

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
TOURISM  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1718

ANSWERED ON:16.08.2013

EFFECT OF UTTARAKHAND TRAGEDY ON TOURISM

Chavan Shri Harischandra Deoram;Mala Rajya Laxmi Smt. Shah;Mohan Shri P. C.;Patil Shri Sanjay Dina ;Ray Shri Saugata;Shetkar Shri Suresh Kumar;Sukur Shri Jadhav Baliram

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

- (a) whether the Government has made any assessment of the huge losses caused to the tourism sector due to recent natural calamities in Uttarakhand occurred in the month of June 2013;
- (b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof;
- (c) the financial and other kinds of assistance or package provided along with the schemes proposed to be implemented on priority basis by the Government to re-develop tourism in the region;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to make it mandatory for tourists to get their travel plans registered and secure travel insurance, if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the States thereto;
- (e) whether the Government has also stressed on the need for a national consensus on regulating religious tourism in view of such tragedy, if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the other measures taken by the Government including developing special technique to check recurrence of such calamities in future?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (DR. K. CHIRANJEEVI)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. According to the State Government of Uttarakhand, the study undertaken by the PHD Chamber of Commerce of India (PHDCCI) reveals an estimated loss to the economy of about Rs.12,000 Crore. Loss of Government tourism properties has been assessed to be approximately Rs.102.00 Crore. Due to lack of access to the affected areas the loss to private tourism assets has not been assessed so far.

(c): The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India has announced a special financial package of Rs.100.00 crore for rebuilding/building destroyed/damaged government tourism assets. In addition, the Ministry has already sanctioned Central Financial Assistance of about Rs.95.00 Crore for various tourism infrastructure projects in the State under the current financial year. Besides this, the State Government has also prioritized projects for an approximate amount of Rs.58.00 Crore for development of tourism infrastructure in the State during the current financial year.

(d): The State Government informs that they plan to evolve a regulation and registration to control tourist movement with bio-metric support at all important points within the State. It is also proposed by the State to advise tour operators to get the tourists insured before entering the State.

(e): With a view to assess the need for a national consensus on regulating religious tourism to avoid such tragedies, Ministry of Tourism, Government of India has decided to conduct a study which will include an assessment of the State's Tourism Carrying Capacity (TCC), its practical analysis and measurement and its efficient application, destination management etc. in the State of Uttarakhand.

(f): As per the Government of Uttarakhand, it has started developing plans for disaster resilient tourist infrastructure & safe tourism by involving various Departments like Weather Forecasting, Forest & Environment, Police Transport, District Administration, Disaster Management, Tourism etc. so that recurrence of such calamities can be checked in future.