

13

**COMMITTEE ON  
GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES  
(2014-2015)**

**SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA**

**THIRTEENTH REPORT**

**REVIEW OF PENDING ASSURANCES  
PERTAINING TO MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

*Presented to Lok Sabha on 30 April, 2015*



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI**

***April, 2015/Vaisakha, 1937 (Saka)***

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NEW DELHI

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COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES\*  
(2014-2015)

Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal "Nishank" — *Chairperson*

MEMBERS

2. Shri Rajendra Agrawal
3. Shri E. Ahamed
4. Shri Anto Antony
5. Prof. (Dr.) Sugata Bose
6. Shri Naranbhai Bhikhabhai Kachhadia
7. Shri Bahadur Singh Koli
8. Shri Prahlad Singh Patel
9. Shri A. T. Nana Patil
10. Shri C.R. Patil
11. Shri Sunil Kumar Singh
12. Shri Tasleem Uddin
13. Shri K.C. Venugopal
14. Shri S.R. Vijayakumar
15. Shri Tariq Anwar\*\*

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri R.S. Kambo — *Joint Secretary*
2. Shri U.B.S. Negi — *Director*
3. Shri T.S. Rangarajan — *Additional Director*
4. Shri Kulvinder Singh — *Committee Officer*

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\* The Committee was constituted *w.e.f.* 01 September, 2014 *vide* Para No. 633 of Lok Sabha Bulletin—Part II, dated 02 September, 2014.

\*\* Nominated to the Committee *vide* Para No. 1281 of Lok Sabha Bulletin—Part II dated 05 February, 2015.

## INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson of the Committee on Government Assurances, having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Thirteenth Report of the Committee on Government Assurances.

2. The Committee (2014-2015) at their sitting held on 22 December, 2014 took oral evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Tourism regarding pending assurances up to 15th Lok Sabha pertaining to them.

3. At their sitting held on 29 April, 2015, the Committee (2014-2015) considered and adopted their Thirteenth Report.

4. The Minutes of the aforesaid sittings of the Committee form part of this report.

5. For facility of reference and convenience, the observations and recommendations of the Committee have been printed in bold letters in the Report.

NEW DELHI;  
29 April, 2015  

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9 Vaisakha, 1937 (*Saka*)

DR. RAMESH POKHRIYAL "NISHANK"  
*Chairperson,*  
*Committee on Government Assurances.*

## REPORT

### I. Introductory

The Committee on Government Assurances scrutinize the assurances, promises, undertakings, etc. given by the Ministers from time to time on the floor of the House and report to the extent to which such assurances, promises, undertakings, etc. have been implemented. Once an assurance has been given on the floor of the House, the same is required to be implemented within three months. The Ministries/Departments of the Government of India are under obligation to seek extension of time, if they are unable to fulfil the assurance within the prescribed period of three months. Where a Ministry/Department is unable to implement an assurance, they are required to move the Committee to drop the same. The Committee consider such requests and agree to drop, if they are convinced with the grounds cited to be justified. The Committee also examine whether the implementation of assurances has taken place within the minimum time necessary for the purpose and the Committee also look into the extent to which the assurances have been implemented.

2. The Committee on Government Assurances (2009-2010) took a policy decision to call the representatives of the various Ministries/Departments of the Government of India, in a phased manner, to review the pending assurances and also look at the reasons for pendency and the operation of the prescribed system in the Ministries/Departments for dealing with assurances. The Committee also decided to look at the quality of assurances implemented by the Government.

3. The Committee (2014-2015) for expeditious implementation of pending assurances took a step further and decided to call the representatives of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs also as all the assurances are implemented through them.

4. In pursuance of the decision referred to above, the Committee (2014-2015) called the representatives of the Ministry of Tourism and Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and examined the following 02 pending assurances pertaining to the Ministry at their sitting held on 22 December, 2014 :

Sl.No.	USQ No. & Date	Subject
1.	SQ No. 209 dated 23.08.2013	Special Tourist Police Stations (Appendix-I)
2.	USQ No. 2356 dated 23.08.2013	Allocation of land (Appendix-II)

5. At the outset, when the Committee desired to know as to whether the instructions contained in the 'Manual of Parliamentary Procedure in the Government of India', a publication brought out by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, on fulfilment of assurances are being followed by the Ministry of Tourism, besides undertaking weekly

or fortnightly reviews of pending assurances and whether the Minister is being apprised about the progress made in the implementation of assurances. In this regard, the Secretary of the Ministry of Tourism responded as follows:—

"Hon'ble Chairperson, with your permission, I want to submit that on behalf of the Ministry and on behalf of my own team I want to assure you that all the assurances are reviewed by me personally. My whole team monitor the assurances almost on day-to-day basis"

II. Scrutiny of Pending Assurances are given in succeeding paragraph:—

*A. Info Line for Foreign Tourist*

**SQ No. 209 dated 23.08.2013 regarding Special Tourist Police Stations.**

6. In reply to SQ No. 209 dated 23.08.2013 regarding Special Tourist Stations, an assurance was given that an information line for foreign tourists is under consideration.

