GOVERNMENT OF INDIA TOURISM LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:958 ANSWERED ON:05.08.2011 SAFETY OF TOURISTS Swamygowda Shri N Cheluvaraya Swamy

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether cheating and unpleasant incidents are constantly on the rise at tourist spots in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has any proposal to implement a new code of conduct to curb this menace at tourist spots in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the other steps taken to boost tourism 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 crime, including crime against tourists is the primary responsibility of the State Governments/Union Territories. Ministry of Tourism does not compile the data on crimes, including crimes against tourists. 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 Territories. Some of the State Governments have deployed tourist police in one form or the other.

Further, the guidelines for formation of Tourist Security Organization(s) comprising ex-servicemen, formulated by the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India 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 Union 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.