

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3950  
ANSWERED ON:20.12.2005  
TRANS ASIAN HIGHWAY  
Meinya Dr. Thokchom

**Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has assessed the progress of work pertaining to the Asian International Highway linking India, Myanmar, Thailand and Singapore;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Asian Development Bank has agreed to finance this project; (
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the date by which international highway is likely to become operational;
- (f) whether any hurdle has come in the implementation of the project; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROADTRANSPORTANDHIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R.BAALU) (a) and (b) Out of 32 countries India, along with 26 other countries signed the Inter Governmental Agreement on Asian Highways during the 60th Annual Session of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific (UNESCAP) in April 2004. Currently, 28 countries have signed the agreement. At present, 14 Member Countries have ratified the Agreement and ratification of agreement regarding India is under process.

(c) and (d ) The UNESCAP is discussing with various multilateral/international financial institutions for raising finance to execute this project.

(e) to (g) The Agreement provides for norms and standards of construction,alignment of routes, road safety standards etc. The agreement has come into force since July 4, 2005. It is difficult to put a date to the completion of the Network. About 16% of total length of the Asian Highway is still below the prescribed norms by the Agreement.