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Source characterisation of Sedimentary organic matter in mangrove ecosystems of northern Kerala, India: Inferences from bulk characterisation and hydrocarbon biomarkers

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## Highlights:

- ❖ Organic matter provenance includes varying contributions of terrestrial, marine and bacterial end members
- ❖ Pre-monsoon season shows domination of planktonic as well as bacterial input
- ❖ Sediment texture, seasons and distance from the Sea influences n-alkane distribution
- ❖ Inferences of intense bacterial reworking
- ❖ Significant abundance of methyl alkanes and n-alkyl cyclohexanes in pre-monsoon

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