

National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR)

July 31, 2020

- It is India's premier R&D institution responsible for the country's research activities in the Polar and Southern Ocean realms.
- The National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR) **was established as an autonomous Research and Development Institution** of the Ministry of Earth Sciences (formerly Department of Ocean Development), Government of India on the 25th May
- NCPOR was formerly known as the **National Centre for Antarctic and Ocean Research (NCAOR)** & **is situated in Vasco da Gama, Goa**
- NCPOR is known for its **participation in global experiments, hosting of international conferences** and in the leadership of international committees concerned with Antarctic science.
- At present, NCPOR is an agency working under the Ministry of Earth Sciences, since 2006, by the notification of the President of India.

The mandate of NCPOR is multi-dimensional:

- Leadership role in niche areas of scientific research in the domain of polar and ocean sciences.
- Lead role in the **geoscientific surveys of the country's EEZ** and its extended continental shelf beyond 200M, **deep-sea drilling in the Arabian Sea basin through the IODP**, exploration for ocean non-living resources such as the gas hydrates and multi-metal sulphides in mid-ocean ridges.
- Facilitatory role in the scientific research activities being undertaken by several national institutions and

organizations in Antarctica, the Arctic and in the Indian Ocean sector of the Southern Ocean.

- Management role in implementing all scientific and logistics activities related to the Annual Indian Expeditions to the Antarctic, Arctic and Southern Ocean.
- **Management and upkeep of the Indian Antarctic Research Bases “Maitri” and “Bharati”, and the Indian Arctic base “Himadri”**
- Management of the Ministry of Earth Sciences’s research vessel ORV Sagar Kanya as well as the other research vessels chartered by the Ministry