

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6455
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2010
PHASING OUT HAJ SUBSIDY
Basavaraj Shri Gangasandra Siddappa

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to phase out Haj subsidy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government also proposes to cut the number of pilgrims being sent on subsidized air-fare by one-tenth every year;
- (d) If so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government is examining Malaysian Model in this regard; and
- (f) If so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

- (a) to (b): The Government is striving to reduce Haj Subsidy. In 2009, Government has taken a decision to increase the air fare chargeable from the Haj Pilgrims going through Haj Committee of India from Rs. 12,000 to Rs. 16,000 per pilgrim.
- (c) to (f): No.