

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4760
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2013
SEXUAL ABUSE AT TOURIST PLACES
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram;Bundela Shri Jeetendra Singh

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether cases of sexual abuse of children have increased at tourist places in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the total number of such cases reported, accused arrested and the action taken against them during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to check such cases in future and the advisories issued to the State Governments in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH)

(a) to (c): As per information provided by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) and Ministry of Tourism, no information is maintained centrally in this regard.

`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. However, in order to ensure safety and security of the 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, Ministry of Home Affairs and Directorate General of Resettlements have been forwarded to the State Governments/UT Administrations.

In addition to above, The Union Ministry of Tourism, along with stakeholders has formally adopted the Code of Conduct for `Safe & Honourable` 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.

The President of India on 19th June, 2012 had consented to the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act 2012 which provides stringent punishment for persons who have committed crimes against children.

The President of India on 2nd April, 2013 has consented to the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act 2013, which have come to force since 3rd Feb, 2013, on crimes against women. It has enhanced punishment for crimes like rape, sexual harassment, stalking, voyeurism, acid attacks, Indecent gestures like words and inappropriate touch etc.

A day long conference of Chief Secretaries and Director Generals of Police on crimes against Women and atrocities against SCs/STs held in New Delhi on 4 January, 2013.

The representatives deliberated on various measures of crime prevention, women safety, changes on law, organization, investigation processes and expeditious trials to improve safety and security of women and children.

As per the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India `Police` and `Public Order` are State subjects and, as such, the primary responsibility of prevention, detection, registration, investigation and prosecution of crime, lies with the State Governments / Union Territory Administrations. However, Government of India is deeply concerned with the welfare of children and through various schemes and advisories to the State Governments / Union Territory Administrations, augments the efforts of the States /UTs.

In an Advisory on crime against children dated 14th July, 2010 to all State Governments and UTs Administrations; the States/UTs have been advised to ensure all steps for improving the safety conditions in schools/institutions, public transport used by students, children's narkc/nlau nmunic raeiHontinl