

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1754
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2001
PILGRIMAGES ABROAD
RAMDAS ATHAWALE

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of pilgrims who paid a visit to each of the pilgrimage abroad during the last three years, year-wise;
- (b) the criteria being followed for the selection of the pilgrims for each of the pilgrimage; and
- (c) the extent of assistance provided to them, pilgrimage-wise?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH)

(a) - (c) Sir, the information is given in the Annexure.

Annexure to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1754 for answer on 28.11.2001 regarding 'Pilgrimages Abroad'

Sl. No. of the pilgrimage abroad during the last three years, year-wise	Name of Pilgrimage	The number of pilgrims who paid a visit to each selection of pilgrims for each of the pilgrimage	The criteria being followed for the them, pilgrimage wise	The extent of assistance provided to
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1.	Kailash Mansarovar Yatra 2001 transparent. Public 459 492 463 for the Yatra are issued. The selection of Yatris is done through a computer generated random selection process. security and escort cover upto Lipulekh Pass; insurance cover and communication links for the duration of the Yatra. A Liaison Officer is attached to each batch of Yatris. The Delhi Government provides free stay to Yatris at Ashok Yatri Niwas in New Delhi for 4-5 days during their onward and return journey.	1999 2000 3,250/- per Yatri to advertisements inviting applications offset the expenditure incurred by the Yatris. Government provides free medical inspection and assistance, and	Selection procedure of Yatris is open and Kumoan Mandal Vikas Nigam to partially	Ministry of External Affairs provides Rs.
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2.	Haj Pilgrimage 2001 State/Union Territory 62,100 71,909 71,133 census. Since the total number of applications received during the last three years were less than the quota allotted by	1999 2000 distributed to each Haj pilgrims for air on the basis of Muslim population of 1991 Haj Committee, Mumbai. The total subsidy provisionally provided during last three years is as under :-	The quota for Haj is provides subsidy to travel in respect of pilgrims going through	The Government
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the Government, all the applications received till the closing date were given confirmed status. 2001 134,36,83,000	Years Rupees)	Subsidy (In 1999 93,51,77,000 2000 119,86,82,000
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3. Pilgrimages to Religious 1999 Shrines in 2001		Under the Indo-Pak No 2000 Protocol on visits to assistance Religious Shrines- provided.	financial is
i) Pakistan Basaikhi 2308		1974, there is a fixed quota of number of	
ii) 1800 Guru Arjan Dev Martyrdom Day.		pilgrims visiting India and pakistan. The number of places	
iii) 600) Barsi of		to be visited during the year are also	
Maharaja Ranjit Singh.		covered under the Protocol.For the Sikh	
iv) 260 Guru Nanak Dev Jayanti.		Jathas, the State Governments send the lists as per quota	
v) 2200++ Shadani Darbar at Hyat Pitafi.		allotted to them. Hindu jathas are sponsored by religious	
vi) 38 Katas Raj.		bodies. 40	

++ Jatha is leaving for Pakistan on 27.11.2001.