

belong and the number of workers affected in each garden ;

(c) whether Government propose to take over these tea gardens; and

(d) if the answer to part (c) above be in the negative, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH):

(a) Government has seen the news item.

(b) Complete information in this regard is not yet available.

(c) and (d) Measures including take over of management to rehabilitate the gardens which can be revived back to normalcy have been settled by Government, and a Bill to amend the Tea Act, 1953, to provide for taking over management of such gardens has been introduced in the current session of Lok Sabha.

Youth Hostels

52. PROF. RAMLAL PARIKH : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) how many Youth Hostels are proposed to be constructed during the Fifth Five Year Plan period; and

(b) what is the pattern of Central assistance for construction as well as for the running of these hostels ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) During the 5th Five Year Plan it has provisionally been proposed to construct seven Youth Hostels. However, due to constraint on resources, construction of only two Youth Hostels is being taken up during 1976-77.

(b) The pattern of Central assistance is that the Central Government meets the cost of construction of the building includ-

ing internal installations, furnishes them and grants to the State Governments an annual subsidy amounting to Rs. 12,000/-towards the Salaries of a Warden and an Assistant Warden managing the Hostels.

The State Governments provide free fully developed land including the construction of staff quarters and approach roads and operate the units on completion without further assistance from the Central Government in accordance with a standard management pattern.

Air India office at Kuwait

53. SHRI IBRAHIM KALANTYA :
SHRI R. NARASIMHA REDDY :
SHRI JAGAN NATH BHARD-
WAJ : SHRI JAGDISH JOSHI:
SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Air India has recently opened an office at Kuwait;

(b) whether it is also fact that Cairo, Baghdad and Damascus were also considered as possible locations for this office; and

(c) if so, what are the considerations for which Kuwait was chosen for this purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : (a) Air-India opened their office in Kuwait as far back as 1960.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

S.C./S.T. Employees in Dena Bank

54. SHRI N. H. KUMBHARE : Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state :

(a) what is the present strength of employees in each class and category in the