

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2397
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2010
APPLICATION FOR HAJ YATRA
Antony Shri Anto;Muttemwar Shri Vilas Baburao

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of applications received from the Muslim community of each State for undertaking Haj Yatra during the current year;
- (b) the number of persons allowed as compared to last year;
- (c) whether representations were received from several Muslim organizations from Maharashtra for discrimination in the allocation of quota based on population of districts, particularly from Nagpur;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to ensure the safe travel of pilgrims by the private operators; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof including the seats allocated to private operators this year?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SMT. PRENEET KAUR)

- (a): State-wise list of applications received by the Haj Committee of India for Haj – 2010 is enclosed at ANNEXURE-I.
- (b): 167,991 pilgrims went for Haj in 2009 and 171,491 pilgrims have proceeded for Haj-2010.
- (c): No.
- (d): Does not arise.
- (e) & (f): Private Tour Operators are taking their pilgrims through regular scheduled flights from India to Saudi Arabia. Therefore, their journey is safe. Government of India while issuing Registration Certificate stipulates the condition of safe journey of the pilgrims and regularly monitors their performance after Haj is completed. Quota allotted to Private Tour Operators for Haj 2010 was 45,637.