7. During the course of evidence, the Secretary of the Ministry of Tourism briefed the Committee as under:—

".....Information line for foreign tourists which was an assurance. On this our Ministry had issued an advertisement inviting Expression of Interest for setting up of Info Line on 11.12.2013. But it was cancelled on some technical grounds. Again a revised Expression of Interest was advertised on 12.08.2014. The Ministry had received 4 applications which have been scrutinized and 3 agencies have been found eligible. A detailed Request for Proposal is being formulated and after vetting by the Integrated Finance of the Ministry, it will be circulated to the eligible agencies who had applied based on our request for Expression of Interest.

Sir, here I would like to submit that it was an important issue because foreign tourists which come here, domestic tourists which are in lakhs-crores. For those tourists, a helpline is very essential, info line is very essential so that if any information is required by them, if they are in difficulties, if they have any problem then they could immediately contact on that. Therefore, when we have designed Request for Proposal, then after deep study, after consulting stakeholders and all tourism industry, captains of tourism industry, Request for Proposal was designed. We would like to launch a system which is state-of-the-art.

Sir, as I was submitting that info line should be state-of-the-art for tourist, should be according to global benchmarks and be user friendly. Keeping all these parameters in view and we are also making efforts that it should be multi-lingual because foreign tourists speaking 25-30 languages come here and not only foreigners, domestic Indian tourists speak all Indian languages, so our efforts are that Info line should be actually helpful to the tourists and be user friendly on technological parameters and state-of-the-art. Therefore, after deep study, we have brought it to this stage and we have full faith that as soon this process would be completed, it would be made available to the service of the tourists....."

8. On being pointed out by the Committee that the assurance was given in August, 2013 and the period for implementation of the assurance given on the floor of



the House is 3 months but it is now 2015, the representative of the Ministry explained as under:—

"I would like to submit that the cases of incidents which occur with tourists from time to time which have badly affected us. Particularly, I would like to mention the incident of 16 December and before that also, it was in our mind that Tourism Ministry should have one Info Line which would be better than helpline, that should be set up. Demand has also been made by the trade from time to time and several other stakeholders have also demanded that why not the Ministry should set up one help line and we were convinced with this idea because a number of foreign tourists visit here and in those districts, comes from various countries then our helpline should not be restricted only to English or Hindi. In this, initially at least 10 international languages besides Hindi and English, be taken. This type of helpline is not anywhere. It had taken some time, lot of consultations was done with vendors and stakeholders. We have prepared a detailed project report, EOI was also made. During the process, it happened that if we provide this facility to the foreign tourists, then they should be given this toll free number in which he needs not spent any money. It should be just like local toll free number. So far, that we have to study with Telecommunications and various telephone agencies because we do not want that we should be ashamed of at any level once it is set up. Because, whatever is done, that should be a complete process that tourist who is speaking should get a good and pleasing experience. Because it was for the first time that we did not get success and besides we have to take clearance from various Ministries and agencies. We wanted that who so ever gets into it that should be of that level that he should have past experience. Our efforts were that who participate in it, who would attend calls, they should not be local and they should be those people who understand language. As for example, if somebody is from China or Japan and their accent of speaking, sometimes Japanese accent is so typical that it is not understandable by the local people. Those people who completely understand and speak Japanese and whose speaking language is Japanese, only those people are being solicited so that Info Line has global status. That kind of research took some time but we have achieved much success and four vendors had participated in it, out of which three have qualified. We will send financial proposal to IFD department with in a day or half for approval. I think that we would soon get success. ..."

9. When the Committee enquired about the list of the priority languages which are being covered, the representative of the Ministry replied as under:—

"We had this in mind. I will mention the languages which we are covering. It is Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese and Arabic language in particular and Korean, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish besides English and Hindi."

In this regard, the Secretary of the Ministry added as under:—

"With your permission, if I may add here. The names of the countries which have submitted are those which would cover almost 90 per cent of our market. So, it

has been prioritised in such a way that those countries from where we get the largest number of tourists, that language should find a place in order of priority...."

10. On being asked by the Committee as to whether all the States of the country have tourism department with which the Ministry have any co-ordination, the Secretary of the Ministry replied as under:—

"...On Help Line and Info Line concept, initially the thrust of its implementation was kept on States because law and order etc. is on States. So we have requested in Tourism Secretaries conference that every States should have tourist police. Tourist police should be deployed at such places where tourists mostly go. Sir, you will be happy to know that on the request of the Government of India, 13 States have implemented the concept of tourist police. They have separate uniform. They have the brand which is also known to the tourists that it is tourist police booth. They have the vehicles which have the branding of tourist police."

11. In its written note submitted to the Committee, the Ministry of Tourism submitted the status of the assurance as follows:—

"The Ministry of Tourism issued an advertisement calling Expression of Interest for setting up of Tourist Info Line/Contract Centre on 11.12.2013. This was later discharged. A revised Expression of Interest for setting up of a Tourists Info Line issued on 12.08.2014. The Ministry had received 4 applications which have been scrutinised and 3 agencies have been found eligible. A detailed Request for Proposal is under formulation and after vetting by the Integrated Finance of the Ministry it will be circulated to the eligible agencies who had applied based on our request for Expression of Interest."

