JAC'S GRANTS YEAR 2002 AWARDED TO THREE EXPEDITIONS

Padmanabh, Sanglung and Ronglai Kangri

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The JAC's screening committee has decided to award the grant of the year 2002 to the following three expeditions. The total amount is 1.6 million Japanese Yen (US$12,000).

1. Padmanabh (7030m) in East Karakoram – May 5 to Jul. 9
This is a Japan – India joint expedition led by Karish Kapadia and Hiroshi Sakai which has been projected in commemoration of International Year of the Mountain 2002. The primary objective is to make the first ascent of the unclimbed peak Padmanabh (7030m) on the range between Siachen Glacier and Teram Shehr Ice Plateau. The peak is never been attempted before. They will visit Karakoram Pass too and then make a long traverse on the Central Rimo Glacier that leads to Italian Col and ascend on to the Teram Shehr Ice Plateau. The highest peak on the plateau is Padmanabh. They will assault the peak from the eastern side. The expedition consists of five members of Japanese part and six members of Indian part.

2. Sanglung (7095m) in Southeast Tibet – Sep. 24 to Nov. 16
Japanese Alpine News Vol. 1, October 2001 reported of the expedition organized by the Nihon University Alpine Club. They planned to climb in the fall of 2001 the least known Sanglung to the east of Namchabarwa (7782m) in the mysterious Tsangpo Great Bend. Unfortunately, however, they were unable to obtain a permit of the Chinese authorities concerned for climbing the mountain and consequently had to carry over their venture to 2002. The expedition members are General Leader, Noboru Onoe, Leader, Susumu Nakamura and three other young climbers.

3. Ronglai Kangri (6859m) on the Tibet/Nepal border – Aug. 18 to Nov. 6
The Doshisha Univesity Alpine Club again challenges undimbed Ronglai Kangri (6859m) in the remote region that is one of the headwaters of Yalung Tsangpo. They will assault the peak from Tibetan side. The expedition consists of Leader, Kouji Tanabe and four other members. Doshisha sent their reconnaissance team in 1997 and first climbing expedition to the mountain in 1998.