

# India supports designating East Antarctica and the Weddell Sea as MPAs

October 1, 2021

**In news-** India has extended support for protecting the Antarctic environment and for co-sponsoring the proposal of the European Union for designating East Antarctica and the Weddell Sea as **Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)**.

## **More information-**

- India has urged the **Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR)** member countries to ensure that India remains associated with the formulation, adaptation and implementation mechanisms of these MPAs in future.
- The proposal to designate East Antarctica and the Weddell Sea as MPAs was first put forth to the CCAMLR in 2020 but could not reach a consensus at that time.



- This is the first time India is considering co-sponsoring an MPA proposal at the CCAMLR and getting

aligned with countries such as Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Korea, New Zealand, South Africa and the USA.