



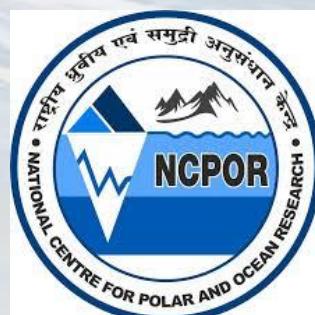
Second Circular

World Ocean Science Congress - 2026

23 - 26 February 2026

at
CSIR-National Institute of Oceanography,
Dona Paula – 403 004,
Goa, India

Organized by



About CSIR-NIO

CSIR-National Institute of Oceanography (CSIR-NIO), Goa, founded in 1966 as a constituent unit of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, is India's premier research institution with an exclusive mandate for ocean science and technology. Headquartered at Dona Paula, Goa, with regional centers at Kochi, Mumbai, and Visakhapatnam. The major research areas include the four traditional branches of oceanography - biological, chemical, geological/geophysical, and physical – as well as ocean engineering, marine instrumentation and marine archaeology.



About Goa University

Goa University, founded in 1985, is the state's top institution of higher learning. The university provides graduate, postgraduate and doctoral courses in various disciplines such as sciences, social sciences, humanities, commerce, and management. It is accredited for its research work in fields like marine sciences, environmental science, and regional cultural heritage. The university is dedicated to academic excellence, innovation, and outreach, developing human resources and contributing to the socio-economic and cultural growth of the region.



About NCPOR

National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR), Goa is India's premier R&D facility under the Ministry of Earth Sciences, which is committed to polar sciences, cryospheric studies, and ocean studies. Established in 2000, the center serves as the nodal agency for hosting India's polar expeditions to Antarctica and the Arctic, and for maintaining the country's research stations such as Maitri, Bharati, and Himadri. NCPOR also carries out cutting-edge studies on Southern Ocean dynamics, Himalayan glacier, coast processes, and geoscientific exploration of the oceans, which is a significant step in making India's contribution to climate and oceanographic research globally.



About Vibha

Vijnana Bharati (Vibha) is a national science movement in India, rooted in the swadeshi spirit, aiming to address India's unique developmental challenges through rapid scientific and technological progress aligned with its heritage. It originated from the Swadeshi Science Movement at the Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru, under Prof. K. I. Vasu, and was formally launched at the 1991 Nagpur meet. Today, Vibha has units in 22 states, contacts in 4 more, and works across 11 different areas through autonomous institutions, independent organizations, and project initiatives..



World Ocean Science Congress (WOSC)

WOSC is Vijnana Bharati's flagship programme in the Ocean Sector, held once every 2 years, the WOSC is designed to provide a common platform to all stakeholders of the ocean sector to meet, discuss and address common problems and priorities that need urgent attention.

For a maritime Nation like India, the WOSC holds immense potential as it is the one and only activity that attempts to bring together institutions, agencies and associations involved in shipping, fishing, mariculture, oil & natural gas exploration, biodiversity conservation, ecosystem management, legal & geopolitical systems etc., to discuss and resolve overlapping contemporary issues and problems most of which need holistic interventions.

World Ocean Science Congress 2026

23 - 26 February 2026

at CSIR-National Institute of Oceanography,
Dona Paula, Goa, India

The ocean is the lifeblood of our planet, covering over 70% of the Earth's surface and playing a vital role in sustaining life. It regulates our climate, produces over half of the world's oxygen, and supports a vast web of biodiversity. Beyond its ecological significance, the ocean is a cornerstone of the global economy, providing food, jobs, and transportation for billions of people. As we confront the challenges of climate change, pollution, and overexploitation, the need to protect and sustainably manage our oceans has never been more urgent. This conference expects to bring around 1000 delegates together (students, experts, advocates and decision-makers) to inspire action and foster solutions for a healthier, more resilient ocean.

