

Samudrayaan project

November 14, 2019

Source: PIB & NIOT

India's ambition to send men to the deep sea in a submersible vehicle is likely to be a reality in 2021-22 with the 'Samudrayaan' project

About the project

- It is an initiative of the National Institute of Ocean Technology
- Similar to ISRO's plan to carry persons on a space mission (Gaganyaan Mission), NIOT has undertaken Samudrayaan.
- The project proposes to **send a submersible vehicle with three persons to a depth of about 6000 metres** to carry out deep underwater studies
- The 'Samudrayaan' is a **part of the Ministry of Earth Sciences' pilot project for deep ocean mining for rare minerals.**

Significance

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National Institute of Ocean Technology

- The National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) was established in November 1993 as an **autonomous society under the Ministry of Earth Sciences**, Government of India.
- NIOT is managed by a Governing Council and the Director

is the head of the Institute.

- The major aim of starting NIOT under the Ministry of Earth Sciences is to develop reliable indigenous technologies to solve various engineering problems associated with harvesting of non-living and living resources in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), which is about two-thirds of the land area of India.