

- CTD system
- Trisponder
- XBT
- Seismic profiling system
- Direction finder
- Self-recording current meter
- 10-metre type survey boat equipped with multi-beam echo sounder, precise electronic positioning system, and automated data logging and processing system.

When this new vessel is placed in commission, the existing Survey Vessels 'Heiyo' (51 tons) and 'Ten-yo' (121 tons) will be decommissioned.

#### **SINO-JAPANESE JOINT OCEANOGRAPHIC STUDY OF NORTHWESTERN PACIFIC OCEAN**

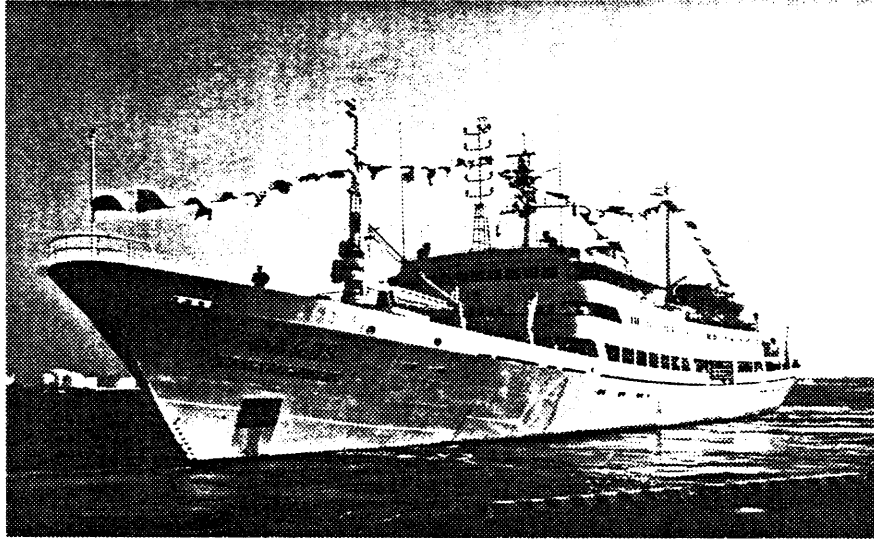
The Governments of People's Republic of China and Japan have recently reached an agreement on a seven-year joint project to conduct oceanographic observation and study in Northwestern Pacific Ocean and the Kuroshio, which has a great influence on climates, fishing operations and other maritime activities in both the countries.

The project was initiated with the following oceanographic cruises by the Research Vessels 'Xiangyanghong 09' (4400 D/T) and 'Shijan' (3000 D/T) of the China State Oceanic Administration (SOA) as well as the Survey Vessel 'Shoyo' (1900 G/T) of the Japan Hydrographic Department and the Research Vessel 'Keifu Maru' (1800 G/T) of Japan Meteorological Agency:

- Xiangyanghong 09 : Physical oceanographic, meteorological, chemical and biological observations in areas covering from N part of Eastern China Sea to S of Honsyu, Japan, from May to June 1986.
- Shijan : Physical oceanographic, meteorological, chemical and biological observations in Eastern China Sea from May to June 1986.
- Shoyo : Physical oceanographic and chemical observations in areas covering from S of Honsyu, Japan, to Eastern China Sea from May to

June 1986.

- Keifu Maru : Marine meteorological observations in Eastern China Sea from June to July 1986.



'R/V Xiangyanghong 09' of China State Oceanic Administration (SOA)

The data processing will be carried out jointly, and the data obtained by these vessels will be mutually exchanged between the two countries.

## **INAUGURATION OF OCEAN CURRENT INFORMATION SERVICE**

### **Hydrographic Department of Japan**

The Hydrographic Department of Japan is now trying to issue a weekly 'Ocean Current Information Chart' showing velocities and paths of the Kuroshio and other major currents around Japan estimated one week ahead, in response to the demand of various sectors such as shipping, fisheries, etc.

The Department has so far been supplying users in general with ocean current and water temperature data obtained by the survey vessels, patrol vessels as well as fishing boats and other volunteering ships through the media of Notices to Mariners, biweekly bulletin, radio broadcasts, and facsimile services twice a month. In recent years, however, many users of