



AAC Publications

Mt. SUTD, Northwest Ridge

India, Himachal Pradesh – Lahaul

On August 31 a team of young climbers from Singapore University of Technology and Design, led by veteran mountaineer and consultant Edwin Siew, reached an unnamed summit (6,010m on the Leomann map) in the Karcha Valley. According to the Indian Mountaineering Foundation, this summit, which lies on the watershed ca 3km northeast of Central Peak (6,285m), was thought to be previously unclimbed. The team approached from Batal, along the Karcha Nala, and then south up its right branch to an advanced base camp at 4,936m on moraine below the glacier [This is the largest of the four main glaciers that rise south from the Karcha River, and its head forms the watershed with the lower Bara Shigri Glacier]. **Camp 1 was placed at 5,240m on moraine above the east bank of the glacier, and summit camp at 5,490m below a col marking the base of the northwest ridge of the unnamed peak.**

On summit day Ozgun Balaban, Samuel Chin Jia Kai, Siew, Javier Su Wei Jie, Raymond Te Yeng Jie, Andrew Toh Yew Kuan, Daniel Wee Yao Hui, Go Yi Qian, Ong Yong Siang, three local guides, a liaison officer, and a photographer left camp at 3 a.m. and climbed 80m to the col and then nearly 2km up the northwest ridge to reach the summit a little after midday. The standard was AD, and they fixed 500m of rope. GPS measurements at the highest point gave 32°15.39'N, 77°42.23'E and 6,056m. The team propose naming the peak after the university: Mt. SUTD.

Information from Edwin Siew, Singapore

Images



Mt. SUTD and route of ascent on northwest ridge.

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