

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1907
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.03.2018

INDIA'S RANKING IN TRAVEL ADVISORY

1907. SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the United States Government has placed India at Level 2 in its travel advisory for countries citing crime and terrorism as reason;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor and the action taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (c) the details of diplomatic or other alternative channels utilized/proposed to be utilized to take up this issue with authorities concerned in the United States?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
[GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD)]

(a) to (c) On 10 January 2018, the Government of United States launched a new system of four-level travel advisory to “provide U.S. citizens with clear, timely, and reliable safety and security information worldwide”. Under the new system, every country will have a Travel Advisory, providing levels of advice ranging from 1 to 4 as follows:

- Level 1 - Exercise Normal Precautions;
- Level 2 - Exercise Increased Caution;
- Level 3 - Reconsider Travel; and
- Level 4 - Do Not Travel.

Countries have been assigned levels on the basis of 7 risk indicators - Crime, Terrorism, Civil Unrest, Health, Natural Disaster, Time-limited Event and Other.

India has been placed at Level 2 - ‘Exercise increased caution’ due to “crime and terrorism”. 51 other countries have been assigned Level 2.

Government of India remains closely engaged with the Government of United States on all matters of mutual interest, including the issue of travel advisories. We have conveyed that there should be no concerns about the safety of US citizens in India, and that U.S. travel advisories should not create undue alarm about the security situation in India. The US officials have stated that under the US legal system, it is obligatory for the Administration to advise their citizens on issues relating to travel abroad.
