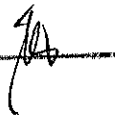


FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

8 JUN -2 P2:36

SENATE
P. S. R. No. 431

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY,
IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE ILLEGAL INFLUX OF INDIAN TOURISTS IN
THE COUNTRY

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 7 provides: "The State shall pursue an independent foreign policy. In its relations with other states, the paramount consideration shall be national sovereignty, territorial integrity, national interest, and the right to self-determination";

WHEREAS, according to the Bureau of Immigration (BOI), close to 5,000 Indian tourists who entered the country between 2005 and June 2007 are unaccounted for;

WHEREAS, there is a discrepancy between the number of visas issued by the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) during the period and the number of Indian tourists who actually entered the country;



WHEREAS, according to BOI Commissioner Marcelino Libanan, the DFA issued a total of 39,495 tourist visas to Indian nationals during the period while records show that 44,295 Indian tourists entered the country; the figures mean that 4,800 Indians got their visas from questionable sources;

WHEREAS, these figures also mean a loss of Php12 million in revenue fees of Php2,500 per tourist visa;

WHEREAS, it is imperative for the state to strengthen and improve its immigration rules and regulations in order to properly monitor the influx of tourists and impede the entry of illegal aliens in the country;

WHEREFORE, be it hereby resolved by the Philippine Senate, to direct the proper Senate Committee to conduct an inquiry in aid of legislation, on the illegal influx of Indian tourists in the country.

Adopted,


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO


/dpm