Patrons

Dr. Jitendra Singh,

Honourable Minister of State for S & T and Earth Sciences

Dr. Pramod Sawant,

Honorable Chief Minister of Goa

Dr. Vijay Bhatkar,

Mentor, VIBHA

Advisors

- Dr. (Mrs.) N. Kalaiselvi, Director General, CSIR, GOI
- Dr. M. Ravichandran, Secretary, MoES, Govt of India
- Dr. Abhay Karandikar, Secretary, Department of Science and Technology
- Dr. Rajesh S Gokhale, Secretary, Department of Biotechnology, GOI
- Dr. Shivkumar Kalyanaraman, CEO, ANRF, DST
- Dr. V. Narayanan, Chairman, ISRO, GOI
- Dr. Samir V Kamat, Chairman, DRDO, GOI
- Shri Tanmay Kumar, Secretary, Min. Env. Forest & CC
- Ms. Debashree Mukherjee, Secretary, Min. Jal Shakti
- Shri Santosh Kumar Sarangi, Secretary, Min. N.R. Energy
- Shri Vinod Seshan, Director General, DGH
- Dr. Abhilaksh Likhi, Secretary, Fisheries, Department of Fisheries
- Shri Shyam Jagannathan, IAS, DG Shipping, Min. of Ports Shipping and Waterways
- Shri Parimal Rai, Chief Secretary, Govt of Goa
- Mr. Madhu S Nair, CMD, Cochin Shipyard Ltd
- Shri Arun Kumar Singh, CMD, ONGC
- Dr. Ranjit Rath, CMD, Oil India Ltd
- Dr. Shekhar C. Mande, National President, VIBHA

National Advisory Committee

- Dr. (Mrs.) N. Kalaiselvi, Director General CSIR, GOI - Co-Chair
- Dr. M. Ravichandran, Secretary, MoES, Govt of India - Co-Chair
- Dr. Shekhar C. Mandé, National President, VIBHA - Co-Chair
- Dr. T. M. Balakrishnan Nair, Director, INCOIS
- Prof. Balaji Ramakrishnan, Director, National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT)
- Dr. A. Suryachandra Rao, Director, Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology
- Dr. Prakash Chauhan, Director, NRSC (Member)
- Dr. Nilesh M. Desai, Director, SAC (Member)
- Dr. Prakash Kumar, Director, NGRI (Member)
- Dr. Sheshagiri, Director, NPOL (Member)
- Dr. Abraham Varughese, Director, NSTL (Member)
- Dr. RS Kankara, Director, NCCR (Member)
- Prof. Chalapathi Rao, Director, NCESS (Member)
- Dr. Mahesh Kumar, Director, CMLRE (Member)
- Dr. V.S. Prasad, Director, NCMRWF (Member)
- Dr. Kuldeep K. Lal, Director, ICAR-CIBA (Member)
- Dr. S Venkata Mohan, Director, NEERI
- Dr. Grinson George, Director, CMFRI
- Shri Asit Saha, Director General, GSI, GOI
- Prof. A Biju Kumar, Vice Chancellor, Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies (KUFOS)
- Prof (Dr.) Tanu Jindal, Director, AMITY
- Dr Sangita Mahesh Kasture, Scientist – G, Min. N.R. Energy
- Chief Secretary, A & N Administration
- Advisor to the Administrator, UT of Lakshadweep
- Representative, Indian Coast Guard
- Representative, Indian Navy
- Mr. Vivekanand Pai, Secretary General, VIBHA
- Dr. Shiv Kumar Sharma, National Organising Secretary, VIBHA
- Shri. Praveen Ramdas, Joint Org Secretary, VIBHA

National Organizing Committee

- Prof. Sunil Kumar Singh, Director, CSIR-NIO (Chairman)
- Prof. Harilal B. Menon, VC, GU (Co- Chair)
- Dr. Thamban Meloth, Director, NCPOR (Co- Chair)
- Dr. K. Krishnamurthi, Chief Scientist, NEERI
- Dr. Francis P, INCOIS (Member)
- Dr. Suresh Kumar, Professor and Director of Research at KUFOS
- Dr. C Gnanaseelan, Scientist G, IITM (Member)
- Dr. Prakash S. Parienkar, Associate Professor, Goa University
- Dr. B K Jena, Scientist G, National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT)
- Dr. Vipin Kumar V P, CMFRI
- Dr. Satheesh Shenoi, National Vice-President, VIBHA (Member)
- Dr. Arvind C. Ranade, Secretary, VIBHA (Member)
- Dr. Tripta Thakur, Secretary, VIBHA (Member)
- Shri. Kompela Sastry, Secretary, VIBHA (Member)
- Prof. Suma Kundu, Director, BITS, VASCO
- Prof. Sandeep Kulshreshtha, Director, NIWS, Goa
- Dr. N.P. Kurian, President, OSI
- Dr. Mani Murali R, Senior Principal Scientist, CSIR-NIO (Convener)

