

Table 1 Physicochemical and biological characteristics of chosen sampling sites in Gulf of Mannar region.

Station code	Station Name	At.Tem °C	Wat. Tem °C	pH	Salinity ‰	DO mg l ⁻¹	Nitrite µmol l ⁻¹	Nitrate µmol/l ⁻¹	Phosphate µmol/l ⁻¹	Silicate µmol/l ⁻¹	Density (No/m ³)	Taxa (Nos)	Diversity	Evenness
S1	Vembar	30.3	30.1	8.3	35.0	5.4	2.64	6.30	08.5	12.0	8571	48	3.50	0.960
S2	Periyakulam	33.0	32.2	8.4	36.2	4.28	3.33	7.40	29.5	32.0	11733	56	3.42	0.949
S3	Valinoakkam	31.5	31.0	8.6	35.0	4.3	1.98	4.30	07.08	08.6	6347	52	3.29	0.942
S4	Ervadi	33.2	32.8	8.5	36.1	4.47	2.40	4.35	06.95	10.1	5520	83	3.97	0.966
S5	Keelakairai	32.5	32.0	7.8	35.0	4.36	3.18	4.15	10.05	07.9	4187	33	2.51	0.833
S6	Periyapattinam	33.0	34.0	8.1	33.0	5.2	1.58	3.50	09.15	08.0	1913	34	2.97	0.925
S7	Pudumadam	32.0	32.1	7.8	34.0	4.52	3.20	6.30	09.00	17.0	2767	36	2.75	0.892
S8	Rameswaram	33.5	33.2	7.9	34.5	5.3	3.40	6.80	08.50	21.0	7036	54	3.35	0.928
S9	Dhanushkodi	31.3	31.5	8.0	34.0	6.5	7.50	19.00	08.10	18.0	6000	43	3.17	0.929