

**Tourist Coupon Scheme**

\*1003. { Shri Subodh Hanota:  
Shri S. C. Samanta:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) how far the tourist coupon scheme has encouraged the tourist traffic in our country;

(b) whether the object of this scheme has been achieved; and

(c) how long this scheme will continue?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Government are still working out the details with regard to the actual operation of this scheme

(b) and (c) Do not arise

**Bhutan-India Road Link**

\*1004. { Shri D. C. Sharma:  
Shri Dinesh Singh:  
Shri Shakti Dasgupta:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No 452 on the 19th February, 1959 and state.

(a) the further progress so far made in the construction work on each of the two direct road links between Bhutan and India; and

(b) the expenditure incurred so far thereon?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b) Garubasha-Hatisar Road.—Construction work has been undertaken in the first 15 miles. 71 per cent formation work and 6 culverts were completed upto June 1959, with an expenditure of Rs. 2-25 lakhs.

Jainti-Buxaduar-Sanchula Road.—Survey work has been completed on 9 miles from Jainti to Buxaduar.

Earth work on the first mile from Jainti is in hand. An expenditure of Rs 47,100 has been reported so far.

**Asian Highways Plan**

\*1005. { Shri Raghunath Singh:  
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:  
Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether ECAFE experts are working out an Asian Highways Plan and considering to develop ancient routes of India connecting Burma, Thailand, Afghanistan and Iran; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes

(b) The plan is still in the preliminary stage of consideration. The provisional list of roads suggested by the ECAFE Secretariat to form the international highway network in the region is laid on the Table of the Sabha [See Appendix III, annexure No 95]

**Death of Shri Ashim Shome in Railway Hospital**

\*1006. Shri Sadhan Gupta: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Shri Ashim Shome, a reputed foot-baller of the Eastern Railway Sports Club and of the Calcutta University and a member of the Bengal team for the last National Football Championship was admitted to the B R Singh Hospital of the Eastern Railway on the 30th June, 1959 with serious head injuries resulting from a fall from an electric train;

(b) whether it is a fact that although cabins were vacant in the hospital and Ashim Shome's friends and relatives were willing to bear the expenses Shri Shome was refused?