#### **Observations/Recommendations**

**12. The Committee note that an assurance to the effect that an information line for foreign tourists is under consideration, was given in reply to SQ No. 209 dated 23 August, 2013. The implementation of the assurance is still pending even after more than one and a half year. In this context, the Ministry of Tourism informed the Committee that an advertisement calling Expression of Interest for setting up of Tourist Info Line/Contract Centre was issued on 11.12.2013 but it was cancelled on some technical grounds. A revised Expression of Interest for setting up of a Tourists Info Line was issued on 12.08.2014. The Ministry had received 4 applications and after scrutiny, 3 agencies have been found eligible for the purpose. A detailed Request for Proposal is being formulated after consulting all stakeholders and vetting by the Integrated Finance division of the Ministry, the same will be circulated to the eligible agencies. During the evidence, the Committee were informed that the Request for Proposal has been designed after deep study and consulting stakeholders which would be a state-of-the-art info line, user friendly and multi-lingual. Initially, the thrust of its implementation is being kept on States because law and order is the State subject and on the request of the Ministry of Tourism, 13 States have implemented the concept of tourist police. The Committee hope that the Ministry would take further action in the matter expeditiously and the Info Line for the benefit of tourist would be set up without any further delay.**

*B. Office Accommodation for Ministry of Tourism*

**USQ 2356 dated 23.08.2013 regarding Allocation of Land**

13. In response of USQ 2356 the dated 23.08.2013 regarding Allocation of Land, an assurance was given that the Ministry of Tourism is currently in the process of drawing up the roadmap for the development of green area and construction of the parking lot, LNJP Memorial Library and office accommodation for the Ministry in consultation with the other agencies.

14. In a written note submitted to the Committee, the Ministry of Tourism explained the background, reasons for delay and indicating the present status as follows:—

“1. A plot of land measuring 8.834 acres was allocated to NDMC by the Land and Development office, Ministry of Urban Development on 30.07.2000 for utilization as per approved layout plan. Subsequently, an additional 0.18 acres was allotted to NDMC on 07.03.2003 for construction of the Jai Prakash Narain Memorial Library, which was to be built with Navyug School for which land was separately allotted to NDMC in an integrated manner in Udyan Marg, opposite Birla Mandir, New Delhi.

2. Later, Hon'ble Minister for Tourism and Culture requested the Hon'ble Urban Development Minister in 2003 that the land earlier allotted to NDMC may be transferred to Department of Tourism for construction of a Public library in the memory of late Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Narain.

3. Consequently, the allotment of land to NDMC for construction of Jai Prakash Narain Library was cancelled and the plot of land measuring 3.5749 hectare (9.014 acre) was transferred to Ministry of Tourism in October, 2003. The Ministry of Tourism paid Rs. 1,94,34,407 (at an inter Departmental rate of Rs. 22 lakh per acre) to the Ministry of Urban Development (Land and Development Office) on 5.11.2003 for the transfer of land.

4. HUDCO then conceived the design for development of the land. The drawings were handed over to NDMC on January, 2004 and an amount of Rs. 91,543 was paid to them for the purpose of approval of the layout plan. An amount of Rs. 2,47,14,800 was also paid to CPWD on February, 2004 for the setting up of Open Air Theatre, 4 Plazas, Water Channels, Boundary Wall, Gates, Horticulture, Development and Landscaping. This amount included the fee to HUDCO for preparation of designs and drawings etc.

5. The landscaping work was executed by CPWD but NDMC rejected the lay out plan for other civil works which according to them were not as per the approved land use plan that categorized the land as predominantly 'Green area'. This led to an impasse that continued for long. The project execution was stopped and the landscaping work done remained unutilized.

6. Meanwhile, in 2007 NDMC asked the Ministry of Urban Development for transfer of this land to them again for the purpose of construction of parking facilities. The issue was deliberated in the Screening Committee chaired by

Additional Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development. The Committee was of the view that since the issue involved cancellation of allotment made in favour of Ministry of Tourism, the Screening Committee was not competent and the matter fell outside its jurisdiction. The Committee, therefore, advised NDMC and Ministry of Tourism to sort out the issue in consultation with the Land and Development Office.

7. The Ministry of Tourism also took the view that since the land was required for development of tourism infrastructure for visitors and to tourists and full payment was already made for the land, allotment of land to Ministry of Tourism must not be cancelled till alternate land in a centrally located site was made available.

8. A series of meetings subsequently took place among officials of Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Urban Development and NDMC to chalk out the future course of action.

9. In the meeting held under the chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Tourism, on 11.9.2009, it was pointed out that—

- \* NDMC was to prepare a layout plan for the location of the Tourist Complex in consultation with Ministry of Tourism.
- \* The Zonal Plan indicated "Green Area" all around keeping in view the sanctity of the Birla Mandir. However, 25% of the land or 4000 sq. metres could be used for office building.
- \* It was also decided that NDMC would submit to Ministry of Tourism a detailed proposal on the parking, depicting the entire layout plan after which the proposal would be submitted (by Ministry of Tourism) to Ministry of Urban Development for necessary approval.
- \* Later, in the meeting held under the chairmanship of Additional Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development, on 9.7.2010, it was pointed out by L&DO that the newly built NDMC building at Sansad Marg could be considered as an alternative allotment in lieu of the land at Mandir Marg. The meeting also decided that :
  - \* An area of 4000 sq. metres to built up office space for Ministry of Tourism could be considered for allotment by NDMC in lieu of land to be transferred to NDMC at Mandir Marg.
  - \* Public Library in the land is not advisable or feasible.

