

National Centre for Antarctic & Ocean Research

Department of Ocean Development
Government of India

20th Indian Scientific Expedition to Antarctica – Invitation for scientific proposals

1. The Twentieth Indian Scientific Expedition to Antarctica will be launched in December, 2000 and will consist of **summer team** which will return to India in March 2001 and a **winter team** which will return to India in March 2002.
2. National Centre for Antarctic & Ocean Research invites proposals for undertaking front ranking scientific experiments in Antarctica in the inter-disciplinary fields of: (i) earth sciences & glaciology; (ii) global change processes; (iii) meteorology & atmospheric sciences; (iv) environmental sciences; (v) biology; (vi) human physiology & medicine; and (vii) engineering & communication sciences. **Thrust areas** identified are:

Ocean–ice–atmosphere interaction using remote sensing; Global change and Antarctica; Ice sheet mass balance & ice thickness; Palaeo-climate & environment; Environment monitoring & conservation; Bio-potentials of Antarctic organisms; Atmospheric & solar terrestrial physics; Cold region technology development.

3. Due consideration has to be given to the fact that the experiments have to be carried out within the logistic infrastructure available at 'Maitri station' and should be limited to around 150 km radius of the station. The proposal should be succinct, indicating the following:

Scientific aims and objectives with illustrations and references; Expected results and their relevance; State of the art experiments in the international scenario; If an ongoing project, the accomplishments till date; Time frame of the project (summer/winter) with milestones; Team component (summer/winter) & logistic requirements; Any national/international collaboration envisaged.

4. Nominees recommended should be physically fit to work in extreme subzero temperatures under harsh field conditions. **All nominations must be accompanied by a medical fitness certificate from a Government Hospital.**
5. NCAOR/DOD makes arrangements for travel to 'Maitri' Antarctica from Goa and back, comfortable accommodation on ship and in Antarctica, food, special polar clothings and personal insurance cover. Vehicle, helicopter and field camp support for experiments will be also available. All other expenses including those related to procurement of scientific equipments, attending Pre-Antarctic trainings & briefings, Hard Duty Allowance, etc. will have to be borne by the participating organizations. This may be taken into account while forwarding the nominations.
6. Deadline for receiving proposals: **Three copies** of the proposals along with biodata of the proposer(s) and names of two referees are to be forwarded through proper channel and must reach the **Centre Director, National Center for Antarctic & Ocean Research, Headland Sada, Vasco da Gama, Goa 403 804 (Ph: 0832 512317, Fax: 512322) by 15 April 2000.** Nominations received after this date will not be entertained.