

### **Deep Sea Mining System Trials by MoES (India) in the Central Indian Ocean Basin**

The Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), Government of India, invited all stakeholders to send their comments and observations on the performance of its multilateral nodal collector pre-prototype deep sea mining machine in the Indian contract area of the Central Indian Ocean Basin (CIOB) during 2021 to MoES via mail by 24 May, 2020.



MOES has a contract with the International Seabed Authority for the exploration of polymetallic nodules in the CIOB. The purpose of the exploration is to test the capacity of the machine in terms of movement, crushing, pumping and discharge within a limited area at the seam. It is also proposed to collect environmental data before and after the testing as well as periodically assess the extent of the impact on physio-chemical and biological conditions.

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