

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 1033

ANSWERED ON- 05/12/2025

**PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE CONNECTIVITY BETWEEN INDIA AND SAUDI
ARABIA**

1033. MR. PATHAN YUSUF

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :-

(a) the number of Indian diaspora in Saudi Arabia, especially in Jeddah city, State-wise;

(b) the number of Indians employed in Saudi Arabia, particularly in Jeddah, State-wise;

(c) the number of Indians who have visited Jeddah on pilgrimage during the last five years, State-wise; and

(d) whether the Government has taken any steps, in consultation with Saudi Arabia, to improve connectivity and facilitate employment and pilgrimage between Indian metropolitan cities like Kolkata and Saudi Arabian cities like Jeddah, if so, the details thereof and if not, the

reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a & b) As per information provided by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the number of Indian nationals residing in Saudi Arabia, as on 24.02.2025, was 2,747,551, including 2,565,464 working and 182,087 family members. State-wise data is not available.

Government has no city-wise data on the number of Indians working or living in Saudi Arabia.

(c) State-wise distribution of Haj pilgrims under the Haj Committee of India during the last five years is at Annexure-I. Data related to state-wise distribution of Haj pilgrims under the Haj Group Operator route is not available. Data on Umrah pilgrims is not available with the Government, as it is not released by the Saudi authorities.

(d) Under the framework of bilateral Air Services Agreement between India and Saudi Arabia, there are direct flights connecting between multiple cities in both India and Saudi Arabia.

Travellers from India can also access all the major cities of Saudi Arabia, including Jeddah, through connecting flights, of which a large number of options are available.

Specifically on Haj facilitation, the Government of India has implemented significant administrative reforms to prioritize pilgrim comfort and safety. Some recent initiatives include introduction of Haj Suvidha App, improved travel and accommodation arrangements, and enhanced medical facilities.

On labour cooperation, the Government of India has been actively engaging with Saudi Arabia. As part of bilateral engagement, India and Saudi Arabia has signed the Agreement on Labour Cooperation for Domestic Service Workers (DSW) Recruitment in 2014 and the Agreement on Labour Cooperation for General Category Workers' Recruitment in 2016. These agreements ensure recruitment through legal pathways with standard contracts, regulate recruitment

channels and also provide bilateral mechanisms for resolution of issues faced by the Indian workers.

Annexure-I**State-wise Details of Haj pilgrims under the Haj Committee of India**

Sl. No	Name of States/ Union Territory	Haj 2021	Haj 2022	Haj 2023	Haj 2024	Haj 2025
		Pilgrim proceeded	Pilgrim proceeded	Pilgrim proceeded	Pilgrim proceeded	Pilgrim proceeded
1	<i>Andaman & Nicobar (UT)</i>	Haj Cancelled due to COVID-19	102	148	128	112
2	<i>Andhra Pradesh</i>		1,151	2,062	2,499	1,607
3	<i>Assam</i>		3,216	6,062	3,682	2,517
4	<i>Bihar</i>		1,889	5,255	3,508	2,376
5	<i>Chandigarh (UT)</i>		17	35	40	33
6	<i>Chattisgarh</i>		380	691	735	655

7	Dadra nagar Haveli (UT)		17	67	23	44
8	Daman & Diu (UT)		15	27	29	18
9	Delhi (NCT)		942	2,675	3,201	2,856
10	Goa		54	117	162	79
11	Gujarat		2,944	9,878	14,269	16,986
12	Haryana		706	1,792	1,343	1,182
13	Himachal Pradesh		38	66	79	48
14	Jammu & Kashmir		5,787	12,042	6,981	3,582
15	Jharkhand		1,423	2,740	1,716	1,298
16	Karnataka		3,062	7,120	10,761	8,633
17	Kerala					

			5,663	11,220	17,884	15,953
18	Lakshadeep (UT)		142	163	92	111
19	Madhya Pradesh		2,119	6,370	7,200	7,963
20	Maharashtra		5,793	16,055	20,888	18,808
21	Manipur		293	368	402	456
22	Odisha		379	883	521	384
23	Puducherry (UT)		43	83	78	90
24	Punjab		190	288	246	308
25	Rajasthan		2,240	5,867	3,935	3,375
26	Tamil Nadu		1,659	4,022	5,773	5,719
27	Tripura		100	163	108	42

28	Uttar Pradesh		7,405	24,840	17,790	13,594
29	Uttrakhand		556	1,525	1,039	909
30	West Bengal		5,181	10,435	5,567	4,942
31	Telangana		2,136	5,594	8,308	6,713
32	UT Ladakh		202	452	336	238
34	GQ + HC		424			
36	KH		366	324	641	791
	Total		56,634	139,429	139,964	122,422
