

Metadata Details

Title

The Scientific Studies and Establishment of the First Indian Structure in the Area.

Science Keywords

Category	Human Dimensions
Topic	Infrastructure
Expedition Year	2004-2005
ISO Topic	Meteorology

Summary

Abstract

XXIV Indian Scientific Expedition to Antarctica left the Indian shores on 10th December 2004. A task force of five members drawn from various organizations from within the XXIV Expedition team headed by the task force Leader, M. Javed Beg was constituted by the Director, National Centre for Antarctic and Ocean Research. The mandate of the task force was to initiate scientific studies in the Larsemann Hills, Ingrid Christensen Coast, East Antarctica and also to erect an Igloo Satellite Cabin at a suitable location in the area selected for the third Indian Station in Antarctica by the first task force (2003-04) led by Mr. Rasik Ravindra, the then Director of Antarctica Division, Geological Survey of India. For the members of the task force (2004-05) this was an additional responsibility over and above their already approved scientific programmes around the Indian Scientific Base, 'Maitri' in the central Dronning Maud Land region.

Purpose

The task force onboard m/v Emerald Sea started for Larsemaan Hills at 17:00 Hrs GMT on 8th of February 2005 and after covering a distance of about 1693.00 NM (3098 km) due east from India Bay, entered the designated area in the early hours of 15th February 2005. Due to poor visibility and severe ice conditions the vessel could not be steered close enough so as to make the flying possible. The first reconnoitry sortie could only be taken up on the 17th of February 2005 in the afternoon. The entire area was carefully evaluated for erection of Melon Hut (Igloo Satellite Cabin) with due considerations to topography, wind direction, proximity to potable water, stability of structure and ground condition for proper anchoring.

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