techman / November 09, 2010 11:07PM

[Marine Technology] Taiwan Ocean Research Institute to Headquarter in Kaohsiung

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Now News (2010/11/04) The staff of the first national research institute headquartered in South Taiwan, Taiwan Ocean Research Institute, have in turn entered and stationed in Sinda Port, Kaohsiung, while the nationwide largest research ship of 2700 tons in the limelight is planned to begin the operation in 2012. Kaohsiung County Governor Chiu-hsing YANG addressed to the public during his visitation at the site that the county government had budgeted 96 million NT dollars for dredging Sinda Port, making the environment ready for the research activities in the future, while, on the other side, the government also planned to establish an industrial special area for oceanic industries, hoping to promote the oceanic industries in Kaohsiung.

In order to accelerate the execution of the oceanic affairs and to promote the sustainable use and development of marine resources, National Applied Research Laboratories (NARL) set up Taiwan Ocean Research Institute (TORI) in 2008. Sinda Port was selected to be the headquarters of the institute because of its large harbor volume, small tidal range, wide hinterland and easy transportation. And the institute became the first national research institute stationed in South Taiwan.

The staff have successively entered the site, reconditioning the environment for the following tasks. The whole staff will complete the stationing in 2011. The headquarters construction program has passed the review of Council for Economic Planning and Development (CEPD), and the design will begin in 2011 while the construction will begin in 2012. Besides, TORI's nationwide largest research ship of 2700 tons is under construction now as well, which is equipped with dynamic positioning system and several advanced detectors. Its operation will begin in Sinda Port in 2012, and with the joining of the ship, the nation's marine research and detection capacity will be greatly enhanced.

On the side of the county government, since four years ago the county government has begun to push the reading of the draft of the Maritime Transport Act; at meanwhile, the government also set up a marine industrial special zone for oceanic tourism, sci-tech development and resort industry. After the third reading in the Legislative Yuan, the marine industry in the county will immediately begin.

The tasks TORI needs to carry out include: (1) to establish a research platform supporting marine research, (2) to play the role of central government's ocean sci-tech think bank, helping the government's control of the marine environment, (3) to develop proactive marine sci-tech and strengthen the nation's marine R&D capacity for the sustainable use of the marine resources. In the future, the institute will spend a great effort on the long-term marine observation in Taiwan waters, alert and prevention research of marine disaster, the construction of the oceanic information service web, the marine detection sci-tech development, marine engineering research, etc.

TORI website: http://www.tori.org.tw/

Related Historical Message:

[Sci-Tech Policy] Kaohsiung County Dredges Sinda Port for NSC's Ocean Research Institute 2010/01/07

Reference:
Now News 2010/11/04 (Chinese)

National Science Council International Cooperation Sci-Tech Newsbrief

Edited 1 time(s). Last edit at 11/09/2010 11:09PM by techman.