National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research and Covid-19

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Why in News

National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research,Goa has contributed in the fight against **Covid-19 pandemic** through significant analytical work in the different laboratories for research work.

> It also actively participated in the various webinars and sessions organized by the Ministry of Earth Sciences during the lockdown.

National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research

- National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR) was established as an autonomous Research and Development Institution of the **Ministry of Earth Sciences** in **1998.**
    - It is located in **Goa.**
- It is the nodal agency for planning, promotion, coordination and execution of the entire gamut of **polar and southern ocean scientific research** in the country as well as for the associated logistics activities.

- Its responsibilities include:
  - Management and upkeep of the Indian **Antarctic** Research Bases **"Maitri" and "Bharati",** and the **Indian Arctic** base **"Himadri".**
  - Management of the **Ministry's research vessel** ORV Sagar Kanya as well as the **other research vessels** chartered by the Ministry.
  - **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.
  - Geoscientific surveys of the country's **Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)** and its extended continental shelf beyond 200m, deep-sea drilling in the Arabian Sea basin through the **International Ocean Discovery Program (IODP)**, exploration for ocean non-living resources such as **gas hydrates** and multi-metal sulphides in mid-ocean ridges.
    - IODP is an international marine research collaboration that explores Earth's history and dynamics using ocean-going research platforms to recover data recorded in seafloor sediments and rocks and to monitor subseafloor environments.

Source:PIB