

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5144

ANSWERED ON:26.04.2013

DECLINE IN FOREIGN TOURISTS ARRIVALS FTAS

Abdulrahman Shri ;Ahmed Shri Sultan ;Bapurao Shri Khatgaonkar Patil Bhaskarrao;Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Ganeshamurthi Shri A.;Gutha Shri Sukender Reddy;Kumar Shri P.;Paranjpe Shri Anand Prakash;Semmala Shri S.

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether a random survey undertaken by the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) has revealed that foreign tourists inflow into the country especially of women tourists has registered a significant drop during the last three months in the wake of the December 16 rape incident and sexual assaults on foreign women tourists;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the comparative figures of corresponding three months of the previous year, month-wise and sex-wise;

(c) whether many countries have issued advisories to their citizens to avoid travelling to India in the wake of such incidents;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the corrective measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to improve country's image globally and boost tourists inflow in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (DR. K. CHIRANJEEVI)

(a) and (b): A quick random survey undertaken by ASSOCHAM Social Development Foundation has concluded that there has been a decrease of 25% in foreign tourist inflow and a decrease of 35% in women foreign tourist inflow in India since December 2012. However, this conclusion is incorrect, as the figures given below clearly show that the number of Foreign Tourist Arrivals (FTAs) in India during January, February and March 2013 have registered positive growth over the corresponding months of 2012:

Period	FTAs in 2013 (P) (in lakh)	FTAs in 2012 (P) (in lakh)	Growth rate in 2013 over 2012
--------	-------------------------------	-------------------------------	----------------------------------

January	6.99	6.81	2.6%
---------	------	------	------

February	6.88	6.77	1.6%
----------	------	------	------

March	6.40	6.23	2.8%
-------	------	------	------

January - March	20.27	19.81	2.3%
-----------------	-------	-------	------

P: Provisional Estimates

The gender-wise break-up of the FTAs for 2012 and 2013 is not available.

(c) to (e): Travel Advisories are issued by various countries from time to time, advising their citizens to avoid travel or to take precautions while travelling to other countries/certain areas in other countries for various reasons.

Ministry of Tourism has already posted its advisory on the website www.incredibleindia.org indicating that India remains a safe destination for international visitors including women tourists.

Ministry of Tourism has also written to all the Chief Secretaries of the State Governments and the Union Territory Administrations to take immediate and effective steps for ensuring conducive and friendly environment for all tourists. They have also been requested to publicize the steps being taken/proposed to be taken to increase the sense of security amongst the present/prospective visitors as also to counter the negative publicity