

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EARTH SCIENCES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2615  
ANSWERED ON:16.03.2007  
CLIMATIC CHANGES IN NORTH POLE  
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**Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government proposes to start their research on climatic changes in North Pole ;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard ;
- (c) the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred on such research; and
- (d) the details of cooperation agreement signed with Norway in this regard ?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

(a),(b) Yes Sir. Ministry of Earth Sciences through National Centre for Antarctic and Ocean Research (NCAOR), Goa, an autonomous institute under this Ministry has proposed a research programme for the Arctic region during the XI Five Year Plan starting in 2007, coinciding with International Polar Year (IPY).Scientific research is proposed in the fields of Atmospheric Sciences, Space Weather, Glaciology including Sea Ice and Marine Sciences. There will be a focus on study of global climatic change process and related fields.

(c) Ministry of Earth Sciences has proposed a new research scheme `Expedition to Arctic` during the XI Five Year Plan, for which a token amount of Rs.1.00 crore has been provided for the next financial year.

(d) Modalities are being worked out with the Norwegian Polar Research Institute, for Indian Scientists to carry out research in Svalbard region, where an international research facility exists in Ny-Alesund.