

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2454
ANSWERED ON 22.03.2023

HAJ POLICY 2023

2454. SHRI MOHAMMED NADIMUL HAQUE:

Will the Minister of Minority Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is also considering other Airports as Embarkation Points in public interest in addition to the 25 Embarkation Points;
- (b) if so, details thereof;
- (c) the State-wise/UT-wise seats allotted to pilgrims for the Haj 2023;
- (d) whether it is a fact that Government is downsizing the group application from six individuals earlier to four; and
- (e) if so, details thereof and the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
(SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) & (b) The number of Embarkation Points (EPs) have already been tentatively increased for Haj 2023 under the Haj Policy finalized by Ministry of Minority Affairs in consultation with the stakeholders. The final number of Embarkation points will be subject to a certain minimum number of passengers opting for the airport and the feasibility of setting up the related infrastructure. No proposal for considering any other Airports as Embarkation Points in addition to the 25 EPs mentioned in Haj Policy is under consideration with the Ministry.

(c) The distribution of Haj quota amongst State wise/UT is as per the proportion of Muslim population in the State and provisions under the Haj Policy for Haj 2023.

(d) & (e) The cover size has been revised to four after considering the room capacity in Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and taking in account of the convenience of pilgrims.
