

economic, social and population changes on the reproductive pattern, attitudes on motivation affecting the size of the family;

(ii) to advise on programmes of training and research keeping in view that such training and research will assist the Government to take economic and social action and thereby facilitate the sound National Programme of reconstruction;

(iii) to co-ordinate demographic research schemes receiving financial assistance from the Government of India;

(iv) to review progress made in the demographic Training and Research Centres receiving financial assistance from the Ministry of Health; and

(v) to examine and recommend proposals which may be received by the Ministry of Health for financial assistance for conducting demographic research.

#### Rajasthan Desert

\*1958. Shri Karmi Singhji: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Rajasthan have submitted any scheme to prevent spreading of desert in that State; and

(b) if so, whether Government of India have examined and considered the scheme?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) and (b). No, Sir. But two schemes executed by the Central Government in Rajasthan, viz., the Desert Afforestation Research Scheme and the Scheme for Reclamation and Control of the Rajasthan Desert are intended to prevent the spreading of the desert. Besides, the other general soil conservation measures undertaken by the State Government are also expected to help in arresting the march of the desert.

#### Multi-Purpose River Valley Projects

\*546. Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state the strength of skilled and unskilled labour employed at various multi-purpose River Valley Projects (Project-wise)?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): A statement is placed on the Table. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 2].

#### Flood Control Schemes in Punjab

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\*567. { Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:  
Shri D. C. Sharma:  
Shri Daljit Singh:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount asked by Punjab Government for anti-flood schemes during 1958;

(b) the total amount sanctioned by the Central Government;

(c) the total amount utilised so far; and

(d) the nature of works done?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) The Government of Punjab asked for an allotment of Rs. 168 lakhs as Central loan assistance for financing expenditure on flood control schemes during the financial year 1958-59.

(b) A loan of Rs. 130 lakhs was sanctioned to the Government of Punjab for flood control schemes during 1958-59.

(c) The State Government have reported that an expenditure of Rs. 74.14 lakhs was incurred in 1958-59 up to the end of December, 1958.

(d) Surface drainage improvement schemes, canalisation of nullahs, embankment schemes and town protection schemes.

#### Earnings from Passenger Traffic

\*568. Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the total miles covered, the