Local Organizing Committee

- Prof. Sunil Kumar Singh, Director, CSIR-NIO (Chairman)
- Dr. Mani Murali R, Senior Principal Scientist, CSIR-NIO (Convener)
- Dr. Damodar M. Shenoy, Senior Principal Scientist, CSIR-NIO (Co-Convener)
- Dr. Rajeev Saraswat, Senior Principal Scientist, CSIR-NIO
- Mr. Ilangovan, Chief Scientist, CSIR-NIO
- Dr. Mangesh Gauns, Chief Scientist, CSIR-NIO
- Dr. Aninda Mazumdar, Chief Scientist, CSIR-NIO
- Dr. Shankar D, Chief Scientist, CSIR-NIO
- Dr. Jayakumar Seelam, Chief Scientist, CSIR-NIO
- Dr. Prakash Mehra, Chief Scientist, CSIR-NIO
- Dr. Narasinh Thakur, Chief Scientist, CSIR-NIO
- Dr. Mandar Nanajkar, Senior Principal Scientist, CSIR-NIO
- Dr. VVS Sarma, SIC, RCW, CSIR-NIO
- Dr. Soniya Sukumaran, SIC, RCM, CSIR-NIO
- Dr. Jothibabu, SIC, RCM, CSIR-NIO
- Dr. Gonsalves Maria-Judith BD, Senior Principal Scientist, CSIR-NIO
- Dr. Yatheesh Vadakkeyakath, Principal Scientist, CSIR-NIO
- Sh. Prasad S. Rangnekar, President, Goa VIBHA
- Dr. S. Prasanna Kumar, Goa Local Chapter, VIBHA
- Shri. Sreeprasad, West Zone Org. Secretary, VIBHA
- Dr. Prakash Priekar, Goa University
- Dr. Rahul Mohan, NCPOR, Vasco

Conference Structure

The conference will include Plenary Lectures, Invited Talks, Oral and Poster presentations, Round Table and Town-Hall Discussions on relevant topics, fishers meet, Exhibitions, Competitions for Students, Short Workshops and Field visits.

Themes of WOSC 2026

Abstracts for the respective sessions from Colleagues, Institutions, Universities, Societies, Industries and stakeholders from the following themes for ORAL and POSTER presentations.

 Food from the Ocean (Living Resources)	 Advanced Tools in Oceanography (Remote Sensing, AI/ML)
 Minerals from the Ocean (Non-living Resources)	 Maritime Trade & Industry (Shipping & Ports)
 Ocean Health (Biogeochemistry & Pollution)	 Human Heritage & Oceans (Marine Archaeology)
 Oceans & Climate (Land-Ocean-Atmosphere Interaction)	 Socio-Economics of Oceans
 Ocean in Motion (Winds, Waves, Tides, Currents)	 Ocean Literacy & Education
 Marine Hazards (Cyclones, Tsunami, Sea Level Rise)	 Ocean-Based Start-ups & Technology
 Earth's Past from the Ocean (Paleoceanography)	 Maritime Security, Surveillance & Governance
 Earth's Past from the Ocean (Sea Level Rise)	 Ocean-Based Start-ups & Technology
	 Maritime Security, Surveillance & Governance

