GOVERNMENT OF INDIA SPACE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1091 ANSWERED ON:03.03.2010 INDO ISRAEL CO OPERATION Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Israel are cooperating with each other in the field of Space;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the recent launch of Polaris Satellite of Israel by the Government is a part of this understanding;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any agreement has been signed between India and Israel to undertake any project in future; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTRY OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS, MINISTRY OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, MINISTRY OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTRY OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and the Israeli Space Agency (ISA) have been cooperating in the area of peaceful uses of outer space.

(c) No, Sir. The launch of 'PolarisÂ' (TECHSAR) was a commercial contract with Antrix Corporation of the Department of Space.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) Under a memorandum of Understanding, Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and Israeli Space Agency mutually agreed for flying an Israeli instrument called TAUVEX (Tel Aviv Ultra Violet Experiment) on ISRO's satellite as a guest instrument. This scientific instrument is a space borne telescope operating in ultraviolet region whose data will be available to Indian scientists.