

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6566
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2010
DEATH OF PILGRIMS IN HAJ STAMPEDE
Pratap Narayanrao Shri Sonawane

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large number of Indians were reportedly killed and injured in a stampede at symbol of Shaitan in Mina, Saudi Arabia;
- (b) if so, details thereof including the number of Indians killed and injured, State-wise;
- (c) the amount of compensation paid by Saudi Arabia Government and Indian Government to each of the injured and the families of those killed; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that bodies of all deceased are brought and handed over to their relatives in India?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIS. M. KRISHNA)

(a) to (d): Sixty two Indian Haj pilgrims died due to stampede in Mina on 12-01-2006. Out of the 62 pilgrims who died in a stampede while performing Haj on 12-01-2006, 46 pilgrims had gone through the Haj Committee of India (HCOI), and were covered under Haj Committee's Group Accident Insurance Scheme. They were entitled to receive a compensation of Rs. 1 to 3 lakhs each subject to receipt of claim forms by the HCOI. Out of the remaining 16 Haj pilgrims, 10 had gone through the Private Tour Operators and six were local Indian residents. Government of India has sanctioned ex-gratia payment of Rs. 2.00 lakh each to the next of kin of these 16 pilgrims. All the bodies were buried in the Holy City.