

*[English]***Interpol Communications Network**

5849. SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI :
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to join the Interpol Communications Network by latest X-400;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with likely benefit emerging out of it;

(c) whether a final decision has been taken in this regard;

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be implemented;

(e) whether the Interpol is likely to develop a new criminal information system by including a variety of subjects; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) :
(a) to (f) A decision has been taken to join the Interpol Telecommunication network which is based on the X-400 protocol. This is an exclusive network which can be accessed by only Interpol member countries and Interpol General Secretariat. The network will allow data and images to be passed between member countries themselves and with Interpol General Secretariat. There will also be provision for online encryption of the communication. It is likely to be implemented by the end of the current year.

The Interpol General Secretariat has a programme to develop a new Criminal Information System. The main technical advantage of the new system will be the introduction of intelligent consultation software. The following subjects are proposed to be developed over the next five years - (i) Money Laundering, (ii) Credit Cards, (iii) Stolen Passports, (iv) Identity Documents, (v) Cheques, (vi) Address Book and (vii) Pedophilia.

Export of Sugar to Pakistan

5850. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan was importing sugar from India;

(b) if so, the terms of contract for exporting sugar from India;

(c) the total value of sugar exported so far;

(d) whether Pakistan has suddenly cancelled the contract; and

(e) if so, the specific reasons for the cancellation of the contract?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Pakistan is importing sugar from India on commercial terms.

(c) The total value of the sugar exported to Pakistan during the Financial year 1996-97, is about Rs. 453.83 crores.

(d) and (e) No contract entered into with ISGIEIC Ltd., has been cancelled by Pakistan. As informed by S.T.C., no notice for cancellation of the contract has been received by S.T.C. from Trading Corporation of Pakistan, Karachi.

Fruit Growers

5851. DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that fruit growers are not getting the remunerative prices for their produces in the country particularly in Assam; and

(b) if so, the measures taken by the Government in favour of the fruit growers so that they could get remunerative prices of their products?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise. However, Deptt. of Agriculture and Coopn. implements Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for perishable horticultural items to avoid distress sale by the farmers of their produces, on receiving the specific request from the State Govt. A pre-targetted quantity, at the Market Intervention Price (MIP) fixed by the Central Government in consultation with the State Government, is procured under the said scheme. Losses/profits, if any, incurred under the scheme, are shared by the Central & State Government concerned on 50:50 basis. Moreover two soft loan schemes viz (i) Integrated Project on management of post harvest infrastructure of Horticulture Crops and (ii) Development of Marketing of Horticulture produce are also implemented through National Horticulture Board to reduce post harvest losses and improve marketability of the produce and to ensure remunerative prices to the growers.