

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2545
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2011
PASSPORTS FOR HAJ PILGRIMAGE
Rana Shri Kadir

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the passports issued to Haj pilgrims could be used for a longer period than for the shorter term during Haj;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) All the 37 Passport Offices have been instructed by this Ministry to issue full validity passports for ten years to Haj pilgrims on priority basis on receipt of clear Police Verification Reports (PVRs). However, where PVR is not received in time, the Passport Offices have been authorised to issue short validity passports for eight months to Haj pilgrims. After performing the pilgrimage and surrender of the Haj Passports, a full validity passport may be issued against the same application subject to receipt of a recommendatory PVR.