

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HOME AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3774  
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2010  
AMARNATH PILGRIMS  
Gowda Shri D.B. Chandre;Singh Shri Rakesh

**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) the total number of pilgrims who have gone on Amarnath Yatra this year;
- (b) the total number of pilgrims who have died since the start of the current Amarnath Yatra and the reasons for their deaths;
- (c) whether many pilgrims who went on Amarnath Yatra have died due to cardiac arrest;
- (d) if so, the number of such pilgrims;
- (e) the reasons for allowing persons with medical history of cardiac problem to go on such arduous pilgrimage;and
- (f) the details of facilities provided to the Amarnath pilgrims?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN)

- (a): As per the information made available by Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board, a total of 4,40,965 pilgrims have paid obeisance at Shri Amarnathji Shrine upto 12.08.2010.
- (b) to (d): During the Yatra this year, 64 pilgrims have died so far. Of these, 44 have died due to cardiac arrest.
- (e): The Shrine Board has through press releases issued advisories that persons having a serious medical problem should not undertake this arduous Yatra. In addition, the Board has for the first time prescribed that every Yatri must furnish self-certification of medical fitness at the time of registration for the Yatra.
- (f): Various facilities have been provided to the pilgrims that include adequate accommodation facilities at base camps and en-route, accidental insurance cover of Rs. 1 lacs for the registered Yatris at no cost, helicopter services from Baltal and Pahalgam to Panjtarni and back, medical facilities at all camps and also en-route, 24x7 Control Room and Joint Control Rooms at the Base Camps, Camps en-route and at the Holy Cave for assistance of the Yatris, etc.