

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:375
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2011
ARRANGEMENTS FOR HAJ PILGRIMS
Shantha J.

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of arrangements made this year for carrying Haj pilgrims from India to Saudi Arabia and vice versa;
- (b) to extent this year's arrangement is an improvement over the last year's arrangement; and
- (c) the details of difficulties being faced by Haj pilgrims and the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS & MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) and (b): The Governemnt has signed a 'Memorandum of Understanding', detailing the number of pilgrims to be carried, the fare to be paid, the facilities to be provided to the pilgrims etc., with Saudi Arabian Airlines and NAS for carrying balotee Haj pilgrims from 21 embarkation points in India, after following the requisite sealed tender procedure. The Haj pilgrims are accorded the same facilities as extended to other international passengers.

(c): No difficulties have been reported so far during the Haj 2011.