

(b) The details have not yet been finalized.

(c) According to the tentative estimate expected that in the initial stage, the recurring expenditure on this research Organisation would be Rs. 25 lakhs.

CONSTRUCTION OF A TUNNEL ACROSS BRAHMAPUTRA

*493. DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration by Government for constructing a two and a half mile long tunnel across the Brahmaputra at Pandu or Jogipura in Assam;

(b) if so, whether any details of this scheme have been finalised; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the negative, by which date the same will be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : (a) to (c). Preliminary investigations show that it will be more economical to construct a road bridge than a tunnel across the Brahmaputra and, therefore, the idea of the tunnel has been dropped for the present. The scheme for a bridge has not yet been finalised as detailed investigations, surveys and sub-surface explorations are required to be made before the scheme for such a major project could be finalised.

HOMOEOPATHIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

*502. SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD: Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) how many meetings of the Homoeopathic Advisory Committee were held in 1956 and the first half of 1957;

(b) whether the Committee has recommended the establishment of a Homoeopathic college in Uttar Pradesh; and

(c) if the reply to part (b) above be in the affirmative, what steps are being taken in this connection?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR): (a) One meeting of the Homoeopathic Advisory Committee was held during 1956 and one meeting was held in the first half of 1957.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF MADRAS GOVERNMENT FOR CENTRAL GRANT FOR ROADS UNDER SECOND PLAN

*503. SHRI N. RAMAKRISHNA IYER: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Madras has recommended any schemes for the development of roads of economic and tourist importance for Central Grant for the Second Five Year Plan period; and

(b) if so, which are those schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) Yes.

(b) A statement giving the names of the schemes is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

Road schemes of economic and tourist importance recommended by Government of Madras for Central Grant-in-Aid during Second Plan period so far.

1. Upgrading the Vedaranyam-Kodikarai road.

2. Construction of road to Vedan-thangal Bird Sanctuary.