

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1723

ANSWERED ON:16.08.2013

NTAC SUGGESTIONS ON TOURISTS SAFETY

Bapurao Shri Khatgaonkar Patil Bhaskarrao;Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Ganeshamurthi Shri A.;Paranjpe Shri Anand Prakash

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Tourism Advisory Council (NTAC) has suggested various measures including flying squads, mobile apps, a 24 hours helpline and a media campaign for the safety of female foreign/domestic tourists;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these measures have been circulated to all the State Governments for their views and further necessary action; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with response of the State Governments thereto?

Answer

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

(a) and (b): Suggestions on various issues including tourist police, mobile applications, safety and security of tourists, etc. were made by the members of the National Tourism Advisory Council (NTAC) during the meeting held on 15th July, 2013. The 24 hour helpline decision was taken by the Ministry on its own.

(c) and (d): Safety and Security of Tourists was one of the agenda items for the National Conference of State Tourism Ministers held on 18th July, 2013.

Regarding safety of tourists, following resolutions were adopted during the conference:

- i. the Departments of Tourism of all States and UTs will work for ensuring the safety and security of tourists, especially women;
- ii. the Departments of Tourism of all States and UTs will consider setting up of a special force such as a Tourist Police, where it does not exist at present, either by taking few companies on deputation from the Police Department or by engaging Ex-Servicemen or Home Guards.
- iii. that the Departments of Tourism of all States and UTs will run a mass awareness campaign called "I respect women".