

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †1071**  
ANSWERED ON 08.02.2024

**SUBSIDIES TO MUSLIMS FOR HAJ PILGRIMAGE**

†1071. SHRI OMPRAKASH BHUPALSINH ALIAS PAWAN RAJENIMBALKAR:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government provides subsidies to Muslims to go for Haj Pilgrimage;
- (b) if so, whether the Union Government has stopped giving the Haj pilgrimage subsidies to Muslims in 2018 and if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the role of the Government to start providing Haj pilgrimage subsidies to Muslims?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS  
(SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) to (c): The Government of India does not provide any subsidy to the members of Muslim community to go for Haj Pilgrimage. The Haj subsidy has been completely withdrawn with effect from 2018. As on date, the entire expenditure towards Haj is borne by the pilgrims themselves. No financial assistance is given directly to Haj pilgrims.

The Supreme Court in Special Leave Petition (Civil) No.28609 of 2011 vide its Order dated 08.05.2012 and 13.04.2013, inter-alia, observed that Haj subsidy be done away with and directed the Central Government to progressively reduce the amount of subsidy so as to completely eliminate the same within a period of 10 years. Accordingly, Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA), which made air travel arrangements for the Haj pilgrims of HCoI and provided subsidy towards airfare payable to the airlines, progressively reduced the subsidy for Haj operations from the year 2012 onwards. There is no plan to introduce any Haj subsidy by the Central Government.

\*\*\*\*\*