

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS

**LOK SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO. \*162**  
ANSWERED ON 09.12.2021

**CENTRAL HAJ COMMITTEE**

**†\*162. KUNWAR DANISH ALI:**

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Central Haj Committee has been constituted;
- (b) if not, the reasons for delay in its constitution;
- (c) whether such committees exist only on paper in some States; and
- (d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to make them functional?

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

(a) To (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. \*162 FOR 09.12.2021 RAISED BY SHRI KUNWAR DANISH ALI REGARDING CENTRAL HAJ COMMITTEE**

(a) to (d) The Ministry of Minority Affairs along with officials and Members of Haj Committee of India (HCol), officials of Consulate General of India, Jeddah and various ministries like Ministry of Civil Aviation, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and Ministry of External Affairs makes arrangements for the smooth and successful conduct of Haj pilgrimage for Haj pilgrims of India.

The Haj Committee of India has been established under the Haj Committee Act-2002, for making arrangements for the Haj pilgrims and the matter connected thereon.

The composition of the Haj Committee, as provided in section 4 of Haj Committee Act-2002, is as follows:-

- (i) three members of Parliament of whom two are to be nominated by the Speaker of the House of the People from among its Muslim members, and one by the Chairman of the Council of States from among its Muslim members: Provided that a member of Parliament shall, upon ceasing to be a member, cease to be a member of the Committee and the Speaker of the House of the People or the Chairman of the Council of States, as the case may be, shall make a fresh nomination upon request by the Central Government;
- (ii) nine Muslim members of the Committee shall be elected, three from those States sending largest number of pilgrims during last three years and one each from the zones as specified in the Schedule, in such manner as may be prescribed: Provided that not more than one member shall be elected from a State falling in the zone as specified in the Schedule;
- (iii) four persons not below the rank of Joint Secretary to the Government of India nominated by that Government to represent the Ministries of External Affairs, Home, Finance and Civil Aviation, as ex officio members;
- (iv) seven Muslim members shall be nominated by the Central Government from among the following categories of persons, namely:— (a) two members who have special knowledge of public administration, finance, education, culture or social work and out of whom one shall be a Shia Muslim; (b) two women members, out of them one shall be Shia Muslim; (c) three members who have special knowledge of Muslim theology and law, out of them one shall be a Shia Muslim.

Further, under section 17 of Haj Committee Act-2002, state Haj Committees in different states/ UTs are constituted by concerned state Government after Central Government notifies creation of any state Haj Committee in the Official Gazette. The composition of the state Haj Committee, as provided in section 18 of Haj Committee Act-2002, is as follows:-

A State Committee shall consist of sixteen members, to be nominated by the State Government, namely:—

- (i) three members from the Muslim members of— (a) Parliament representing the State; (b) State Legislative Assembly; and (c) Legislative Council, where it exists;
- (ii) three members from Muslim members representing local bodies in the State;
- (iii) three members having expertise in Muslim theology and law including one who shall be a Shia Muslim;
- (iv) five members representing Muslim voluntary organisations working in the fields of public administration, finance, education, culture or social work;
- (v) the Chairperson of the State Wakf Board; and
- (vi) Executive Officer of the State Committee, who shall be the ex officio member of the State Committee: Provided that a Committee for any Union territory or a Joint State Committee shall consist of such number of members as may be prescribed.

(2) In case where there is no Muslim member in any of the categories mentioned in clauses (i) and (ii) of sub-section (1), or where there is no Legislative Council in a State, nomination may be made in such manner as may be prescribed.

As of now, 31 State Haj Committees have been notified by the Central Government. In addition, for Haj-2020 and Haj-2021, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia did not allow international pilgrims due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Further, the issue regarding Constitution of Haj Committee of India and State Haj Committees is sub-judice.

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