

Maitri II Station

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Maitri II Station Latest News

Recently, the Finance Ministry has granted approval for Maitri II — the country's newest research station proposed to come up in eastern Antarctica.

About Maitri II Station

- It is India's **newest research station** proposed to **come up in eastern Antarctica**.
- It will be **larger than Maitri I**, with plans to design it as a green research base.
- The proposal includes using **renewable energy sources** — solar power for summer expeditions and wind energy to harness the strong Antarctic winds — to run the station's operations.
- It is planned to **deploy automated instruments** onboard Maitri II which will keep recording data and relay it to mainland India, even if the station **remains unmanned for some period**.
- The construction of the research station is expected to be **completed by January 2029**.
- **Nodal Agency: National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR)** under the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) is the nodal agency responsible for operating and organising missions to Antarctica and the

Arctic.

Key Facts about Maitri Station

- It has been hosting **researchers since 1989**, and is located along the **Schirmacher Oasis** — a 20 km-long ice-free **landmass in East Antarctica**.
- It comprises the main building, a **fuel farm, a fuel station, a lake water pump house**, a summer camp, and several smaller containerised modules.
- Maitri can **accommodate between 25 and 40 scientists**, depending on mission requirements and season.
- **India's other research base in Antarctica: Dakshin Gangotri** (first base in Antarctica), operated for a few years. **Bharati which is** operational since 2012.

Source: **IE**

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