GOVERNMENT OF INDIA TOURISM LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1550 ANSWERED ON:05.03.2010 TOURISM DESTINATIONS Yadav Shri Ranjan Prasad

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether major tourism destinations like Goa are gaining the dubious reputation as a destination for sex crimes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any action plan has been drawn up by the Government to curb this menace;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the other measures taken to boost tourism industry in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM(SHRI SULTAN AHMED)

(a) to (e): 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects as per the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India. As such, prevention of incidents of rape, sexual offences, sexual abuse of tourists, including crime against foreign tourists, is primarily the responsibility of State Governments/Union Territories. The data on incidents of crime against tourists, including foreign tourists is not compiled by Ministry of Tourism. However, in order to ensure safety and security of tourists, Ministry of Tourism has advised all the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations to deploy Tourist Police in the States/Union Territory Administrations. Further, Ministry of Tourism in consultation with Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Defence and State Governments/Union Territory Administrations, has framed guidelines for formation of Tourist Security Organisation (s) comprising Ex- Servicemen, for the safety and security of tourists. The guidelines have been sent to State Governments & Union Territory Administrations.

Ministry of Tourism, with the objective of promoting India as a tourist destination and increasing foreign tourist arrivals to the country, undertakes promotion and marketing of tourism, in key overseas source markets through electronic, print, internet and outdoor media and by organizing road shows / promotional events, etc.