

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6439
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2010
CORRUPTION IN HAJ PILGRIMAGE
Kashinath Shri Taware Suresh

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has received complaints of corruption in the Haj arrangements;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has got the matter investigated; and
- (d) if so, the outcome thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S. M. KRISHNA)

(a) to (d): No specific charges of corruption in the Haj pilgrimage have been received. However, in the past, some complaints were received mainly regarding pilgrims not getting desired category of accommodation, inadequate facilities at the place of stay, problems of local transportation etc. Further, some complaints related to hardships faced due to delay in arrival/departure of flights, change in flight schedules and non-receipt of baggage Zam-Zam(Holy water) etc. There is a system in place for redressal of the hardship faced by the pilgrims. The improvement in the Haj management is a continuous exercise for which the Government regularly reviews previous arrangements.