

Protection to Foreign Tourists



25-April, 2013

Union Tourism Minister Shri K. Chiranjeevi has said that in order to ensure safety and security of tourists/foreign tourists, the Ministry of Tourism has advised all the State Governments/UT Administrations to deploy Tourist Police. He said some of the State Governments have deployed tourist police in one form or the other. Further, the guidelines for formation of Tourist Security Organization(s) comprising ex-servicemen, formulated by the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India in consultation with the Ministry of Defence, Home and Directorate General of Resettlements, have been forwarded to the State Governments/UT Administrations.

The Minister said in addition, the Union Ministry of Tourism, along with stakeholders has adopted the Code of conduct for “Safe & 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.

However, the Minister added that 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects as per the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India. As such, prevention of crime against tourists/foreign tourists is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/Union Territory (UT) Administrations.

The Tourism Minister said that the number of Foreign Tourist Arrivals in India during January – March, 2013 were 20.27 lakh (Provisional) as compared to 19.81 lakh (Provisional) during the corresponding period of 2012, registering a positive growth of 2.3%.

This information was given by the Union Tourism Minister Shri K. Chiranjeevi in a written reply in the Rajya Sabha today.

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