

Tourism in Andhra Pradesh marred by CRZ regulations

3036. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Ministry that there are impediments under CRZ regulations which are hampering investments in tourism sector, particularly in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether any proposal/representation has been received by the Ministry from Government of Andhra Pradesh for the amendment of CRZ regulations or Act; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and Ministry's actions thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI K. J. ALPHONS): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India has not received any communication regarding impediments under CRZ regulations which are hampering investments in tourism sector particularly in Andhra Pradesh.

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India, has informed that the Central Government had constituted a Committee to review and examine various issues/concerns of coastal regions and stakeholders including tourism potential of coastal States/UTs including Andhra Pradesh. Based on the recommendations of the Committee, a new Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 2018 has been finalized.

Tourism projects in Sikkim

3037. SHRI HISHEY LACHUNGPA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 51 tourism projects of Government of Sikkim are seriously affected due to non-release of Central Financial Assistance under the 100 per cent Centrally sponsored scheme of product/infrastructure Development of Destination and Circuits;

(b) the amount of balance Central fund to be transferred to the Government of Sikkim to complete these 51 projects;

(c) whether the request of release of these funds has been placed before the Ministry by State Government on several occasion;

- (d) if so, the reasons for delay in the release of these funds; and
- (e) by when funds will be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI K. J. ALPHONS): (a) Subsequent to the 14th Finance Commission report regarding higher devolution of 42% to States from union taxes and duties during its award period 2015-20, PIDDC scheme has been delinked from Union Support w.e.f. 2015-16 and no funds are allocated to any States under this scheme.

(b) to (e) States were requested to complete the projects through their own resources, after the PIDDC Scheme was delinked from Central support with effect from 2015-16.

The completed/substantially completed PIDDC projects in the North Eastern States have been meanwhile considered for funding by North Eastern Council (NEC), within their overall availability of resources.

Safety and security of foreign tourists

3038. SHRI G. C. CHANDRASHEKHAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are increasing number of crimes against foreign tourists in popular destinations;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, during the last three years;
- (c) whether adverse perception about safety and security of tourists would seriously affect the tourists arrivals in the country and if so, Government's response thereto;
- (d) whether Government has set up any helpline for tourists and formulated a code of conduct for safe and ethical tourism to be adopted by major stakeholders and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the other corrective steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI K. J. ALPHONS): (a) and (b) The 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects as per the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India. As such, safety and security of tourists,