

(b) Loans and Grants are given on demand by the State Government in respect of schemes which are eligible for financial assistance from the Government of India and within the ceiling approved for the schemes under the Second Five Year Plan.

#### Development of Nangal Dam as a Tourist Centre

1753. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken so far to make Nangal Dam a tourist centre; and

(b) the money allotted for the same purpose during 1957-58?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) The Government of the Punjab have posted a Public Relations Officer to provide facilities to the tourists at Nangal. He issues permits and arranges accommodation for the visitors. Because the number of visitors is very large it is proposed to open in co-operation with the State Government a tourist bureau with adequate information and guide staff so that visitors of various types are given full attention and information. Nangal has also been connected with bus services running throughout the State and Delhi.

The Second Five Year Plan for Tourism contains a provision of Rs. 1.50 lakhs for the construction of a low income group rest house (25 beds) at Bhakra Nangal to be financed jointly by the Central and State Governments. The scheme forms part of the State Plan and is proposed to be taken up by the State Government during the year 1958-59. They have been requested to proceed with it on an urgent basis. It is understood that the site for the rest house has been selected at Nangal.

(b) Money allotted by the Central Government for the development of Nangal dam as a tourist centre during the year 1957-58 was nil, as detailed

plans and estimates had not been received from the State Government. The provision made in the budget estimates for the year 1958-59 is Rs. 35,000 for meeting the Central Government share of the expenditure on the low income group rest house. Publicity programme for the year 1958-59 includes the printing of a folder "Chandigarh-Bhakra-Nangal-Amritsar" (two lakh copies) in English, Hindi and nine other regional languages.

#### Postal Services between Delhi and Bikaner

1754. Shri Karni Singhji: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state the reasons for the ordinary letters taking two days to reach Delhi from Bikaner and from Bikaner to Delhi whereas the duration of train time is only 12 hours?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): The present arrangements for the disposal of letters between Bikaner and Delhi are as in the attached statement. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 34.]

#### Research Schemes

1755. Shri Karni Singhji: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the number and nature of research schemes received from the Rajasthan Government and approved by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research between April, 1949 and the 31st March, 1957?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): A statement showing the required information is appended. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 35.]

#### Intensive Cultivation in Punjab

1756. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount allotted to Punjab for intensive cultivation under the First Five Year Plan;