

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) :

(a) to (d). Promotion of domestic tourism is a major constituent of the Department's approach in the Seventh Five Year Plan. With this end in view Department has suggested formulation of schemes under various heads such as trekking and mountaineering, beach holidays, water sports including white water sports, wild life tourism, and construction of cheap hotels at places of tourist interest. Concrete projects will be finalised in consultation with the State Governments. Also, the Department is co-ordinating the efforts of the State Tourism Development Corporations of various States and Union Territories to provide package tours for domestic tourists to visit various parts of the country.

In 1978 the Department got registered the Bharatiya Yatri Avas Vikas Samiti an autonomous society to construct/establish new dharamshalas/Sarais/musafirghanas etc. at various places of pilgrimage interest. The Society receives grants from the Government as well as donation from individuals/institutions. The Department of Tourism has released Rs. 40 lakhs as grant-in-aid to Bharatiya Yatri Avas Vikas Samiti during the 6th Plan period.

The Samiti has commissioned two dharamshalas and construction work at five other dharamshalas is under progress. Construction at 10 more locations is likely to be taken by the Samiti during the next few years.

Department is also considering a scheme for construction of Yatri Niwases for budget tourists at places of tourist interest during the Seventh Plan. The details will be worked out in consultation with the State Government.

(e) There is no machinery at present to compile statistics pertaining to Domestic Tourism.

#### Opening of More Yuvak Kendras

2509. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of Nehru Yuvak

Kendras functioning in the country and whether Government propose to open more Yuvak Kendras in the near future;

(b) if so, the places where these new Kendras will be opened;

(c) whether there is shortage of staff in some of the existing Yuvak Kendras; and

(d) if so, the measures taken to meet this shortage ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) and (b) There are 197 Nehru Yuvak Kendras functioning in the country. About 100 additional kendras are proposed to be set up during the current financial year at places to be decided in consultation with the state governments.

(c) and (d). In some of the Kendras, whole-time youth coordinators are to be posted. Recommendations from the Union Public Service Commission for this purpose have been requested for. In a few kendras, there is also a shortage of clerks in respect of which the appropriate authorities have been approached.

#### Losses Suffered by Indian Air Lines from Birds Hitting

2510. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the total loss suffered by the Indian Airlines during the last one year as a result of birds hitting aeroplanes;

(b) whether it is a fact that maximum accidents of birds hitting have occurred near Airports; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to keep the areas near Airports clean to ensure that birds do not gather there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) :

(a) The costs of repairs to Indian Airlines aircraft in bird hits during the last one year (from 1.4.84 to 31.3.85) amounted to