

been a controlled item. The level of controls differ from country to country. For countries which are non-signatories to the nuclear non-proliferation treaty, computers above a certain threshold can be exported only after a license is obtained from the US Government. India is included in this category.

(b) The matter has been taken up with the Government of USA.

(c) Since high performance computers will be subject to case by case licensing, there will be delays in procurement.

(d) and (e) The import of items of high technology including computers are undertaken under the provisions of the Indo-US Memorandum of Understanding signed in 1984. Government are pursuing proposals for procurement of computers from the US under this agreement.

Visit of Israeli team to India

*439. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA,
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDR-
RAKANT BHANDARE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Israeli team led by the Dy. Director General, Foreign Affairs of Israel, Mr. Moshe Yaga lately visited New Delhi, to identify areas of cooperation between the two countries;

(b) if so, what areas were identified as a result of the talks; and

(c) what steps are proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir. The Israeli official had visited India in March 1992, to discuss the broad

framework of future political and economic bilateral relations.

(b) Among the areas identified as mutually beneficial for cooperation were: agriculture, science & technology, culture, civil aviation, tourism and trade & industry.

(c) Visits of delegations in the fields of civil aviation, tourism and agriculture have taken place to draw up programmes of cooperation in each of the areas.

Expenditure sent to Antarctica

*440. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of expeditions sent to Antarctica for research during the last two years;

(b) the details of research work carried out by these expeditions; and

(c) the expenditure incurred on each of the expeditions during the period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM):

(a) During the last two years i.e. 1990-91 and 1991-92 two scientific expeditions were sent to Antarctica.

(b) Details of scientific work done are given in the Statement (See below)

(c) The expenditure incurred is given below:

1990-91	Rs. 12.34 crores
1991-92	Rs. 13.00 crores