10. In the meantime, Ministry of Tourism had explored the possibility of relocation in the 6th, 7th and 8th floors of the NDMC building on Sansad Marg at a rent already agreed between NDMC and the Ministry of Home Affairs (Rs. 250 per sq. ft. per month). However, NDMC has informed this Ministry that they would be willing to provide the three floors of the building to this Ministry at a rate of Rs. 350 per sq. ft. per month with an annual enhancement of 10%. This comes to an annual expenditure of Rs. 28 crore (approx.) on the part of the Ministry with

the usual annual increments. Given the exorbitant rental being asked by the NDMC, the shifting of Ministry of Tourism in NDMC building was not found feasible. And it was decided that Ministry of Tourism should not let go of the prime land of 9.014 acre opposite Birla Mandir in Udyan Marg and instead try to find ways to construct its own office building with the overall zonal plan.

11. In order to expedite the development of the site, Ministry of Tourism held a series of meetings with Ministry of Urban Development, Ministry of Culture, NDMC and L&DO. In a meeting held on 18.09.2013 under the chairmanship of Secretary (Urban Development) it was decided to settle the issues between Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Culture and NDMC. It was also decided to hand over the land, which was under the watch and ward of CPWD to Ministry of Tourism.

12. Subsequently, a meeting was held under the chairmanship of Chairman, NDMC in order to redress long pending issues. It was decided that NDMC would develop the land for parking-cum-greenland and build office space for Ministry of Tourism. This was followed up by another meeting on 17.02.2014 and the project to construct a multi-level parking-cum-office on Udyan Marg with 6000 sq. mt. for exclusive use of Ministry of Tourism was approved in principle by Secretary (Tourism).

13. The land was taken over by NDMC for development work for CPWD on 12.05.2014. Subsequently, NDMC sought some clarification on the layout drawings from DDA. DDA accepted the proposal for construction of multi-level parking-cum-office commercial space at Udyan Marg in principle in its meeting held on 12.08.2014. Ministry of Tourism pursued the matter of preparation of Detailed Project Report with NDMC.

14. Secretary (Tourism) visited the site on 5th November, 2014 and later held a meeting with the Chairman, NDMC on 3rd December, 2014. Hon'ble Minister of Tourism has also approved the proposal in principle and welcomed the idea of having 'Paryatan Bhawan' on the land at Udyan Marg. NDMC has agreed to execute this project at a tentative cost of Rs. 85 crores.

15. At present, NDMC is working to prepare the DPR and internal lay out plan of 'Paryatan Bhawan'."

15. On being asked by the Committee about the implementation of assurance, the Secretary of the Ministry of Tourism stated as follows:—

"Respected Chairperson sir, in front of Birla Mandir, 3.5749 acre of land was allotted to the Ministry of Tourism and Culture for Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Narain Library. Rs. 1.94 crore as its cost was paid to Ministry of Urban Development in 2003. Rs. 91543 was paid to NDMC for lay out plan of Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Narain Library. In 2004, Rs. 2.47 crore was paid to CPWD for development of the complex in the allotted land. In addition to this, Rs. 2.23 crore was paid to CPWD by the Ministry of Culture for construction of Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Narain Library. Respected Chairperson, the latest report

is that after taking charge on 30th, I have personally visited the site on 5th November. Ministry of Urban Development has allotted land at prime location in front of Birla Mandir. Immediately after joining within 3-4 days, I went there. I saw there that the land is available. Thereafter I have personally taken a meeting with Chairman of NDMC at his office. I told them in the meeting that it is very good. Our Tourism Ministry runs from three different locations. Our Tourism Minister sits at third floor in Transport Bhawan. My office is on first floor. Our Additional DG Bhatnagar ji and his entire team sit in hutments. As soon as I became aware that there is also our assurance in this and the land is available then I undertook a meeting in the room of Chairman sir to cover the timeline that we will deposit the fund from Tourism Ministry to NDMC as deposit work on the basis of estimates. NDMC agreed on that allotted land for two purposes as per land use plan. Our land is in front of Birla Mandir, 8000 sq. metre for tourism and 0.18 acre which has been kept for Cultural, there will be three basement parking. There will be arrangement of parking for 500 vehicles for NDMC. There will be normal parking on stilt. Three or four floor, technically, NDMC has given permission for 60,000 sq. feet office complex as per the idea of Paryatan Bhawan. Paryatan Bhawan of three floors, three basement parking and one stilt parking, an estimated hundreds of crore is likely to be incurred which will be given to NDMC from the budget of the Ministry. NDMC has started to make drawing for that. Three meetings have been held with the Chief Architect. We have said to the full time officer of the rank of DG that we chase it on day to day basis. Chief Architect has assured that, that they will do it with in three four days. We will issue tender for that. Full Tourism Ministry should be at one place and along that help lines and all that servers, their quick response team, this kind of facilities for tourists be developed. Because it was also for constructing library in memory of Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Narain Library so we have deposited money in Culture Ministry. They have given this money to CPWD. We have also requested Culture Ministry about which Nirmal Ji will tell. Near that one children school is also being run. The proposal of NDMC is that Hall will be constructed for school children and one library of two three floors will be constructed above that. Entries of both will be separate so that there is no disturbance to one another, going for library and for children going for school. I want to request as a matter of report that we have taken the project on day-to-day basis and assurance has to be complied which is our responsibility. Simultaneously, it is in our interest. In coming two and two and half years, a Bhawan will be available for Tourism Ministry. We will arrange the Budget. We are getting full cooperation of NDMC. I can say definitely that in coming one and half and two months, we will try to lay foundation stone by some VVIP. We will place hundred per cent compliance. If you have the permission then Nirmal Ji from the Culture Ministry will tell about library project. In the meantime, NDMC has given us a proposal of three and a half crore. Lok Nayak Jai Prakash commemoration was from 2002 to 2003. We have now no funds to give further one and half crore. We are asking NDMC whether they will be able to bear the extra cost or not. Secondly, construction of library will be done, thereafter who will bear the expenses for running the library

