

SECULAR MOVEMENT OF POLAR ICE FRONT IN SCHIRMACHER OASIS, CENTRAL DRONNING MAUD LAND, EAST ANTARCTICA

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Impact of global climatic changes are reflected on the polar ice-cap. For the last two decades annual fluctuations in continental ice margin are being monitored along Dakshin Gangotri Glacier Snout, a prominent glacial tongue, in the central part of Schirmacher Oasis (Latitude: 70°45' S; Longitude: 11°33' E). The observations reveal that the snout is retreating at an average rate of 70 cm per year. Besides annual observations, monthly variation patterns throughout the year were also recorded in 1995-96. The domain of observation has been lately extended by eight kilometers covering the continental ice margin on either side of the snout. The entire length of cap ice margin under observation has shown striking rate of recession.