

Tourism destinations affected by prostitution

1912. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether tourist destinations are getting affected by sex tourism and prostitution;
- (b) if so, key reasons for the same; and
- (c) what steps Government is taking to address the problem both socially and by enforcing the law?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI K. J. ALPHONS): (a) to (c) Ministry of Tourism in the year 2010, has launched code of conduct to be adopted by the Indian travel and tourism industry for Safe and Honourable Tourism with the objectives 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.

As per the advice of the Ministry of Tourism some State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have deployed Tourist Police to safeguard tourists at tourist spots.

Further, the Ministry of Tourism has launched the 24x7 Toll Free Multi-Lingual Tourist Info-Helpline (toll free number 1800111363/short code 1363) in 12 Languages including Hindi and English in February 2016, to facilitate and assist domestic and foreign tourists in terms of information relating to travel in India and to provide a sense of safety and security.

Tourism circuit in Tamil Nadu

1913. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken any steps to develop Trichy - Pudukkottai - Shivganga - Rameshwaram - Thoothukudi - Tiruchendur - Tirunelveli - Kanyakumari as Tourism Circuit in Tamil Nadu pursuant to identification by National Level Consultant (NLC);
- (b) if so, details thereof; and
- (c) the details of the funds earmarked by Government for this purpose and the status of the project as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI K. J. ALPHONS): (a) and (b) Trichy- Pudukkottai-Shivganga- Rameshwaram-Thoothukudi-Tiruchendur-Tirunelveli- Kanyakumari circuit was identified for development under