

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EARTH SCIENCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4639
ANSWERED ON:22.04.2015
ANTARCTIC EXPEDITIONS
Nath Shri Chand

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) the funds spent to hire ice-class vessels from international market for research in Antarctic; and
(b) the names of the countries from where polar research vessel is likely to be purchased?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY)

(a) Madam, the charges towards chartering of ice class vessels for Indian Scientific Expeditions to Antarctica, year-wise from 2010-11 to 2014-15 is as below:

Year	Total Cost of Chartering (Rs)
2010-11	54.35 Crores
2011-12	72.39 Crores
2012-13	71.28 Crores
2013-14	43.90 Crores
2014-15	21.50 Crores

(b) Madam, Polar Research Vessel is likely to be acquired from Spain.