Tapping the resources of the world oceans is one of man's global concern, an imperative virtually for all nations. The developing countries, most of them having a vital stake in exploration and exploitation of the world ocean for their economic development are justified to raise the issue of using its resources with the co-operation of all nations, international organizations and other agencies.

In 1982 the UN Convention on the law of the sea was adopted as a new and major step in promoting the rule of law throughout world's oceans. The Convention effectively resolved many issues that used to give rise to disputes; formulated new principles and established new institutions of International Law of the Sea. These issues mainly concern Fisheries, Delimitation of Territorial Waters, Economic Zones, the Continental Shelf; conducting of Marine Scientific Research etc.

Owing to the growing importance of the oceans and increasing economic uses of the sea resources, Marine Scientific Research has become a subject of vital importance for all nations of the world in recent times. Great advances and rapid
progress in Science and Technology made possible commercial exploitation of minerals and other resources at greater depths of the sea bed.

Marine scientists and oceanographers, till recently, have had little or no difficulty in conducting Research in the oceans irrespective of geographical extent of Coastal State's jurisdiction. The marine scientists who enjoyed unfettered freedom of the seas for a long time are now found it difficult to conduct research in the oceans due to increasing restrictions imposed by the Coastal States.

Further the developed countries who have the necessary scientific and technology superiority and championed the concept of freedom of Scientific Research, has come to be challenged by the newly emerged independent developing countries, declaring the sea bed and ocean floor as the Common Heritage of Mankind and permitted exploration and exploitation only for peaceful purposes.

This divergence of views between the developed and developing countries has been resolved by the UNCLOS-III, 1982, which not only consolidate, codify and reaffirm existing
laws, but also establish novel concepts of International Law like EEZ, Common Heritage of Mankind, etc.

The present study while dealing with various aspects of Marine Scientific Research, seeks to resolve the conflict between developing and developed countries, the former requesting for technical assistance from the later by virtue of transfer of technology, so that developing countries can also develop themselves on par with developed nations in the field of Marine Scientific Research in the Oceans.