

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 830  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.12.2021**

**RULES OF JOURNEY FOR HAJ PILGRIMS**

**830. SHRI B.B.PATIL:**

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the objective of new Haj Guidelines;
- (b) whether the Haj Pilgrims are worried about the new set of rules for journey to their Haj visit like age restrictions, higher costs, removing of some boarding points in the country due to COVID-19 pandemic and the burden on passengers as a result thereof;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the corrective steps taken in this regard; and
- (d) the efforts being made to increase Haj quota for the country?

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

(a) to (c) The guidelines for Haj 2022 have been issued by the Haj Committee of India(HCoI) so as to apprise the public about the requirements for Haj pilgrimage and also guide the applicants to submit their request. New provisional guidelines have been issued this year under special circumstances with special norms, rules & regulations, eligibility criteria, age restrictions and other relevant conditions as Kingdom of Saudi Arabia(KSA) may determine and deem appropriate amid COVID-19 pandemic. The special provisions and precautions for Haj 2022 have been made keeping in mind the safety and well being of Haj pilgrims.

(d) The Haj quota has increased from 1,36,000 pilgrims in Haj 2014 to the highest quota ever of 2,00,000 pilgrims in Haj 2019. For Haj 2020 and Haj 2021, international pilgrims were not allowed by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia due to Covid 19 Pandemic.

\*\*\*\*\*