

going to be started or whether it has started in any of the provinces?

Shri Alagesan: In the two years of the Five-Year-Plan period, we have already spent 68 lakhs on this road.

Shri Barman: In view of the fact that since 1950 this only life line to Assam is heavily damaged during the rains every year, is there any proposal for more bridges for flood water to pass?

Shri Alagesan: Yes, Sir. The estimate of this Assam Access Road covers all these things, metalling of surface, construction of bridges, etc.

Shri N. M. Lingam: May I know the necessity for these two alignments for this road and whether the temporary alignment will be abandoned when work is executed along the permanent alignment?

Shri Alagesan: The temporary alignment will be continued to be maintained by the States concerned, after we take over the permanent alignment.

Shri N. M. Lingam: The first part of my question has not been answered.

Shri Alagesan: The road along the permanent alignment does not exist in several sections.

RADIO PHOTO SERVICE

*683. **Shri Heda:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state the countries with whom India is connected by the Radio Photo Service?

(b) What are the charges separately for each country?

(c) Is the service getting more and more popular?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 59.]

(c) Yes judging from the recent traffic statistics.

Shri Heda: From the statement laid on the Table, I find that only European and some of the American countries are linked. Is there any effort going to be made on the part of the Government to connect the Middle East and South East Asian countries?

Shri Raj Bahadur: We are constantly making efforts in that direction. But the effort is necessarily limited by our limited resources in equipment and finances.

श्री हेडा : चूँकि हमारे व्यापारिक और दूसरे सांस्कृतिक सम्बन्ध एशियाटिक कंट्रीज से ज्यादा हैं, इस लिहाज से क्या कोई इस प्रकार की स्कीम के हाथ में लिये जाने की सम्भावना है ?

श्री राज बहादुर : मैंने जैसा निवेदन किया, वह स्कीम हमारे विचाराधीन है किन्तु इस में जो योरोपियन कंट्रीज का बाहुल्य दिखता है उस का कारण यह है कि हमारे तार के सारे सम्बन्ध जो हैं वह लन्दन के द्वारा होते हैं इस सर्विस के लिये ।

FAMILY PLANNING RESEARCH AND PROGRAMME COMMITTEE

*684. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** (a) Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state when the Family Planning Research and Programmes Committee was constituted?

(b) What are its main terms of reference?

(c) Has any interim report been submitted by the Committee?

(d) If so, what are its recommendations?

(e) Has any action been taken on the interim recommendations of the Committee?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) and (b). The Family Planning Research and Programmes Committee was constituted on the 6th May 1953 to make recommendations to the Government of India regarding research schemes and experi-