

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:629
ANSWERED ON:11.11.2010
SPECIAL FLIGHTS FOR HAJ PILGRIMS
MUTTEMWAR SHRI VILAS BABURAO

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Air India has been operating special flights for Haj pilgrims in the past;
- (b) if so, the number of flights proposed to be operated during this year for the benefit of Hajis;
- (c) whether other airlines have also been permitted to operate such flights for Haj pilgrims;
- (d) if so, the names of private airlines approved for the purpose;
- (e) whether Air India proposes to act as nodal agency for private operators and play a role to work out tariff-parity for Haj flights; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

- (a): Yes, Madam.
- (b): This year, Air India has carried balottee pilgrims on its scheduled flights and has not operated any chartered flight.
- (c): Yes, Madam.
- (d): Saudi Arabian Airlines, National Air Services and Al-Wafeer Air are carrying balottee Haj pilgrims from 21 embarkation points in India.
- (e): No, Madam.
- (f): Does not arise.