

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION No. 148
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.07.2017**

Haj Pilgrimage

***148. SHRIMATI KOTHAPALLI GEETHA:**

Will the Minister of **MINORITY AFFAIRS** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has received proposals/ applications for Haj Pilgrimage during the current year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the number of proposals/ applications received / admitted/ rejected and the present status thereof, State/ UT-wise particularly from Andhra Pradesh and Telangana; and
- (c) the financial assistance presently being provided to the Haj pilgrim?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
(SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI)**

(a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.148 FOR 26.07.2017 RAISED BY SHRIMATI
KOTHAPALLI GEETHA REGARDING HAJ PILGRIMAGE**

(a) to (c) Haj Committee of India, a statutory organization under the Ministry of Minority Affairs invited applications from intending Haj pilgrims from 02.01.2017 to 06.02.2017. The total number of Haj applications received in the Haj Committee of India was 4,48,266, out of which 1,23,700 pilgrims have been selected for Haj 2017. The State/Union Territory-wise applications received and number of pilgrims selected including for Andhra Pradesh and Telangana is given in Annexure.

The expenditure towards Haj is borne by the pilgrims themselves. No financial assistance is given directly to the Haj pilgrims. However for air travel of pilgrims, the Ministry of Civil Aviation makes air chartering arrangements through a bidding process among the Indian and Saudi airlines. The airfare for each embarkation points is arrived at through the bidding process. In order to mitigate air travel costs for Haj pilgrims, Ministry of Civil Aviation provides subsidy (popularly known as Haj subsidy) which is the difference between actual airfare discovered through bidding process and the fixed uniform amount charged by Haj Committee of India towards airfare. This subsidy is paid directly to the airlines and per unit subsidy differs from embarkation point to embarkation point.

The Supreme Court, while dealing with the Special Leave Petition (Civil) No.28609 of 2011 vide its judgment dated 08.05.2012, inter alia observed that the Haj subsidy is something that is best done away with and directed the central Government to progressively reduce the amount of subsidy so as to completely eliminate it. Accordingly, Haj subsidy has been gradually reduced from Rs.836.56 in the year 2012 to Rs. 405 crore in the year 2016.

ANNEXUR REFERRED IN THE STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.148 FOR 26.07.2017 RAISED BY SHRIMATI KOTHAPALLI GEETHA REGARDING HAJ PILGRIMAGE

Sr.No	Name of States/ Union Territory	No of Applications	Final Quota
1	2	3	4
1	Andaman & Nicobar (UT)	115	52
2	Andhra Pradesh	3390	2728
3	Assam (*)	4279	4279
4	Bihar	6963	6963
5	Chandigarh (UT)	91	82
6	Chattisgarh	1374	388
7	Dadra nagar Haveli (UT)	33	21
8	Daman & Diu (UT)	27	27
9	Delhi (NCT)	10228	1628
10	Goa	196	196
11	Gujarat	57225	10877
12	Himachal Pradesh	129	129
13	Haryana	4149	1343
14	Jammu & Kashmir	35217	7960
15	Jharkhand	3306	3306
16	Karnataka	23514	5951
17	Kerala	95236	11197
18	Lakshadweep (UT)	366	298
19	Madhya Pradesh	24875	3599
20	Maharashtra	57246	9780
21	Manipur	497	388
22	Odisha	1133	688
23	Puducherry (UT)	214	123
24	Punjab	303	303
25	Rajasthan	17796	4686
26	Tamil Nadu	13588	3189
27	Tripura	134	134
28	Uttar Pradesh	51375	29017
29	Uttarakhand	4694	1061
30	West Bengal	9940	9940
31	Telangana	20635	3367
	Total	448268	123700
I	Quota for Mehram		200
II	Quota for VIPs		500
III	Quota for Khadim ul Hujjaj		625
	Grand Total		125025

* Assam includes Muslim Population of Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland & Sikkim