

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6910  
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2003  
INTERNET CONNECTION  
HARIBHAU MAHALE

**Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

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- (a) the details of the customs departments at various ports in the country who do not link their system to DGFT and internet ;
- (b) whether the authorities at Patparganj Delhi ask for issue of confirmation letter of Joint Director Foreign Trade, Central Licensing Area, New Delhi in all cases without linking to internet for verification ;
- (c) the manner in which the Government ensure required linkage of computers is done in internet for verification in all cases, and
- (d) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE. N. RAMACHANDRAN)

- (a) Out of various customs locations across the country, 23 major customs locations where ICEC (Indian Customs EDI System) is currently in operation are linked to DGFT through ICEGATE under ICENET project.
- (b) Whenever a license is issued by the Office of the DGFT, a confirmation copy of the same is sent by post to the office of the Customs. ICD Patparganj also receives the confirmation copy of the same way. Subsequently, at the time of registration with customs, the same is compared by the Customs Officer with the confirmation copy of the licence received directly from the office of the DGFT for verifying its genuineness before registration. This procedure is in vogue to prevent fake licenses from getting registered. However, in a few cases, where the confirmation copy is not received either due to delay in postal service or due to any other reason, the Customs Officer seeks confirmation from the office of the DGFT by making correspondence. Due care is taken to ensure expeditious confirmation.
- As regards conducting verification through Internet with the Website of the DGFT, the ICD Patparganj does not have the requisite connectivity as yet. New computers are to be installed in a very short time. Thereafter, it would be possible to do such verifications online, through internet.
- (c) Verification by Customs Houses is done through dedicated leased line network, which is a secured network. However, individual licensees can verify the status of their licence data through internet by accessing the ICEGATE website, namely, [www.icegate.gov.in](http://www.icegate.gov.in).
- (d) Any unauthorized access to the network will be dealt with by the security products like firewalls and intrusion detection systems installed at the ICEGATE, and therefore, verification would continue to be done through dedicated leased lines only.