

《习近平祝贺南极泰山站建成》

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President Xi Jinping congratulated China's fourth Antarctic research base in a letter Saturday.

In the letter, Xi extended sincere greetings to scientists who beat great difficulties to explore the Antarctic.

The new Taishan station is located between Zhongshan and Kunlun stations at an altitude of 2,600 meters. It can accommodate up to 20 people during the Antarctic summer, and is equipped with a runway for fixed-wing aircraft, specially designed for taking off on snow and ice.

Scientific research in the Antarctic is important for the exploration of nature and development of mankind, Xi said in the letter.

The new research base will not only be a platform for China's scientific research but also for exchanges with scientists from other countries, he said.

Xi believes China's research work in the Antarctic will benefit the whole human race.

China's other three Antarctic bases are Great Wall, Zhongshan and Kunlun. The first station, Great Wall, opened in 1985.

Taishan station is expected to be in service for the next 15 years.