

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION No.*240
TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 2017

RESEARCH ON CLIMATE CHANGE IN NORTHERN POLE

*240. SHRI SANJAY SETH:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to conduct research on climate change in northern pole;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of expenditure likely to be incurred on such research;
- (d) whether any agreement has been signed with any other country for collaboration in this regard; and
- (e) if so the details thereof?

ANSWER
MINISTER FOR MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

(a) to (e) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (e) OF THE RAJYA
SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO *240 REGARDING RESEARCH ABOUT
RESEARCH ON CLIMATE CHANGE IN NORTHERN POLE
FOR ANSWER ON 23RD MARCH 2017

- (a) Yes Sir.
- (b) The National Centre for Antarctic and Ocean Research (NCAOR), Ministry of Earth Sciences has a long-term program of monitoring one of the major fjords at Ny-Ålesund (1200km to the south of the North Pole) on the Svalbard archipelago in the Arctic region to understand how it may respond to changing climate. Main objective of the project is to establish a long-term comprehensive physical, chemical, biological and atmospheric measurement programme to study:
- The variability in the Arctic/Atlantic climate signal.
 - The winter convection and its role in the biogeochemical cycling.
 - The trigger mechanism of spring bloom and its temporal variability and biomass production.
 - The production and export of organic carbon in the fjord.
- The scientific challenges associated with the cryospheric changes in Arctic to climate variability are also addressed at the Centre for Climate Change Research, Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune.
- (c) An expenditure of around Rs 45 crores is likely to be incurred during the next 3 years (2017-20).
- (d) Yes Sir. NCAOR, Goa, an autonomous institute of MoES has entered into a MOU with the Norwegian Polar Institute (NPI) for scientific and logistic cooperation in the Arctic.
- (e) A wide range of scientific activities concerning climate response of the Polar and Himalayan Cryosphere are being carried out at NCAOR, Goa.
