of  $SO_x$ .

### Ships and sulphur:

1. Reports shows 4300 ships in 2021 use open loop scrubber technology which dumps scrubbed sulphur into ocean.
2. Reasons are due to expensive sulphur light fuel & thus ships fixes scrubber technology to use sulphur rich fuel.
3. Further ships failed to use closed loop scrubber system that dumps wastewater into sea after recycling.
4. This led to increased pollution of sulphur into sea rather in atmosphere.

# Sea water sulphur pollution:

## 1. Water Quality deterioration:

1. Sulphate are 3<sup>rd</sup> most abundant in sea water after chloride & sodium
2. Increase in sulphur dumping will increase calcium sulphate & magnesium sulphate formation thereby damaging marine organisms due to IMO decision

## 2. Coral bleaching:

1. At waste & island festoons, sulphur contamination will lead to failure in developing coral skeletons
2. Thus due to more sulphate formation, Coral bleaching occurs as occurred at Spartely, Panel islands in S. China Sea

## 3. Ecosystem damage:

1. IMO sulphur ban, if not properly followed by ships to use light sulphur fuel, will cause food-system collapse
2. The food chains of marine eco pyramid will be affected thereby finally affecting human beings - by Sustainable Interactions

Conclusion: SDG goals 14 focus life on sea and thus IMO should make amendments in its policy so that no looseheads left behind