Who Should Attend



Students



Researchers



Academicians



Maritime Professionals and Industrialists



Fisher folks



Policy-makers



Stakeholders from States



Navy and Coast Guard

Important Dates

Session/Workshop Proposals Open
15th Aug 2025

Registration Opens
15th September 2025

Session/Workshop Proposals Close
10th October 2025

Intimation of Selected Sessions
14th October 2025

Abstracts Open
18th October 2025

Abstracts Close
22nd November 2025

Early Registration Closes
14th January 2026

Intimation of Selected Abstracts
7th December 2025

Late registration opens on 15th January 2026

List of Workshops

- ❖ Decoding paleo-ocean temperatures: Geochemical proxies and uncertainty
- ❖ Satellite Oceanography
- ❖ Advanced tools in coastal spatial science: Emerging applications using Google Earth Engine (GEE)
- ❖ Applications of data-driven modeling in Earth system science
- ❖ Characterisation of Marine Virome: sampling to sequencing

List of Town hall Meetings

- ❖ Coastal issues: Regulations and violations
- ❖ The double-edged sword: Balancing maritime economic vitality and ocean environmental stewardship



Students & Teachers Outreach Programme – WOSC 2026



Objectives

1. Create awareness about ocean health and sustainability
2. Inspire interest in oceanography and related career pathways
3. Encourage innovative thinking and solution-oriented approaches to ocean conservation
4. Facilitate interaction between students, teachers, marine researchers, and NGOs

Programme Coordination & Competitions

Overall Coordinator:

Dr. S. Prasanna Kumar

Centre for Contemporary Research (CCR), Goa.

Sh. Prasad S. Rangnekar,

President, Goa VIBHA

Students Outreach:

Prof. I K Pai

Former Professor and Head, Department of Zoology and Director, UGC-HRDC and Centre Coordinator, NRC-MHRD (Mar. Sci.), Goa University, Goa.

Teachers Outreach:

Prof. Suresh Kunkalekar

Principal, Agricultural College of Goa, Old Goa, Goa.

Students Competitions

Category I & II (Classes 8–10 SSC & 11–12 HSC):

Ms. Sucheta Naik

MSc, Bed, Principal,

Mushtifund High School & HSS, Cujira, Goa

Ms. Shilpa Naik

Assistant Professor in Computer Science, DCTs Dhempe College of Arts and Science, Miramar, Panaji, Goa

Category III (Under Graduate Students):

Dr. Uma Masur

Associate Professor, Department of Botany, Parvathibai Chowgule College, Margao, Goa

Dr. Suphala Pujari

Assistant Professor, Department of Zoology, Government College of Arts, Science and Commerce, Sanquelim, Goa

Category IV (Post Graduate Students):

Dr. Dilecta D'Costa

Associate Professor in Microbiology, Vice Principal (Admin), Government College of Arts, Science and Commerce, Khandola, Marcela, Goa.

Targets & Participants

Target Institutions:

427 Schools
92 Higher Secondary Schools
53 Undergraduate Colleges
44 Postgraduate Departments/Colleges under Goa University

Target Participants:

High School Students (Classes 8–10)
Higher Secondary Students (Classes 11–12)
College and University Students (UG, PG & Research Levels)
Teachers and Mentors

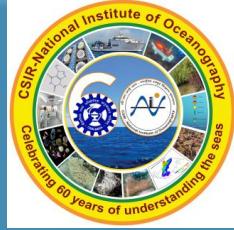
Outreach Activities

Reel Making | Jingle Making |
Poster Competition |
Model Making |
Photography | Fermented Food from Sea | Street Play
Face Painting | Fancy Dress |
Fashion Show



Fishers' Meet | WOSC 2026

CSIR-National Institute of Oceanography, Goa



🎯 Objectives

1. Platform for fisher communities from Indian littoral states
2. Focus on fisheries challenges of the Konkan region
3. Dialogue with fisheries administrators & policymakers

📅 Programme Details

- ❖ Half-day outreach Programme
- ❖ Scheduled on 24th February 2026

👤 Participation

- Around 80 fishers & administrators (Konkan region)
- Almost 20 participants from other littoral states

📌 Expected Outcomes

- Discussion on welfare schemes & policy initiatives
- Consolidated recommendations
- Submission to State Fisheries Departments

Sponsors/Exhibition

WOSC-2026 will host over 1000 researchers from across the world, bringing together scientists, engineers, policymakers, and stakeholders to discuss advancements in ocean science and technology. We invite industry partners, organizations, and stakeholders to sponsor the event, offering multiple sponsorship levels with various benefits and recognition. This is a great opportunity to showcase expertise, products, and services to a targeted audience of marine scientists and professionals. Sponsors can also network with industry leaders and foster new collaborations. Your support is crucial to the success of WOSC-2026 and the advancement of sustainable ocean management. For further details, please get in touch with the Organizers at wosc2026@gmail.com with the **subject 'WOSC-2026 Sponsorship/Exhibition'**.