because at the time of decision of the implementation committee they have said that this will be maintained by NDMC. For that books are required, staff is required, infrastructure is also required. We have written to NDMC to know whether they are in a position to meet all these expenses or not as then only the construction of Library will be of some use. This is not that we will left after building is constructed. It has to be run by the NDMC. We are in the process of negotiation with NDMC. Sir, one additional information is to be placed is that NDMC has given positive cooperation after the visit of 5 December. On 16 December, they have opened tender for architectural model. Like-wise we are getting positive cooperation, we are sure that in coming two months, our efforts will be to lay foundation stone so that our Paryatan Bhawan is complete within 18 months."

16. When the Committee observed that it will be green building, the Secretary of the Ministry of Tourism responded as under:—

"Respected Chairperson, our efforts will be that Paryatan Bhawan, which is energy surplus building, we have told before coming to this meeting that Paryatan Bhawan, will go one further step, zero waste, eco-friendly, user friendly and it will be made one state-of-the art good building after complete recycle. This will be our efforts."

#### Observations/Recommendations

**17. The Committee note that an assurance was given in reply to USQ No. 2356 dated 23.08.2013 that the Ministry of Tourism is currently in the process of drawing up the road map for the development of the green area and construction of the parking lot, LNJP Memorial library and office accommodation for the Ministry in consultation with other agencies. While explaining the background and the sequence of events, the Ministry of Tourism informed the Committee that a plot of land measuring 3.5749 hectare (9.014 acres) was allotted to the then Ministry of Tourism and Culture by Land & Development Office (L&DO), Ministry of Urban Development in October, 2003 for developing complex for Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Narain (LNJP) Library, opposite Birla Mandir. Ministry of Tourism paid Rs. 1.94 crore to the Ministry of Urban Development in 2003 towards the cost of land. An amount of Rs. 91,543 was paid to NDMC for approval of layout Plan for LNJP Library complex. In 2004, an amount of Rs. 2.47 crore was also paid to CPWD for execution/development of the tourist complex at the allotted land. In addition, the Ministry of Culture has also paid Rs. 2.23 crore to the CPWD for construction of LNJP Library. In order to expedite the development of the site, Ministry of Tourism held a series of meetings with Ministry of Urban Development, Ministry of Culture, NDMC and L&DO. In a meeting held on 18.09.2013 under the chairmanship of Secretary (Urban Development), it was decided to settle the issues between Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Culture and NDMC. It was also decided to hand over the land, which was under the watch and ward of CPWD to Ministry of Tourism. Subsequently, a meeting was held under the chairmanship of Chairman, NDMC in order to redress long pending issues. It was decided that NDMC would develop a land for parking-cum-green land and build office space for Ministry of Tourism. This was followed up by another meeting on 17.02.2014**

and the project to construct a multi-level parking-cum-office on Udyan Marg with 6000 sq. mt. for exclusive use of Ministry of Tourism was approved in principle by Secretary (Tourism). The land was taken over by NDMC for development work from CPWD on 12.05.2014. DDA accepted the proposal for construction of multi-level parking-cum-office commercial space at Udyan Marg in principle in its meeting held on 12.08.2014. Ministry of Tourism pursued the matter of preparation of Detailed Project Report with NDMC. Hon'ble Minister of Tourism has also approved the proposal in principle and welcomed the idea of having "Paryatan Bhawan" on the land at Udyan Marg. NDMC has agreed to execute this project at a tentative cost of Rs. 85 crore. During the oral evidence, Secretary of the Ministry of Tourism assured the Committee that 'Paryatan Bhawan' will be constructed within 18 months and it will be a state-of-the-art building which will be eco friendly, users friendly as well as aesthetically appealing.

