



NATPOLREX-VIII

Why in News?

Recently, the [Indian Coast Guard \(ICG\)](#) has conducted the 8th edition of two-day **National Level Pollution Response Exercise, 'NATPOLREX-VIII'**, off Mormugao harbour, Goa.

- Besides NATPOLREX, ICG is concurrently conducting a capacity building professional training course in Marine Oil Response and Preparedness for 45 international participants from 18 countries including member states from [Indian Ocean Rim Association \(IORA\)](#) at Chennai, Tamil Nadu.

What is NATPOLREX-VIII?

- About:
 - The exercise consisted of a two-day programme featuring table-top exercise, pollution response workshop on [marine Oil](#) and HNS (Hazardous and Noxious Substances) spill followed by exercise at sea.
 - During the exercise, various components of [NOSDCP \(National Oil Spill Disaster Contingency Plan\)](#) were invoked to validate and improve the contingency plans and evaluate the preparedness of the resource agencies as well as stakeholders to meet any marine spill disaster at sea.
 - The exercise is being attended by more than 85 participants from 50 agencies, including 29 observers from 22 friendly foreign countries & International Organisations and two Coast Guard ships from Sri Lanka and Bangladesh.
- Objectives:
 - To enhance the preparedness and response capability of all the stakeholders in combating marine spills.
 - It aims at validating the procedures and guidelines as contained in the NOSDCP at the national and regional levels under the aegis of [SACEP \(South Asian Cooperative for Environment Protection\)](#), to which India is a member state.

[Source: PIB](#)

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