

(b) The data on number of Buddhist tourists from Korea, China, Myanmar, Japan, Singapore, Malaysia and Taiwan after the bomb blast on 7th July, 2013 are not available. However, the total number of Foreign Tourist Arrivals in India in the month of July, 2013 shows an increase of 7.9% as compared to the corresponding month in 2012.

(c) 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. The State Governments/Union Territory Administrations of Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Jammu and Kashmir, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Punjab, Madhya Pradesh and Odisha have deployed Tourist Police, in one form or the other. The Ministry has also issued 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. The same have been forwarded to all State Governments and Union Territories. Central financial assistance has been granted to Government of Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh for setting up of TFSO.

The other measures taken by the Ministry of Tourism towards safety and security of domestic and foreign tourists including women travelers are:

(i) Adoption of code of conduct for safe and hon'ble tourism which has a set of guidelines to encourage tourism activities to be undertaken with respect of basic rights like dignity, safety and freedom from exploitation of both tourists and local residents, in particular women and children.

(ii) Further, Ministry of Tourism has also written to all the Chief Ministers of the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations to take immediate effective steps for ensuring conducive and friendly environment for all tourists. They have also been requested 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.

Public Service Delivery System

1531. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government have launched "Public Service Delivery System" for hotel approvals, classification and related services;
- (b) if so, the details of the scheme of systems; and
- (c) the number of proposals cleared by Government under the above system so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (DR. K. CHIRANJEEVI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Public Service Delivery System (PSDS) is a web based system. It enables all the applicants seeking approval for hotel projects, classification/re-classification and related services to track the progress of their applications online on a real time basis. The Ministry of Tourism endeavours to communicate the final decision on all such applications which are received complete in all respects within 90 days of their receipt.

- (c) A total number of 79 applications seeking hotel approvals or classification or re-classification under 1 Star and above categories, which were complete in all respect as per the guidelines, have been approved by the Ministry of Tourism under the Public Service Delivery System till date.

Deaths due to malnutrition of tribal children in Kerala

1532. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reported deaths of tribal children in the tribal heart land of Attappady in Palakkad district of Kerala caused due to malnutrition; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the measures being taken to prevent the malnutrition and provide proper health facilities in the area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH): (a) The Government is concerned about the reported death of tribal children, in Attappady in the Palakkad district of Kerala. As per information received from the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, malnutrition is not a direct cause of death among children but can increase morbidity and mortality by reducing the resistance to infections.