

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2699#
ANSWERED ON 23.03.2023

SAFETY OF DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL TOURISTS

2699# DR. KALPANA SAINI:

Will the Minister of **TOURISM** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether safety is a big cause of concern for both domestic and international tourists in the country;
- (b) whether Government has allocated adequate budget to the State Tourism Boards to ensure safety and security of the tourists in Uttarakhand;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to set up Tourist Protection Force; and
- (d) if so, the relevant details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a), (c) & (d): Safety of Tourists is one of the most important aspects for development of tourism in any region. Safety and security of tourists is essentially a State Government subject; however, Ministry of Tourism is well aware of the security concern of the tourists and has taken all possible measures to provide a safe and secure atmosphere for the tourists. With the efforts of Ministry of Tourism, the State Governments/UT Administrations of Andhra Pradesh, Delhi, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim and Uttar Pradesh have deployed tourist police in one form or the other.

To develop a comprehensive framework, Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) has formulated a very comprehensive report and have also formulated a five days training programme for the Tourist Police of States/UTs. The report and training program has also been shared with the Ministry of Home Affairs & Ministry of Tourism. Accordingly, Ministry of Tourism in collaboration with the Ministry of Home Affairs and BPR&D organized a National Conference on Tourist Police Scheme with the Director Generals (DGs)/Inspector Generals (IGs) of Police Department of all the States/UTs on 19.10.2022 in New Delhi.

The objective of having dedicated Tourist Police is safety and security of tourists at the tourist spots and to ensure that no harassment is caused to the tourist by touts and cheaters.

(b): There is no such scheme in the Ministry of Tourism to fund State Tourism Boards for providing safety & security to the tourists through Tourist Police. However, on request of Madhya Pradesh Govt. an amount of Rs.27.98 cr. has been appraised by Empowered Committee (EC) under Nirbhaya Fund for Safe Tourism Destination for women in Madhya Pradesh. Ministry of Tourism, Govt. of India released an amount of Rs.6.24 crore as first installment of the total sanctioned amount of Rs.16.79 core (Central Govt. share) during the financial year 2020-21.
