

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
TOURISM  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:523  
ANSWERED ON:03.05.2013  
SAFE AND HONOURABLE TOURISM  
Botcha Lakshmi Smt. Jhansi

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

- (a) whether any guidelines have been framed on safe and honourable tourism for adoption by the Indian tourism industry;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any advisories have been issued by the Government to the States/UTs in the light of the number of crimes against tourists reported in the recent past;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the fresh initiatives contemplated by the Government to ensure safe and dignified tourism in the country?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.523 ANSWERED ON 03.05.2013 REGARDING SAFE AND HONOURABLE TOURISM.

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. The Ministry of Tourism and various stakeholders in the Indian tourism industry adopted the Code of Conduct for `Safe and Honourable Tourism` on 1st July 2010 to strengthen the critical pillar of `Suraksha` (safety) for the tourists. The main objectives of this Code, inter alia, are:

- (i) Encourage tourism activities to be undertaken with respect for basic rights like dignity, safety and freedom from exploitation of both tourists and local residents i.e., people and communities who may be impacted by tourism in some way.
- (ii) Aid the prevention of commercial sexual exploitation like sex tourism, prostitution, pornography and all forms of sexual assaults and molestations and safeguard safety of persons, in particular, women & children.
- (iii) Enhance prevention of activities like forced or involuntary drug use, manipulated and incorrect information, cultural and social intolerance which could increase vulnerability to crime.

(c) & (d): The Minister of Tourism has written to all the Chief Ministers of the State Governments and the Governors/Lt. Governors of UT Administrations to take immediate 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 present/prospective visitors as also to counter the negative publicity through concrete action.

Ministry of Tourism had also written earlier to the State Governments to spare no efforts in making India a safe and friendly destination for foreign as well as domestic tourists, particularly, for women.

(e): The Ministry of Tourism has conducted a number of workshops to sensitise various stakeholders about the Code. The Ministry has also included adoption of the Code of Conduct for Safe and Honourable Tourism as one of the criteria for approving tour operators, travel agents and classification of hotels and other types of accommodation.