

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
OCEAN DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4297
ANSWERED ON:19.05.2006
EXPEDITION STATION
Sugavanam Shri E.G.

Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to set up a third expedition station at Antarctica;
- (b) if so, the details thereof: and
- (c) the time by which the expedition station is likely to be set up ?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT
(KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) & (c) The Ministry of Ocean Development has selected a site in Larsmann Hills at 69° South Latitude and 76° East Longitude after conducting preliminary surveys during the Antarctic summer of 2003-04 and 2004-05. Further surveys on environmental parameters as mandated under the Environmental Protocol of the Antarctic Treaty and also from logistics and scientific considerations have been carried out during February, 2006. The setting up of the new station at Larsmann Hill will start after obtaining necessary approval of the consultative body of the Antarctic Treaty as mandated under the Environmental Protocol.