

ITALY, BERGAMO

**Italy to set up
Everest eco-station**

Italy is to set up one of the Earth's highest stations for atmospheric and other tests, a top mountain scientist said Tuesday. "We plan to install an atmospheric and climate monitoring station 8,000 metres up Everest, on the South Col," said project leader Agostino Da Polenza, one of the world's most re-

spected high-altitude scientists. Da Polenza announced the project, due for completion next summer, at an exhibition here on the world's 26 high-altitude test sta-

tions. "They examine all kinds of things: the performance of the human body at high altitudes; Earth Sciences; anthropological research on local populations; studying new technologies; and tracking cosmic rays," said Da Polenza, head of Italy's **Ev-K2** programme at the National Research Council. The

Bergamo show will have an illustrious visitor on October 11, when 1995 Nobel Chemistry Prize winner Paul Crutzen of the USA will illustrate projects aimed at

guaging the growth of Asia's Atmospheric Brown Cloud (Abc) - the huge industrial emissions blowing out of the fast-proliferating smoke stacks of China and India. The cloud is one of the key targets of a measuring station Italy set up on Everest earlier this year. "Quite a few countries have been

working on the Abc project but this station puts us right on top of the world," Da Polenza said when the station was unveiled in February.

