## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA EXTERNAL AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:253 ANSWERED ON:14.03.2012 HAJ QUOTA Jakhar Shri Badri Ram

## Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government issues quota for Haj pilgrims of the country including Rajasthan in proportion of its population;
- (b) if so, the number of Haj pilgrims who performed Haj pilgrimage during the last three years;
- (c) whether the quota fixed in this regard is justified;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to increase the quota for Rajasthan in ensuring years keeping in view the population of the State; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the number of quota increased?

## **Answer**

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

- (a) In accordance with the Haj Agreement signed with the Government of Saudi Arabia, the Haj quota is allotted between the Haj Committee of India (HCOI) and the Private Tour Operators (PTOs). Subsequently, HCOI allocates its quota among various States/Union Territories in proportion to Muslim population of that State as per 2001 Census on a random basis through computerised Qurrah (draw of lots).
- (b) The number of Haj pilgrims who performed Haj pilgrimage through HCOI during the last three years are as follows:

Year No. of Haj pilgrims

2009 1,20,127 2010 1,26,018 2011 1,24,901

- (c) & (d) Yes.
- (e) & (f) The Saudi Government allots a quota of one seat for Haj per thousand Muslims in countries having Muslim population. Over and above this national quota, every year, Government of India requests the Saudi Government to allocate additional quota to accommodate the excess demand.