Shri Bhagavati: Sir, I have already given the number of radio licences issued.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: May I know whether the Government is intending to amend the law and to a. all the dealers to sell radios after g ting licences issued by the authorities?

Shri Bhagavati: Under the present Act they have to inform the authorities, and accordingly steps are taken

श्री कमल नयन बजाज : जिस तरह मोटर बचने वाला उसको रजिस्टर करवा कर देता है, इसी तरह यदि रेडियो बेचने वाला भी उसका लाइसेंस करवा कर बचे तो क्या उसमें सरकार को कोई दिक्कत होती है? यदि नहीं, तो ऐसा किया जाना चाहिए क्योंकि यह छोटी चीज होने से लोग इसको बनवाना भूल जाते हैं और इस तरह सरकार को रेवन्यू में काफ़ी हानि हो रही है। क्या इस ओर सरकार ध्यान दे रही है?

Mr. Speaker: It is a suggestion for action.

Shri Tyagi: Has there been any proposal under the consideration of Government to levy a consolidated amount of licence fee at the point of purchase of radio sets so that afterwards the buyer may not have to bother about annual fees at all?

Mr. Speaker: Another suggestion for action.

Shri Tyagi: No, Sir. It is not a suggestion. Some such thing was under the consideration of Government.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Asian Highways

***883. Shri Maheswar Naik:** Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far in the proposal to develop a system of Asian Highways;

(b) the portions of Indian and Pakistani highways brought under the Asian Highway system up to date;

(c) the financial implications involved in the scheme for the participating countries; and

(d) the measures suggested for the participating countries to adopt in order that international restriction may not stand in the way of proper utilization of the highways for international traffic?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Bhagavati): (a) to (d). A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in the Library. *See* No. LT-1130/63].

Shri Maheswar Naik: From the statement it appears that a certain portion of our national highways is being covered under the Asian Highway System. May I know whether any additional aid is being made available from ECAFE to bring up the standard of the road system in India to the international standard?

Shri Bhagavati: ECAFE is now trying to get some funds from the Special Fund of the UNO. It is estimated that the foreign exchange equivalent will be of the order of 21,17,020 dollars.

Shri Maheswar Naik: May I know whether any measures have so far been taken to restore the missing links between India, Pakistan and Burma?

Shri Bhagavati: The idea is to connect all Capitals from Indonesia in the East to Turkey in the West.

श्री भक्त दर्शन : श्रीमन् क्या माननीय मंत्री जी यह बतान की स्थिति में हैं कि देरी से देरी कब तक इन सड़कों को बनाने का काम पूरा हो जाएगा ?

Shri Bhagavati: I have already stated in the statement the steps taken so far. Apart from that, two

reconnaissance surveys have been completed. The expert teams which conducted these two surveys have recommended that a sum equivalent to 27,85,600 dollars would be required for pre-investment survey of the route through Burma-East Pakistan-Afghanistan-Iran.

श्री भक्त दर्शन : मेरा प्रश्न शायद माननीय मंत्री जी समझे नहीं । मेरा प्रश्न यह है कि इस काम में कितना समय लगेगा, पांच साल या दस साल । क्या कोई अन्दाजा है कि यह कब तक पूरा हो जाएगा ?

Shri Bhagavati: It is very difficult to say that.

Shri D. C. Sharma: From the statement I find that there are 11 priority routes in India and six additional routes. May I know on how many routes work has been taken up? How many routes are still in the stage of preparation of estimates and how many routes are still in cold storage?

Shri Bhagavati: The steps already taken have been given fully in the statement. Apart from that, two reconnaissance surveys have been made.

Shri D. C. Sharma: Where?

Shri Bhagavati: In Burma-East Pakistan-Afghanistan-Iran.

Shri D. C. Sharma: Sir, I am talking of the routes in India but the hon. Minister is talking of the routes in Pakistan.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The question was in how many routes in India the work has been started and how many routes are in the stage of preparing plans. So far as the third question about cold storage is concerned, probably, the Minister might not have access to that.

Shri Bhagavati: I require notice to answer that question.

दुर्गम क्षेत्र समिति

*८८४. **श्री भक्त दर्शन** : क्या **खाद्य तथा कृषि** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि कुछ वर्षों पहले भारत के पर्वतीय क्षेत्रों को खाद्य पदार्थों में आत्मनिर्भर बनाने के सुझाव देने के लिए "दुर्गम क्षेत्र समिति" के नाम से एक समिति नियुक्त की गई थी ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो विभिन्न राज्य सरकारों ने उस समिति द्वारा की गई सफारिशों पर कहां तक अमल किया है ; और

(ग) स्वयं केन्द्रीय सरकार ने उन सिफारिशों पर क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा० राम सुभग सिंह) : (क) से (ग). सभा के पटल पर एक विवरण रख दिया गया है । [**पुस्तकालय में रखा गया, देखिये संख्या** LT ११३१/६३]

श्री भक्त दर्शन : श्रीमान्, इस विवरण में यह बताया गया है कि इस कमेटी ने जो सिफारिशें की थीं उन्हें राज्य सरकारों ने और संघीय क्षेत्रों ने तीसरी पंच वर्षीय योजना में सम्मिलित कर लिया है । लेकिन यह नहीं बताया गया कि इन की क्या प्रगति हो रही है । तो क्या माननीय मंत्री जी इस बात का प्रयत्न करेंगे कि राज्य सरकारों से समय समय पर रिपोर्ट ली जाएं और उनसे प्रगति के बारे में जांच पड़ताल चलती रहे ?

डा० राम सुभग सिंह: जी हां, इसका प्रयास किया जाएगा ।

श्री भक्त दर्शन : क्या यह सत्य है कि इस तरह के इलाकों के विकास के बारे में एक गोष्ठी अभी कुछ दिन पहले शिमले में हुई थी जिस में यह सुझाव दिया गया था कि एक हिल डेवलपमेंट बोर्ड बनाया जाय, तो मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि सरकार का उस के बारे में क्या रुख है और उस की कब तक स्थापना हो जायगी ?