



NATIONAL CENTRE FOR ANTARCTIC & OCEAN RESEARCH
(Ministry of Earth Sciences, Government of India)
Headland Sada, Vasco da Gama, Goa 403 804

Subject: CALL FOR RESEARCH PROPOSALS FOR 27th INDIAN SCIENTIFIC EXPEDITIONS TO ANTARCTICA

1. The National Centre for Antarctic & Ocean Research (Ministry of Earth Sciences) sends scientific expedition to Antarctica every year. The Twenty seventh Indian Scientific Expedition to Antarctica will be launched in December, 2007 and will consist of summer team which will return to India in March 2008 and a winter team which will return to India in March 2009. Subsequent expeditions shall be launched accordingly.
- 2a. In addition to all ongoing programmes of various institutions like GSI, NGRI, IMD, IIG, NPL, SASE, BU, the National Centre for Antarctic & Ocean Research (NCAOR) has chalked out following ambitious new scientific programmes in various contemporary fields directly contributing to the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) scientific campaign.
 - Evolution and Biodiversity in Antarctica and Surrounding Ocean
 - Antarctica & the surrounding Ocean and the Global Climate System
 - Antarctic Climate Evolution
 - Inter-hemispheric Conjugacy effects in Solar-Terrestrial and Aeronomy Research
 - Astronomical Observations
 - Biological/Geological/Glaciological/Geophysical/Chemical/other studies in Antarctica and surrounding Ocean
- 2b. Similarly separate proposals are invited to be implemented in and around Larsemann Hills region in eastern Antarctica which is the proposed site for new Indian research base in Antarctica, in the related fields of Automatic Weather station (AWS), limnology, atmospheric and ocean sciences, earth sciences and remote sensing.
3. To become a partner in the above mentioned programmes of NCAOR/MOES (Govt. of India), detailed research proposals with long term planning and strategy (in enclosed PRESCRIBED FORMAT) are invited from Scientists/Researchers/Engineers having relevant expertise for undertaking front ranking scientific experiments and contributing towards the above programmes in Antarctica for 27th (2007–2008) and 28th (2008–2009) and 29th (2009–2010) Indian Antarctic expeditions. Certain studies in Southern Ocean may only be taken up subject to the availability of logistic supports in the chartered expedition vessel.
4. The R&D institutions, having their own long term continuous research programme need not to submit their detailed proposals (if already submitted to NCAOR). However, if any new research proposal which can contribute to above mentioned research programmes can be submitted afresh in details with long term projection of activities. All such institutions are requested to submit just a brief account of the accomplishment of their ongoing activities and scientific activities to be undertaken during 27th IAE in the prescribed format.
5. All data, results and reports shall be put up to the NCAOR as soon as the data acquisition and analyses is over on return from Antarctica and/or as and when asked from NCAOR/MOES.
6. The participating institute/organization/department can join the above programme only when their own officials/employees intend to participate in the Indian Antarctic Expedition/s. Scientific Collaborations among the organizations will be highly appreciated and encouraged. All those who wish to participate in Indian Antarctic Expedition/s have to submit their own proposal/s independently directly to NCAOR/MOES through proper channel and in no circumstances under any collaboration through some other institute/s.
7. True to the spirit of International Polar Year (2007) Campaign, NCAOR/MOES (Govt. of India) is also inviting students who have Post graduate degree in science/Professional graduates (like B.E./B.Tech.) to submit their research plan for summer period only under the guidance/supervision of a permanent Scientists of any institute/department/university under **STUDENT**

PARTICIPATION IN ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION SCHEME of NCAOR/MOES. Such proposal has to be submitted strictly through supervisor using his proper channel. The designated guide/supervisor shall be fully responsible for the participation of his/her student/s in Indian Antarctic Expedition. A copy of all data generated by the student/s shall be provided to NCAOR/MOES by his/her guide/supervisor.

8. Besides above programmes, the scientifically sound proposal in any other scientific field/topic may also be submitted for consideration.
9. All these organisations/PIs/students (under said scheme) have to present their proposal before the Group of Experts as and when invited. All those who intend to participate in any Antarctic expedition have to provide a Declaration (in enclosed PRESCRIBED FORMAT) duly endorsed by the Head of their respective Organisation for depositing a copy of all data, samples (as far as practicable), information collected/generated during or after the expedition is over to NCAOR/MOES for the data archival at National Antarctic Data Centre of NCAOR, Goa as and when asked by NCAOR/MOES.
10. While framing the proposal, repetition of scientific work already carried out from the Indian station 'Maitri' in Antarctica should be avoided. Due consideration has to be given to the fact that the experiments have to be carried out within the logistic infrastructure available at 'Maitri' and should be limited to around 150 km radius of the station. The proposal should be succinct and in the prescribed format.
11. The PI should be a permanent employee and must have sufficient experience in the relevant field. Proposed official/s and/or employee/s for the participation in Indian Antarctic Expedition/s, should be from PI's institute/department.
12. There should be a long term research programme (2–4 yr) to be undertaken by concerned PI/Organisation/Institute with institutional commitment. However, year wise (expedition wise) proposed activities should be properly spelled out. The new proposal with the commitment of their respective institutes for long-term research programme to be undertaken in Antarctica shall be given preference.
13. Participation in Indian Antarctic Expedition is subject to medical/psychological fitness and all approved proposals shall be implementable as per the guidelines/instructions/rules/regulations of Ministry of Earth Sciences/NCAOR.
14. NCAOR/MOES makes arrangements for travel to Antarctica from Goa and back, accommodation in the ship and in Antarctica, food, special polar clothing requirements and personal insurance cover. All other expenses including those related to procurement of scientific equipments, attending pre-Antarctic trainings & briefings, Hard Duty Allowance [presently @ Rs 675 and Rs 450 per day for Winter and Summer team members respectively as per NCAOR/MOES terms and conditions] etc. will have to be borne by the participating organisations. This may be taken into account while forwarding the nominations.
15. NCAOR/MOES is also looking for the promising candidates having sufficient Antarctic stay experience and the qualities of leadership, team building and human resource management to be considered as the LEADER of the ensuing 27th Indian Antarctic Expedition. Such candidates need to be nominated by their respective organisation. Detailed biodata and professional experience of nominated candidate may kindly be sent to Director, NCAOR along with nomination.
16. Deadline for receiving proposals: **Three copies of the proposals along with all essential endorsement and certificates in the prescribed formats [available on our website] are to be forwarded through proper channel** and must reach the Director, National Centre for Antarctic & Ocean Research, Headland Sada, Vasco da Gama, Goa 403 804 by **31 March 2007**. Nominations received after this date will not be entertained. For details and all essential formats please contact us on website www.ncaor.gov.in

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