

ments for extending judicial assistance with 14 countries, India has recently concluded agreement of mutual assistance in criminal matters with Switzerland and Turkey. The agreements provides for cooperation between law enforcement agencies, on the basis of the principles of reciprocity and dual criminality, in criminal matters including location of witnesses, their testimony, service of records etc.

Airbus service

4526. PROF. K. V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce the newly acquired airbus service in the Bombay-Cochin and Delhi-Cochin sector; and

(b) if so, how many new Air-buses will be used in these sectors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHR' SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) and (b). Indian airlines is still in the process of finalising programme of A 326 aircraft operation in its network. This will take into consideration requirement of the network, suitability of airports and the proposed closure of Cochin airport for repair by the Defence Authorities.

Beautification Plan of Golden Temple

4527. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far in the implementation of beautification plan of the Golden Temple Complex, Amritsar;

(b) the amount spent on the project so far;

(c) the amount likely to be incurred to complete the project; and

(d) when the project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) According to the Government of Punjab acquisition and demolition of all properties covered by Phase-I of the programme, excepting the buildings required to be retained for historical, archaeological or for security purposes, has been completed.

(b) An amount of Rs. 50.03 crores is said to have been spent on the project so far.

(c) According to the present estimates another Rs. 21.73 crores would be required for completing the project.

(d) According to the Government of Punjab, the project is likely to be completed before the end of the year.

K- Band Satellites

4528. SHRI S. M. GURADDI: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Informatics Centre has prepared a feasibility study on K-band satellites;

(b) if so, for what purpose the feasibility study will be helpful; and

(c) the details of the report?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A study on the possibility of using a special purpose K-band satellite for only data communication between computers has been initiated by the National Informatics Centre with the objective of examining technologies which can reduce the cost of setting up of earth stations in its network, NICNET. The study is in the preliminary stage.

Meeting of Science Centre

4529. SHRI S. M. GURADDI:
SHRI SHANTILAL PATEL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the first meeting of the Governing Council of the Centre of Science and Technology for non-aligned and other developing countries began in New Delhi on March 16, 1989;

(b) if so, the subjects discussed; and

(c) the details of the decision arrived at in the meeting?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The meeting discussed subjects relating to the functioning of the Centre. The following are the outcome and decisions of the meeting:

i. The Centre will facilitate.

(a) S&T manpower training, and

(b) exchange of S&T information, its collection and dissemination

among the member countries. It will also facilitate formulation of multilateral programmes which would be of interest to the member countries, and based on their needs.

ii. The representatives agreed with the need for commitment of resources towards the Centre by the member countries;

iii. Such non-aligned and developing countries as are still not members of the Centre were urged to do so urgently;

iv. The first Director of the Centre will be from India;

v. An extra-ordinary meeting of the Centre will be held in August 1989 to approve the appointment of the Director of the Centre, and consider shares of the member countries in the budget of the Centre; and

iv. The next meeting of the Governing Council would be held before April, 1990.

Computer Viruses

4530. SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether about 20 Bombay based firms have recently been hit by computer viruses;

(b) if so, whether any enquiry has been conducted;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) the remedial measures taken in the matter?