

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No.4208
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.03.2018**

HAJ EMBARKATION

4208. MOHAMMED FAIZAL:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any plan to restart Haj embarkation centre at Karippur, Calicut in Kerala; and;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

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

- (a) & (b) In the wake of removal of subsidy on air travel of Haj pilgrims, the Haj Policy Review Committee (HPRC) recommended to reduce the number of embarkation points from the existing 21 to 9 namely Delhi, Lucknow, Kolkata, Ahmedabad, Mumbai, Chennai, Hyderabad, Bengaluru and Cochin to bring down the fares to reasonable levels for all pilgrims. However, considering the demands raised from various sectors for retention of the existing embarkation points, it has been decided for Haj 2018 to give choice to the pilgrims to choose either their designated embarkation point or the nearest economical embarkation point on the basis of actual airfare of previous year. On the basis of HPRC recommendations to retain the Cochin embarkation point, the same has been continued for Haj pilgrims of Kerala.