Platinum

10L

Diamond

5L

Gold

3L

Silver

2L

Complimentary delegate: Platinum – 8; Diamond – 4; Gold – 2; Silver - 1

Exhibition stall dimensions	Rs. Lakhs	Complimentary Delegates
6 m x 3 m	6.0	4
3 m x 3 m	3.0	2
Other Sponsor options		
Sponsorship of Lunch for One Day	6.0	4
Sponsorship of Dinner for One Night	9.0	8
Tea/Coffee snacks per day	3.0	2
Registration kit	30.0	20
Advertisement in Souvenir on an A4-size page	1.0	1

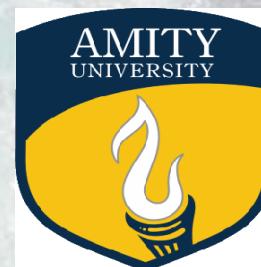
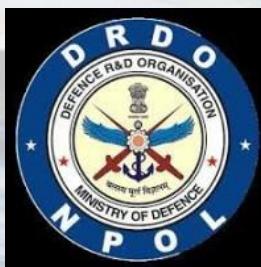
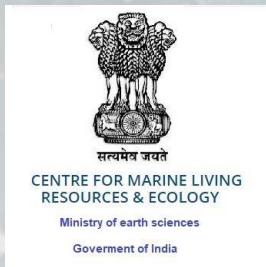
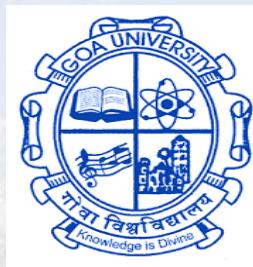
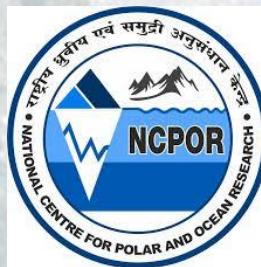
Supporting Organizations



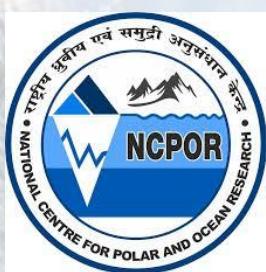
Ministry of Earth Sciences
Government of India



विज्ञान एवं
प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY



Government Sponsors



Private Sponsors



Exhibitors



Registration Fee

Category	Early Bird Fees till 14 Jan 2026	Late registration fees (from 15 th Jan 2026)
Undergraduate/Graduate/Postgraduate Students	₹ 2000	₹ 3000
Ph.D. Scholars /Non-institutional researchers(PA/RA/PS), including Retirees	₹ 3000	₹ 4500
Academicians/Researchers	₹ 6000	₹ 8000
Industry Professionals/Others	₹ 8000	₹ 10000
International delegates (Low/Lower middle/Upper middle/high income)	₹ 7000/9000/12000/ 15000	₹ 7000/9000/12000/ 15000
International Students	₹ 4000	₹ 4000

* Limited financial support may be provided to selected students and researchers after the conference

Bank Details and Payment QR code

Name of the Bank	Indian Bank
Account Name	WORLD OCEAN SCIENCE CONGRESS
Bank A/c No.	7683864510
Type of A/c	Current
Bank Branch	Defence Colony
IFSC Code	IDIB000D008
MICR Code	110019003





Chairman
Prof. Sunil Kumar Singh

Convener
Dr R Mani Murali

Co-Convener
Dr Damodar M Shenoy

Website : <https://wosc.in>

Email : wosc2026@gmail.com