GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5012

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 23RD JULY, 2019/ SHRAVANA 1, 1941 (SAKA)

CRIME AGAINST FOREIGNERS

5012. SHRI T.N. PRATHAPAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any data regarding crimes against foreign tourists in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any measures to prevent the crimes against foreign tourists; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI)

- (a) & (b): Yes, Sir. As per the latest published report of the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) the number of cases registered under total crimes committed against foreign tourists during the year 2016 is 284.
- (c) & (d): 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India and State Governments are responsible for prevention, detection, registration and investigation of crime including crimes against foreign tourists and for prosecuting the

criminals through their law enforcement agencies. However, the Ministry of Home Affairs have issued advisories to States and UTs, from time to time, to maintain law and order and ensure that any person who takes law into his/her own hand is punished promptly as per law.

To ensure the safety and security of tourists including foreign tourists, the Government has taken following measures –

- (i) The Ministry of Tourism along with all stakeholders, including the Tourism Departments of all States and UTs, have adopted the 'Code of Conduct for Safe & Honourable Tourism' which is a set of guidelines to encourage tourism activities to be undertaken for basic rights like dignity, safety and freedom from exploitation of both tourists and local residents in particular, women and children.
- (ii) The Ministry of Tourism has launched the 24x7 Multi-Lingual Tourist Info-Helpline on the toll free number 1800111363 or on a short code 1363 in Hindi, English and 10 international Languages in February 2016, for domestic and foreign tourists to provide support service in terms of information relating to Travel in India and also offers appropriate guidance to tourists in distress while travelling in India.

- (iii) The Ministry of Tourism has issued the Guidelines on Safety and Security of Tourists for State Governments/Union Territories and Tips for travelers in September 2014 to stress on the importance of safety and risk management, assist in identifying best practices and encourage closer cooperation for ensuring a pleasant experience to the tourists.
- (iv) The Ministry of Tourism conducts constant dialogue with State Governments/Union Territory Administrations, various tourism related institutions for development and promotion of tourism in the country including safe and honourable tourism.
- (v) Emergency Response Support System, which provides a single emergency number (112) based computer aided dispatch of field resources to the location of distress has been operationalized in 20 States/UTs in 2018-19.
