

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1908
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2005
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND PACIFIC
Sarva Dr. Arun Kumar

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific has finalized the route of Trans Asian Railway and Asian Highway network;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith route and connecting cities; and
- (c) if not, the present status of the project?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN)

Trans Asian Railway Network

(a) to (c): ESCAP has not finalized the Trans Asian Railway Network. They are taking steps to formalize the Network through an Intergovernmental Agreement.

Asian Highway Networks

The Intergovernmental Agreement on the Asian highway Network has entered into force on 4-7-2005. The Asian Highways Network extends to 32 countries. Its total length is more than 1,40,000 Km. The total length of the Asian Highways in India is about 11,458 km consisting of about 11,432 km of National Highways and about 26 km of State roads. The implementation of the Asian Highway agreement has been entrusted to a working group on Asian Highways, the membership of which is open to all members of ESCAP. The Agreement is a coordinated plan for the development of highway routes of international importance, which the members intend to undertake within the framework of their national programs.

The major cities on the Asian Highway Route in India are New Delhi, Agra, Kanpur, Kolkatta, Bargaon, Nagaon, Dimapur, Kohima, Imphal, Moreh, Gwalior, Dhule, Thane, Begaum, Bangalore, Krishnagiri, Madurai, Nagpur, Kharagpur, Barauni, Raxaul, Rampur, Bani, Vishakhapatnam, Vijaywada, Chennai, etc.

The major international cities falling on the route are Tokyo, Seoul, Beijing, Ho Chi Minh City, Bangkok, Lahore, Islamabad, Tehran, Ankara, Istanbul, Jakarta, Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Kabul, Moscow, Phnom Penh, Chittagong, Dhaka, etc.