

0 Smart Scheme

September 22, 2020

The scheme **encompasses sub-projects addressing ocean development activities** such as services, technology, resources, observations and science. It is a **scheme of the Ministry of Earth Sciences**. The services rendered will **provide economic benefits** to a number of user communities in the coastal and ocean sectors, namely, fisheries, offshore industry, coastal states, defence, shipping and ports. It will also help in **addressing issues relating to Sustainable Development Goal-14**, which aims to conserve use of oceans, marine resources for sustainable development.

Features of SMART Scheme

- Generate and regularly update **information on marine living resources and their relationship with the physical environment** in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).
- Periodically **monitor levels of sea water pollutants** for health assessment of coastal waters of India.
- Develop **shoreline change maps** for assessment of coastal erosion due to natural and anthropogenic activities.
- Develop a wide range of **state-of-the art ocean observation systems** for acquisition of real-time data from the seas around India.
- Generate and **disseminate a suite of user-oriented ocean information, advisories**, warnings, data and data products for the benefit of society.
- Develop **high resolution models for ocean forecast and reanalysis systems**.
- Develop **algorithms for validation of satellite data for coastal research** and to monitor changes in the coastal research.
- Acquisition of 2 **Coastal Research Vessels (CRVs)** as replacement of 2 old CRVs for coastal pollution

monitoring, testing of various underwater components and technology demonstration.

- Develop technologies to **tap the marine bio resources.**
- Develop technologies generating **freshwater and energy from the ocean.**
- Develop underwater vehicles and technologies.
- Establishment of Ballast water treatment facility.
- Support **operation and maintenance of 5 research vessels** for ocean survey/ monitoring/ technology demonstration programmes.
- Establishment of state of the art **seafront facility** to cater to the testing and sea trial activities of ocean technology.
- Carry out **exploration of Polymetallic Nodules (MPN)** from water depth of 5500 m in site of 75000 sq.km allotted to India by United Nations in Central Indian Ocean Basin, to carry out **investigations of gas hydrates.**
- **Exploration of polymetallic sulphides** near **Rodrigues Triple junction** in 10000 sq. km of area allotted to India in International waters by **International Seabed Authority/ UN.**
- Submission of **India's claim over continental shelf** extending beyond the Exclusive Economic Zone supported by scientific data, and topographic survey of EEZ of India.