

PREFACE

Marine natural products are the most prominent proactive compounds that are not much explored in the fields of agriculture, energy, environment, pharmacology and other industrial applications. However, the impact of these marine natural products leads to the development of only a very small number of drugs as economically viable products and a limited number of technologies suitable for a green environment that decipher the potential of bioactive molecules. In India, marine researchers have initiated research to elucidate the diversified and versatile activities of marine bioactive compounds from the marine bioresources to commemorate the Blue Economy sustainably. Extensive scientific work is being carried out to explore the several bioactive compounds from microalgae, seaweeds, sponges, microorganisms, invertebrates, etc. to achieve the next level of technology, identifying various resources from every sphere of the ocean ecosystem.

With this objective, a virtual conference on marine natural products was organised by the Centre for Ocean Research, Sathyabama Institute of Science and Technology, Chennai under various themes. One hundred and six papers were presented, and after peer review, the shortlisted 17 papers are being processed for publication in this special issue entitled "Marine Natural Products". More diversified compounds from bacteria, sponges, seaweeds, algae, etc. are covered, as they exhibit preliminarily promising results towards the development of novel products in the near future.

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