

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. Some of the State Governments have deployed tourist police in one form or the other.

Further, the guidelines for formation of Tourist Security Organization comprising ex-servicemen, formulated by the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India in consultation with the Ministry of Defence, Home and Directorate General of Re-settlements have been forwarded to the State Governments/UT Administrations for necessary action.

In addition, the Union Ministry of Tourism along with stakeholders has adopted the 'Code of Conduct for Safe and Honourable Tourism' 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.

Decline in foreign exchange earnings from tourism

3382. SHRI SALIM ANSARI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that foreign exchange earnings from tourism have declined during the January-March, 2013;

(b) if so, the details of foreign exchange earnings during the last-quarter of 2012-13 *vis-a-vis* 2011-12;

(c) whether the main reasons for decline in earnings from tourist inflow is attributed to perception that India is unsafe for women tourists; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by Government for image building exercise so that earning from tourism is not impacted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (DR. K. CHIRANJEEVI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The estimated Foreign Exchange Earnings through tourism in India during January - March, 2013 were US\$ 5.55 billion as compared to US\$ 4.97 billion during the corresponding period of 2012, registering a growth of 11.6%.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.