

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:334
ANSWERED ON:04.02.2004
ADVISORY ON JAMMU & KASHMIR
SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (PATIL)

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has written to some countries to withdraw the advisory to their citizens vis-à-vis Jammu and Kashmir in order to facilitate arrival of tourists from across the Globe;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Indian Missions abroad to keep the foreigners informed of the latest situation in Jammu & Kashmir?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

(a) (b) (c) & (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN PARTS (a) to (d) OF THE ANSWER TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 334 TO BE ANSWERED ON FEBRUARY 4, 2004

(a) & (b) The Government through its Diplomatic Missions and through bilateral interaction takes up from time to time the matter relating to withdrawal of the Travel Advisories vis-à-vis Jammu & Kashmir with relevant governments.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Officials from our High Commissions and Embassies interact with the local governments regularly for withdrawal of such travel advisories. They maintain regular contacts with senior officials and leaders supplying them the latest information on situation in Jammu & Kashmir.

Publicity literature as well as relevant publications is regularly sent by our Missions to specific addressees and to public at large to project the current picture. The Missions are also constantly disseminating information about the situation in Jammu & Kashmir by way of interviews with both electronic and print media, press releases, and meetings with local leaders, academicians, think tanks, other opinion makers, etc. The Missions also organize by themselves or along with Air India, India Tourism Offices, etc., briefing sessions, seminars and tourism promotion activities for the travel organisations and the general public to dispel their apprehensions concerning the security situation in India.