

- (ii) Aid the prevention of prostitution, sex tourism and forms of sexual exploitations like assaults and molestations in tourism to safeguard the safety of persons, in particular, women and children.
- (iii) To enhance prevention of activities like forced or involuntary drug use, manipulated and incorrect information, cultural and social intolerance which could increase vulnerability to crime.

(d) As part of the guidelines of the Code, the signatories are encouraged to assist the tourists with guidance on safety tips applicable to the specific city/place including timings for visits, right dressing and other local social and cultural beliefs and norms etc.

(e) The response from the stakeholders on the adoption of the Code is very encouraging. The tenets of the Code has been incorporated in the guidelines for approval/classification of various categories of service providers related to the Travel Trade and Hospitality sectors, respectively, by the Ministry of Tourism, so that the objectives of 'Safe & Honourable Tourism' are achieved.

#### **Hospitality development and promotion board**

1220. SHR1 B. S. GNANADESIKAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has constituted a Hospitality Development and Promotion Board (HDPB) for approving hotel projects at Central and State level with a view to attract increased number of tourists;

(b) if so, whether the State Governments, which have a number of tourist destinations, have accepted the Central Government's initiative in setting of such HDPB at State level;

(c) if so, the details thereof and Government's fiscal allocation made for this purpose to the State Governments; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SULTAN AHMED) : (a) Yes, Sir. In order to facilitate the clearances required by hotel projects in a time bound manner and also provide policy advice for development of hospitality sector, the Union Government has approved

the constitution of a 'Hospitality Development and Promotion Board' (HDPB). At the Central level, the board shall be chaired by Secretary (Tourism) Government of India with Additional Director General (Tourism), JS level IAS officer, as the convener and members drawn from concerned Ministries/Department. The States/Union Territory Administrations have been advised to set up similar Boards if the same does not exist in their respective States/Union Territories.

(b) The State Governments of Mizoram, Manipur & Maharashtra have already set up State level 'Hospitality Development and Promotion Board' (HDPB). It has been informed that State Government of Bihar has a similar board viz., State Investment Promotion Board (SIPB).

(c) and (d) The 'Hospitality Development and Promotion Board' (HDPB) is a forum for facilitation of Hotel Projects for faster implementation and at present there is no State wise fiscal allocation involved.

#### **Requirements of Hotels Rooms**

1221. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) the requirement of total hotel rooms in India in the next three years;
  - (b) the steps Government has taken to ensure that required rooms are constructed on time;
  - (c) whether there is shortage of funds pounded by the rupee appreciation in recent months;
- and
- (d) if so, the steps being taken to augment the funds for tourism industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SULTAN AHMED) : (a) As per the past trends in the development of hotel accommodation, the additional requirements of classified rooms in India by 2016 is projected to be over 180 thousand.

(b) In order to facilitate the clearances required by hotel projects in a time bound manner and also provide policy advice for development of hospitality sector, the Union Government has approved the constitution of a 'Hospitality Development and Promotion Board' (HDPB). The States/Union Territory Administrations have been advised to set up similar Boards if the same does not exist in their respective States/Union Territories.