

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2125

ANSWERED ON:09.03.2011

SUBSIDY FOR HAJ PILGRIMAGE

Pandurang Shri Munde Gopinathrao;Shankar Alias Kushal Tiwari Shri Bhisma;Singh Shri Radhey Mohan

**Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:**

- (a) the details of the subsidy provided by the Union Government for performing Haj Yatra per person alongwith the details of the total subsidy provided during each of the last three years and the current year; State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has formulated any scheme for providing hundred per cent subsidy by the Government;
- (c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the time by which the said scheme is likely to be implemented and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the details of the number of personnel employed for convenience of Haj Pilgrims and the details of expenditure incurred thereon during the above period; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to make Haj Yatra more affordable and convenient for pilgrims?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS & MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a): Ministry of Civil Aviation makes arrangements for air travel of pilgrims proceeding for Haj through Haj Committee of India. For Haj 2008 and 2009, each adult pilgrim paid Rs.12000/- as fare and Rs.16000/- for Haj 2010 for Haj Charter Flight. The balance cost of operating Haj Charter Flights was borne by the Government. State-wise figures of cost are not maintained. The provisional total cost (including Service Tax) and per pilgrim cost borne by the Government for last three years is as under:

Year	Total Cost borne by Government (Rs. in crore)	Per pilgrim cost borne by Government (in Rs.)
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2007	476.74	43,340
2008	894.77	73,526
2009	689.91	57,430

For Haj 2010, the Government has so far released an amount of Rs.580/- crores towards cost of travel of 1,26,191 pilgrims.

(b): No, Madam.

(c): Does not arise.

(d): The Haj Committee of India (HCI) undertakes the duties of arrangement of the Haj and takes care of the convenience of the pilgrims.

(e): Out of the total airfare, a nominal amount of fare is collected from the Haj pilgrims to make Haj Yatra more affordable. The pilgrims are carried from/to 21 embarkation points in India. This year, except from Srinagar and Patna which had technical constraints, the pilgrims were carried by direct flights. Specific provisions like facilities to be provided to pilgrims before and after boarding of flights, on cancellation/delay of flights, baggage etc. are provided in the MOU signed with the airlines. Assistance of various kinds are also made available during their stay in Saudi Arabia.