

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:269

ANSWERED ON:14.03.2012

HAJ REFORMS

Dhruvanarayana Shri R. ;Maadam Shri Vikrambhai Arjanbhai

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Haj reforms are long overdue;
- (b) if so, the steps the Government proposes to take in the matter;
- (c) the time by which these reforms are likely to be announced/introduced;
- (d) whether the Government has constructed "Haj Ghar's" in the country, particularly in Karnataka; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and the funds allocated and spent for this purpose?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) The Haj is one of the most complex organisational tasks undertaken by Government of India (GOI) outside its borders for which extensive arrangements are made in India and Saudi Arabia. It is the constant endeavour of the Government of India to improve and reform the management of the arrangements for the Haj pilgrimage in consultation with all concerned.

(d) No.

(e) Not applicable. However, Haj Committee of India provides financial assistance to the tune of one third (1/3) of the total cost of the project or Rs. 1.5 crores, whichever is lower.