GOVERNMENT OF INDIA TOURISM LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5792 ANSWERED ON:17.05.2007 IMPACT OF TERRORISM ON TOURISM Abdullakutty Shri A.P.

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any study or survey to assess the impact of terrorist activities on tourism growth;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the sectors worst effected by the terrorist activities; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SMT. AMBIKA SONI)

(a) and (b): Analyses of tourists arrivals to India have shown that major incidents of terrorism such as the 9/11 incident at World Trade Centre in New York in 2001 and the attack on Indian Parliament in December 2001 (coupled with Afghan conflict in 2002 and Indo-Pak border tension during the period), had an adverse impact on tourism. There was a decline in foreign tourist arrivals in the country by 4.2% in 2001 and a further decline by 6.0% in 2002. From 2003 onwards, the arrivals have registered positive growth. The analyses have also revealed that sporadic incidents of terrorism may have immediate and localized adverse impact on tourism, but tourist traffic picks up again.

(c): Tourism being an amalgam of various sectors like hotels, food & beverages, transport, travel agencies, etc., any growth or decline in tourist arrivals has its impact on these sectors.

(d): In order to take care of any negative publicity and adverse impact on tourist arrivals due to terrorist attacks, the Ministry of Tourism takes up from time to time the matter with the Ministry of External Affairs, Domestic and Overseas Indiatourism offices, and trade associations to counteract adverse publicity.