The Committee are not satisfied with the pace of progress in the matter as even after more than 10 years the construction of LNJP Memorial Library and office accommodation for the Ministry of Tourism is yet to commence. The sequence of events clearly shows that there is lack of coordination amongst various agencies involved in the matter. However, the project is now being reviewed on day-to-day basis and an assurance has been given to the Committee that the project will be completed within 18 months. The Committee, therefore, hope and trust that the project will be completed in a time-bound manner to avoid time and cost over-run. However, the Committee would like to be apprised of the progress made in the matter.

NEW DELHI;  
29 April, 2015  

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9 Vaisakha, 1937 (Saka)

DR. RAMESH POKHRIYAL "NISHANK"  
*Chairperson,*  
*Committee on Government Assurances.*



## APPENDIX I

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. 209  
ANSWERED ON 23.08.2013

### Special Tourist Police Stations

\*209. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has issued any advisory to the State Governments and the Union Territory Administrations to set up special Tourist Police and Tourist Police Stations in view of the rise in crime against tourists/foreign tourists;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the compliance/implementation status thereof, State/UT-wise;

(c) the funds allocated for the tourism sector during the last three years and the current year;

(d) whether the Government proposes to launch any dedicated helpline for foreign tourists; and

(e) if so, the details thereof along with the other measures being taken towards safety and security of domestic and foreign tourists including women travellers?

### ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (DR. K. CHIRANJEEVI) : (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement in Reply to Parts (A) to (E) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 209 Answered on 23.08.2013 Regarding Special Tourist Police Stations.

(a) 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects as per the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India. As such, the prevention of crime, including crimes against tourists, is the primary responsibility of State Governments/Union Territories. In order to ensure safety and security of tourists, including foreign tourists, Ministry of Tourism has advised all the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations to deploy Tourist Police in the States/Union Territories.

(b) The State Governments/Union Territory Administrations of Andhra Pradesh, Delhi, Goa, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh have deployed Tourist Police, in one form or the other.

(c) The funds under Plan Head allocated to Tourism sector during the last three years and the current year are as follows:

Sl.No.	Year	Allocation in Rs. crore
1.	2010-11	1000.00
2.	2011-12	1050.00
3.	2012-13	1210.00
4.	2013-14	1282.00

(d) and (e) An information line for foreign tourists is under consideration. The other measures taken by the Ministry of Tourism towards safety and security of domestic and foreign tourists including women travellers are:

- (i) Issuance of guidelines for formation of Tourist Facilitation and Security Organisation (TFSO) comprising of ex-servicemen in consultation with Ministry of Defence, Home and Directorate General of Re-settlement.
- (ii) Grant of Central Financial Assistance to Government of Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh for setting up of TFSO on a pilot basis.
- (iii) Adoption of code of conduct for Safe and Hon'ble Tourism which contains a set of guidelines to encourage tourism activities to be undertaken with respect to basic rights like dignity, safety and freedom from exploitation of both tourists and local residents, in particular women and children.
- (iv) Letters have been written to all the Chief Ministers of the State Governments and Administrators of Union Territory Administrations to take immediate effective steps for ensuring conducive and friendly environment for all tourists and also request them to publicize the steps being taken/proposed to be taken to increase the sense of security amongst the present/prospective visitors and also to counter the negative publicity.
- (v) In the wake of some unfortunate incidents involving foreign tourists, Ministry of Tourism has posted an advisory on its website [www.incredibleindia.org](http://www.incredibleindia.org).

**APPENDIX II**

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2356  
ANSWERED ON 23.08.2013

**Allocation of Land**

2356. DR. BALIRAM:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large tract of land between Udayan Marg, New Delhi and Mandir Marg, in front of Birla Mandir was allotted to the Ministry of Tourism;

(b) if so, the details and purpose thereof;

(c) the funds provided by the Government for accomplishing the purpose for which the said land was allotted;

(d) whether the said land is currently under some illegal/unauthorized possession;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps being taken by the Government for removal of illegal possession and develop shopping complex, parking and other facilities for tourists on the said tract of land along with the present status thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)  
(DR. K. CHIRANJEEVI): (a) and (b) A plot of land measuring 3.5749 hectares was allotted to the then Ministry of Tourism and Culture by the Land & Development Office (L&DO), Ministry of Urban Development on 7.10.2003 for developing complex for Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Narain Library, opposite Birla Mandir.

(c) An amount of Rs. 1.94 crores was paid to the Ministry of Urban Development in 2003 towards the cost of land. An amount of Rs. 91,543.00 was paid to NDMC for approval of layout plan for Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Narain Library Complex. In 2004, an amount of Rs. 2.47 crores was paid to CPWD for execution/development of Tourist Complex at the allotted land. In addition, the Ministry of Culture has also paid Rs. 2.23 crores to the CPWD for construction of Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Narain Memorial Library.

(d) and (e) No, Madam.

(f) The Ministry of Tourism is currently in the process of drawing up the road map for the development of the green area and construction of the parking lot, LNJP Memorial Library and office accommodation for the Ministry in consultation with other agencies.

