

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No.2860
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.03.2018**

REMOVAL OF HAJ SUBSIDY

2860. SHRI RAM KUMAR VERMA:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the subsidy has been withdrawn from Haj yatra;
- (b) if so, whether Government to allow Haj yatri to avail any airways for Haj yatra; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
(SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI)**

- (a) Yes, Sir. As per the Supreme Court judgment dated 08.05.2012 and recommendations of Haj Policy Review committee constituted by the Ministry, the Haj subsidy has been gradually reduced since the year 2013 and it has been decided to discontinue it from Haj 2018.
- (b) & (c) Air travel arrangements for the pilgrims going through Haj Committee of India (HCoI) is made as per the provisions of the annual bilateral agreement for Haj with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The pilgrims of HCoI go through Haj charter flights arranged through competitive bidding from among the scheduled airlines of India and Saudi Arabia. For Haj 2018 air charter operations, Air India, Saudi Airlines and Flynas of Saudi Arabia have been selected for Haj operations.
