

## NCPOR FOUNDATION DAY 2020

The National Center for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR), Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), Government of India celebrated its Foundation Day like every year on 4 April 2020. Due to the prevailing Covid19 pandemic and considering the safety of all it shared interesting information on NCPOR activities in the form of multiple tweets.

Since its inception in 1981, India has established 3 research bases — South Gangotri (non-active, HSM 44), Maitri and Bharti (both active). So far, 39 expeditions to Antarctica have been successfully launched with 2000 scientists from over 120 institutes.



Team members of first Indian Expedition to Antarctica



Dakshin Gangotri (DG) was established in the year 1983 under the leadership Dr. Harsh K. Gupta, a well known earth scientist during the third expedition in a record time of one Antarctic summer. This station was home to the Indian team members for five long years, sheltering them from harsh and ruthless conditions of Antarctica as also providing them all the facilities to conduct scientific research work. Since DG was situated on an ice shelf, it gradually sank into snow. By 1989-90, India established its second research base in Antarctica.

### MAITRI

2<sup>nd</sup> Indian Research Base in Antarctica

Maitri was established in the year 1989-90 in Schirmacher Oasis, East Antarctica. The research base was built in two summer seasons (there being no sun during the winter period)



### BHARATI

3<sup>rd</sup> Indian Research Base in Antarctica. Bharati was established in the year 2012 in Larsemann Hills.



The Indian Arctic programme focuses on long-term monitoring of Kongsfjorden, atmospheric studies, glaciology, microbiology, Gruvebadet Atmospheric Laboratory, etc.

So far, NCPOR has conducted 13 campaigns at Arctic with participation of 600 scientists from 18 institutes.



NCPOR's mission-mandate is to plan, promote, coordinate and execute the entire gamut of polar sciences and logistic activities of the country in order to ensure a perceptible and influential presence of India in the Polar Regions and to uphold strategic interest in the global framework of nations engaged in the studies of the polar regions and surrounding oceans.

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