



**National Centre for Polar & Ocean Research
Indian Scientific Expedition to Antarctica (ISEA)**

A. Submission of Scientific Equipment/ Instruments for Antarctica and Return:

1. All scientific equipment/Instruments, handed over at Goa or Antarctica should be packed in metal or wooden boxes with ideally reinforced corners. Samples collected during the expedition must also be sent in such boxes from Antarctica.
2. Considering the Environment and safety of the material, plastic boxes, EPP, polystyrene/ thermacol, and cardboard boxes must be avoided.
3. The box dimensions should be manageable by two individuals, excluding exceptionally large equipment.
4. As is the case, the boxes must have clear identification marks with regard to the owner and the final destination. Every box/ packet should be clearly inscribed with –
 - Expedition: Kindly mention the expedition number, e.g., **43 ISEA**
 - Owner's Name: **Name of the Organization / Name of expedition member**
 - Final destination: **MAITRI or BHARATI or VOYAGE**
 - Box No: e.g., **1 of 5; 2 of 5; 3 of 5; 4 of 5; 5 of 5**

B. Import of samples in cold chain (-20°C /+04°C) from Antarctica:

1. Cold chain samples must be handed over in the Ice Box(s). Expeditioners must carry their own Ice boxes preferably with handles and no more than 30 liters capacity.
2. If the samples require special packaging/care, necessary information should be conveyed in advance to Antarctic Operations.
3. Transport of frozen samples (-20°C) is reliably done through international cold chain agencies. However, maintenance of +04°C during transit and in Customs warehouse is usually difficult. Whenever possible, samples should be prepared for transport in -20°C.
4. The ice box(s) should be half-filled only. The remaining half shall be filled with dry ice during transportation (by the service provider).
5. Samples must be processed before packing, and hazardous chemicals, such as ethanol, must be avoided.
6. After packing, the user must take pictures of the consignment and keep it for future use/records.
7. Before packing, the user must ensure compliance with the guidelines of Customs for import and guidelines for transporting samples in the international cold chain.
8. As is the case, the boxes must have clear identification marks with regard to the owner, the final destination, and the box/ packet number /s.
9. Regarding the documentation for the import of samples from various regulatory bodies/agencies, the concerned Scientist/P.I./ researcher has to arrange for such NOC/certificates, and to be provided when asked by the officials from NCPOR.

Useful Contacts at NCPOR:

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