

Polar Explorers From The GDR And India

Shirmakher's oasis in the eternal ice in the Land of Queen Mod. In the unique natural conditions of the Antarctic region, one of the oldest Soviet research stations has been active since 1961 - Novolazarevskaya.

On the basis of national and international programmes, we conduct year-round observations and many experiments in the fields of aero-meteorology, geophysics, glaciology, seismology, the condition of the environment, and other branches of the Earth Sciences. We serve as a base for field expeditions to the mountain ridges and lakes of the adjoining area of the White Continent.

Now we are extending our co-operation with specialists from the GDR. Last October, with some Soviet assistance, the first permanent station of this fraternal socialist country was opened not far from us. It was named after the outstanding German scholar Georg Forster, a naturalist, geographer, democratic educator and traveller.

Together with our German colleagues, we have drawn up and are implementing a topical programme to study the ozone layer. We regularly send up specially constructed probes. The telemetric information they transmit is received by radar. The incoming data is processed on a computer. Knowing the composition and distribution of ozone in the upper layers of the atmosphere over the Antarctic is of considerable importance for this significant scientific problem.

On the shore of the Lazarev Sea, on the gigantic shelf glacier of the same name, right next