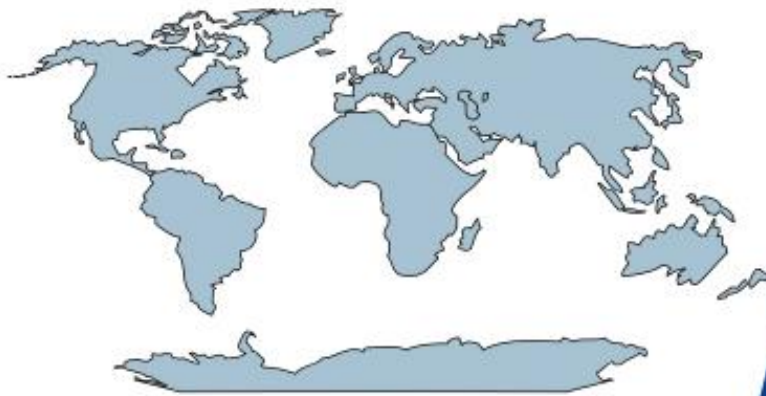


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**A STUDY ON EFFECTS OF PLASTIC ON ENVIRONMENT - A NEW NORMAL FOR NEXT
GENERATION**

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ABSTRACT

Plastic is present in the environment and it is causing drastic changes to the environment which in turn endangers the life of living organisms if necessary steps are taken then the impact of plastic can be curbed.

Methodology: Primary data has been collected by administering a questionnaire on 100 respondents. Impact of plastic on Environment filled by the Youth across the Mumbai region.

Observations: Plastic is very harmful for humans as well as for the environment. Plastic requires numerous years to disintegrate and moreover plastic is responsible for releasing harmful gases in the environment. Plastic is contaminating our streams, coastlines, timberlands, and open spaces and advancing into the food web. overall population and government policies both are similarly liable for the effect brought about by plastic on climate. A large portion of individuals feel that plastic is solid, light in weight and most of all inexpensive. People are not conscious about the term micro plastics and hence are ignorant towards the different ways in which it impacts the environment. Irrespective of the pandemic, usage of plastic has caused harm to our environment. People have started to accept the damaged environment as the new normal world.

Keywords: plastics, single-use plastics, Environment.

1. INTRODUCTION

Plastic contamination is a more annihilating issue than we think. Plastic is present in every corner of the earth starting from Mount Everest to the bottom of the sea. Plastic Pollution is affecting the whole earth, including mankind, wildlife, and aquatic life. Plastic is prevalent in every walk of life and used by everyone. It is spreading like a disease which has no remedy.

Many times plastic waste found in large water bodies is mistakenly ingested by the aquatic life present inside. Which leads to the death of the subsequent marine organisms. Marine organisms get entangled in plastic debris causing suffocation, drowning, starvation and eventually death

As plastic doesn't break up, it stays in the water subsequently hampering its immaculateness. This implies we will not be left with clean water in the coming years. Besides, plastic dirties our soil too. At the point when people dump Plastic waste into landfills, the soil gets harmed. It ruins the ripeness of the soil.

Plastic which floats in the water bodies like oceans and seas can survive thousands of years and can serve as a transportation source to invasive species that disrupts natural habitats of certain regions.

In any situation recycling is not a proper solution to the problem of plastic since recycled plastic in turn contributes to more pollution resulting from improper disposal.

2. RELEVANCE OF THE STUDY

Irrespective of the pandemic, usage of plastic has been causing harm to our environment. People have started to accept the damaged environment as the new normal world. This study is relevant for each and every member of society, government, educational institutions, offices etc who so ever wants to sustain the environment by reducing the impact of plastic on the environment.

3. OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

- To find out who is responsible for the harmful effects caused by plastic on the environment.
- To understand why people prefer plastic products over other alternatives.
- To analyse if people are acquainted with the term microplastics and how microplastic can affect their lives.

4. LITERATURE REVIEW

1. Hemavathi, B., Shobha Rani, A. and Bharathi, D in their study Impact of plastics on human health and environment has highlighted the importance of raising public awareness on the risks on the effect of plastics on human health. and has identified the main challenges and barriers for reducing plastic waste. Plastics contain many chemical and hazardous substances which are a serious risk factor for human health