

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:398

ANSWERED ON:06.12.2013

CRIME AGAINST TOURISTS

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Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the crimes against the foreign and the domestic tourists have increased over the years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including its adverse impact on inflow of domestic and foreign tourists including women travellers;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure safety and security of domestic and foreign tourists; and
- (d) the success achieved from the aforesaid steps so far?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (DR. K. CHIRANJEEVI)

(a) The Ministry of Tourism does not compile data on crime against foreign or domestic tourists since '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/foreign tourists is the primary responsibility of the State Governments/Union Territories.

(b) The Foreign Tourists Arrivals (FTAs) to India in 2012 were 66,48,313 as compared to 63,09,222 in 2011, i.e. an increase of 5.4 percent.

Foreign Tourists Arrivals during the period January to October 2013 were 53.30 lakh with a growth of 4.0%, as compared to FTAs of 51.24 lakh in the same period in 2012.

Domestic Tourist Visits in 2012 was 1036 million as compared to 865 million in 2011, the growth rate being 19.9% (2012 over 2011). Therefore, no adverse impact is obvious in the growth of foreign or domestic tourist arrivals in the country.

(c) The Ministry of Tourism has taken following steps in order to ensure safety and security of tourists, including foreign tourists:

i. Ministry of Tourism has advised all the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations to deploy Tourist Police in the States/Union Territories.

ii. In addition, the Union Ministry of Tourism along with all stakeholders, including the Tourism Departments of all States and UTs, have 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 right like dignity, safety and freedom from exploitation of both tourists and local residents in particular, women and children.

iii. The National Tourism Ministers' Conference was convened on 18th July, 2013 in New Delhi which resolved; that the Departments of Tourism of all States and UTs will work for ensuring the safety and security of tourists, especially women.

iv. An advisory has been posted on the Ministry of Tourism website www.incredibleindia.org indicating that India remains safe destination for international Tourists including women tourists.

(d) 13 State Governments have introduced the "Tourist Police" in their state in some form or another.

The Stake holders have identified focal points in their respective organizations to implement the 'Code of Conduct for Safe & Honourable Tourism'.