

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) and (b). A Statement comprising lists of delegations on bilateral visits to and from China, either sponsored by Government, or of which Government, are aware, is laid on the Table of the House [Placed in Library, See No. LT- 6409/88] Government's purpose in sending delegations has been to pursue action in functional and other areas of mutual interest as well as to increase understanding with China. It is assessed that these objectives have been met.

[English]

Indo-Mongolia Co-operation in Science and Technology

2136. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether an agreement has recently been signed with Mongolia for co-operation in Science and Technology; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the areas identified for co-operation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes, Sir. An Agreement for cooperation in the field of Science and Technology was signed between Government of India and the Government of Mongolian Peoples Republic during the visit of the President of India to Mongolia on July 14, 1988.

(b) The Agreement envisages:

- (i) Cooperation through exchange of scientists, research workers, specialists and scholars;
- (ii) Exchange of scientific and technological information and documentation;

(iii) Organisation of bilateral seminars/courses;

(iv) Joint identification of scientific and technological problems; and

(v) Formulation and implementation of joint research in industry, agriculture and other fields and exchange of experience and know-how resulting therefrom.

Dispute over Mangaladevi Temple

2137. SHRI K. MOHANDAS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government are aware about the dispute between Kerala and Tamil Nadu States over the Mangaladevi temple near Thekkady in Kerala;

(b) whether several representations were received from Kerala Government regarding this temple; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Union Government to solve the dispute?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SON-TOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c). There is a divergence of views between Governments of Tamil Nadu and Kerala in regard to the location of Mangaladevi (Kannagi) Temple. Both the State Governments were advised to consider settling the matter through bilateral discussions. The Government of India, for their part, would be glad to render any assistance as the State Governments may wish to have in this regard.

Utility of INSAT-1C

2138. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state what services in the spheres of television, telephony and meteorology, India multi-purpose INSAT-1C shot into orbit on 22nd July, 1988 is likely to provide to the Eastern States, particularly West Bengal?