

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
TOURISM  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:926

ANSWERED ON:05.08.2011

RELIGIOUS SPOTS

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**Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:**

(a) the number of domestic as well as foreign tourists who visited the religious spots in the country including world famous Khajuraho temples of Madhya Pradesh during last three years and the current year, State-wise and year-wise; and

(b) the number of incidents of harassment of domestic as well as foreign tourists in local hotels which have come into the notice of the Ministry?

**Answer**

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

(a): Ministry of Tourism does not compile data on tourist visits to religious places in various States/ Union Territories (UTs). However, total number of domestic and foreign tourist visits including visits to religious spots, to different States and UTs during 2008, 2009 and 2010 are given in Annexure. This information for 2011 is not yet available.

The number of Domestic and Foreign Tourists who visited Khajuraho during 2008, 2009 and 2010 are given below:

Year Domestic Tourist Foreign Tourist

2008 2,01,443 89,174

2009 2,28,503 68,839

2010 2,34,950 90,721

(b): 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects as per the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India. As such, prevention of crime, including crime against tourists is the primary responsibility of the State Governments/Union Territory (UT) Administrations. Ministry of Tourism does not compile the data on crimes, including crime against tourists. However, in order to ensure the safety and security of foreign tourists, Ministry of Tourism has advised all the State Governments/UT Administrations to deploy Tourist Police in the States/UTs. Some of the State Governments have deployed tourist police in one form or the other.

Further, the guidelines for formation of Tourist Security Organisation(s) comprising ex – servicemen, formulated by the Ministry of Tourism in consultation with the Ministry of Defence, Home and Directorate General of Resettlements have been forwarded to the State Governments/ UT Administrations.

In addition, the Ministry of Tourism along with stakeholders has adopted the Code of Conduct for "Safe & Honourable Tourism" which is a set of guidelines to encourage tourism activities to be undertaken with respect for basic rights like dignity, safety and freedom from exploitation of both tourists and local residents in particular women and children.