**APPENDIX III**  
**Extracts from Manual of Parliamentary**  
**Procedure in the Govt. of India**  
**Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs**

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**8.1** During the course of reply given to a question or a discussion, if a Minister gives an undertaking which involves further action on the part of the Government in reporting back to the House, it is called an 'assurance'. Standard list of such expressions which normally constitute assurances and as approved by the Committees on Government Assurances of the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha, is given at Annexure 3. As assurances are required to be implemented within a specified time limit, care should be taken by all concerned while drafting replies to the questions to restrict the use of these expressions only to those occasions when it is clearly intended to give an assurance in these terms.

Definition

**8.2** When an assurance is given by a Minister or when the Presiding Officer directs the Government to furnish information to the House, it is extracted by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs from the relevant proceedings and communicated to the department concerned normally within 10 working days of the date on which it is given.

**8.3.1** If the administrative department has any objection to treating such a statement as an assurance or finds that it would not be in the public interest to fulfil it, it may write to the Lok/Rajya Sabha Secretariat direct with a copy to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs within a week of the receipt of such communication for getting it deleted from the list of assurances. Such action will require prior approval of the Minister.

Deletion from the list of assurances

**8.3.2** Departments should make requests for dropping of assurances immediately on receipt of statement of assurances from the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and only in rare cases where they are fully convinced that the assurances could not be implemented under any circumstances and there is no option left with them but to make a request for dropping. Such requests should have the approval of their Minister and this fact should be indicated in their communication containing the request. If such a request is made towards the end of the stipulated period of three months, then it should invariably be accompanied with a request for extension of time. The department should continue to seek extension of time till a decision of the Committee on Government Assurances is received by them. Copy of the above communications should be simultaneously endorsed to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.

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Time limit for fulfilling and assurance	<p><b>8.4.1</b> An assurance given in either House is required to be fulfilled within a period of three months from the date of the assurance. This time limit has to be strictly observed.</p>
Extension of time for fulfilling an assurance	<p><b>8.4.2</b> If the department finds that it is not possible to fulfil the assurance within the stipulated period of three months or within the period of extension already granted, it may seek further extension of time direct from the respective Committee on Government Assurances under intimation to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs as soon as the need for such extension becomes apparent, indicating the reasons for delay and the probable additional time required. Such a communication should be issued with the approval of the Minister.</p>
Registers of assurances	<p><b>8.5.1</b> The particulars of every assurance will be entered by the Parliament Unit of the department concerned in a register as at Annexure 4 after which the assurance will be passed on to the concerned section.</p> <p><b>8.5.2</b> Even ahead of the receipt of communication from the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, the section concerned should take prompt action to fulfil such assurances and keep a watch thereon in a register as at Annexure 5.</p> <p><b>8.5.3</b> The registers referred to in paras 8.5.1 and 8.5.2 will be maintained separately for the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha assurances, entries therein being made session-wise.</p>
Role of Section Officer and Branch Officer	<p><b>8.6.1</b> The Section Officer incharge of the concerned section will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) scrutinise the registers once a week;</li> <li>(b) ensure that necessary follow-up action is taken without any delay whatsoever;</li> <li>(c) submit the registers to the branch officer every fortnight if the House concerned is in session and once a month otherwise, drawing his special attention to assurances which are not likely to be implemented within the period of three months; and</li> <li>(d) review of pending assurances should be undertaken periodically at the highest level in order to minimise the delay in implementing the assurances.</li> </ul> <p><b>8.6.2</b> The branch officer will likewise keep his higher officer and Minister informed of the progress made in the implementation of assurances, drawing their special attention to the causes of delay.</p>
Procedure for fulfilment of an assurance	<p><b>8.7.1</b> Every effort should be made to fulfil the assurance within the prescribed period. In case only part of the information is available and collection of the remaining information would involve considerable time, an implementation report containing the available information should be supplied to the Ministry of Parliamentary</p>

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<p>Affairs in part fulfilment of the assurance, within the prescribed time limit. However, efforts should continue to be made for expeditious collection of the remaining information for complete implementation of the assurance at the earliest.</p>	
<p><b>8.7.2</b> Information to be supplied in partial or complete fulfilment of an assurance should be approved by the Minister concerned and 15 copies thereof (bilingual) in the prescribed proforma as at Annexure 6 together with its enclosures, along with one copy each in Hindi and English duly authenticated by the officer forwarding the implementation report, should be sent to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs. If, however, the information being furnished is in response to an assurance given in reply to a question etc., asked for by more than one member, an additional copy of the completed proforma (both in Hindi and English) should be furnished in respect of each additional member. A copy of this communication should be endorsed to the Parliament Unit for completing column 7 of its register.</p>	
<p><b>8.7.3</b> The implementation reports should be sent to the Ministry of the Parliamentary Affairs and not to the Lok/Rajya Sabha Secretariat. No advance copies of the implementation reports are to be endorsed to the Lok/Rajya Sabha Secretariat either.</p>	
<p><b>8.8</b> The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, after a scrutiny of the implementation report, will arrange to lay it on the Table of the House concerned. A copy of the statement, as laid on the Table, will be forwarded by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs to the member as well as the department concerned. The Parliament Unit of the department concerned and the concerned section will, on the basis of this statement, make a suitable entry in their registers.</p>	<p>Laying of the implementation report on the Table of the House</p>
<p><b>8.9</b> Where there is an obligation to lay any paper (rule/order/notification, etc.) on the Table of the House and for which an assurance has also been given, it will be laid on the Table, in the first instance, in fulfilment of the obligation, independent of the assurance given. After this is done, a report in formal implementation of the assurance indicating the date on which the paper was laid on the Table will be sent to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs in the prescribed proforma (Annexure 6) in the manner already described in para 8.7.2.</p>	<p>Obligation to lay a paper on the Table of the House <i>vis-a-vis</i> assurance on the same subject</p>
<p><b>8.10</b> Each House of Parliament has a Committee on Government Assurances nominated by the Speaker/Chairman. It scrutinises the implementation reports and the time taken in the fulfilment of Government Assurances and focusses attention on the delays and other significant aspects, if any, pertaining to them. Instructions issued by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs from time to time are to be followed strictly.</p>	<p>Committees on Government Assurances LSR 323, 324 RSR 211-A</p>

