

Russia in increments is building up the infrastructure for scientific research support in the Arctic.

The infrastructure of Russian Arctic observatories recently get a substantial development (Red stars on Slide 2)

The research infrastructure was significantly renovated in Barentsburg on Svalbard, where research is conducted by scientists from 10 National Research Universities (Slide 3).

There were established 5 research and monitoring sites: Glacio-cryological, Meteorological, Ecological, Geophysical (Upper atmosphere) and Oceanographic. The new building of geo-hydrochemical laboratory was constructed on the old foundation and equipped with modern analytic instruments ; office space in Barentsburg Observatory building, fit with the necessary office appliances, high-speed Internet; was organized inventory warehouse available for research participants. The inventory includes motorboats, snowmobiles, cars and other equipment. There is also a seagoing boat well equipped for offshore surveys. Recently infrastructure was equipped with fast Internet accesses (10 Mbit). In Barentsburg Settlement there are hotel and hostels, cantina and food shop.

In Tiksi observatory the program of observations is constantly expanding, especially atmospheric observations (Slide 3).

In 2013 the observatory at Cape Baranov on Severnaya Zemlya Archipelago was re-opened. The research works in it will be arranged using equipment taken out from station "North Pole" evacuated due to rapid ice field melting and crash. Observatory can provide accommodation for up to a hundred people (Slide 4).

**The infrastructure mentioned above is open for use by foreign research groups.**

The research and supply vessel "Akademik Treshnikov" (Slide 5) continues its test voyages to Antarctica. "Akademik Treshnikov" was floated out last year; she is similar in appearance and performances to the well-known research and supply vessel "Akademik Fedorov".

After full commissioning, "Akademik Treshnikov" will be used for Arctic Research as "Akademik Fedorov".

We keep searching for solution to the problem of the replacement of the platform for observations and research alike "North Pole" station in the Central Basin of the Arctic Ocean. By the year 2020 Russian government took a decision to construct a self-propelled ice-strengthen platform for scientific research in this area. Currently the engineering study of optional versions is carried out in design bureaus (Slide 6).