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Reports of the Committee on Government Assurances	<b>8.11</b> The department will, in consultation with the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, scrutinise the reports of these two committees for remedial action wherever called for.
Effect on assurances on dissolution of the Lok Sabha	<b>8.12</b> On dissolution of the Lok Sabha, all assurances, promises or undertakings pending implementation are scrutinised by the new Committee on Government Assurances for selection of such of them as are of considerable public importance. The Committee then submits a report to the Lok Sabha with a specific recommendation regarding the assurances to be dropped or retained for implementation by the Government.

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**APPENDIX IV**

**MINUTES**

**SIXTH SITTING**

**MINUTES OF THE SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT  
ASSURANCES (2014-2015) HELD ON 22 DECEMBER, 2014 IN  
COMMITTEE ROOM 'E', PARLIAMENT HOUSE ANNEXE,  
NEW DELHI**

The Committee sat from 1500 hours to 1615 hours on Monday, 22 December, 2014

**PRESENT**

Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' — *Chairperson*

**MEMBERS**

2. Prof. Dr. Sugata Bose
3. Shri Naranbhai Bhikhabhai Kachhadia
4. Shri Bahadur Singh Koli
5. Shri Prahlad Singh Patel

**SECRETARIAT**

1. Shri R.S. Kambo — *Joint Secretary*
2. Shri U.B.S. Negi — *Director*
3. Shri T.S. Rangarajan — *Additional Director*
4. Shri Kulvinder Singh — *Committee Officer*

**Ministry of Tourism**

1. Dr. Lalit K. Panwar, Secretary (T)
2. Dr. (Ms.) T. Kumar, SS & FA
3. Shri Girish Shankar, Addl. Secretary (T)
4. Shri Suman Billa, JS (T)
5. Smt. Usha Sharma, ADG (T)
6. Shri Ravi Kant Bhatnagar, ADG (MR)
7. Shri M.M. Sadana, DDG
8. Shri K.R. Mohan, Director
9. Shri D. Venkatesan, Asstt. DG
10. Shri P.K. Chudhary, Asstt. DG
11. Shri Raja Kar, Under Secretary



efforts to organize stone laying ceremony with in two months so that 'Paryatan Bhawan' is constructed with in 18 months and it will be a State-of-the art building and will be eco-friendly, users friendly and zero waste building and will also be aesthetically appealing.

*The Committee, then, adjourned.*

**ANNEXURE III**

**Statement of Pending Assurances of the Ministry of Tourism  
(up to 15th Lok Sabha)**

Sl. No.	SQ/USQ No. dated	Subject
1.	SQ No. 209 dated 23.08.2013	Special Tourist Police Stations
2.	USQ No. 2356 dated 23.08.2013	Allocation of land

MINUTES

NINTH SITTING

MINUTES OF THE SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT  
ASSURANCES (2014-2015) HELD ON 29 APRIL, 2015 IN COMMITTEE  
ROOM 'A', PARLIAMENT HOUSE ANNEXE, NEW DELHI.

The Committee sat from 1500 hours to 1700 hours on Wednesday, 29 April, 2015.

PRESENT

Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' — *Chairperson*

MEMBERS

2. Shri Rajendra Agrawal
3. Shri E. Ahamed
4. Prof. (Dr.) Sugata Bose
5. Shri Bahadur Singh Koli
6. Shri Prahlad Singh Patel
7. Shri C.R. Patil
8. Shri S.R. Vijayakumar

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri R.S. Kambo — *Joint Secretary*
2. Shri T.S. Rangarajan — *Additional Director*
3. Shri Kulvinder Singh — *Committee Officer*

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2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee and apprised them regarding the day's agenda. Thereafter, the Committee considered and adopted the following five draft reports:—

- (i) Draft 9th Report regarding requests for dropping of assurances (acceded to)
- (ii) Draft 10th Report regarding requests for dropping of assurances (not acceded to)
- (iii) Draft 11th Report regarding requests for dropping of assurances (acceded to)
- (iv) Draft 12th Report regarding requests for dropping of assurances (not acceded to)
- (v) Draft 13th Report regarding review of pending assurances pertaining to the Ministry of Tourism.

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*The Committee then adjourned.*

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