

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1328
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2012
HAJ QUOTA TO VIPS
Meghwal Shri Arjun Ram

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any provision to send persons on Haj yatra from discretionary quota or VIPs quota of the Ministry;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is any VIP quota for Members of Parliament to recommend names of people for Haj yatra;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) if not, whether the Government propose to permit Members of Parliament to recommend the names of Haj pilgrims and to fix any quota in this regard; and
- (f) the complete details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Yes. As per the interim order dated July 23, 2012 of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, 300 seats have been allocated for discretionary allocation by dignitaries as follows:-

The Hon'ble President of India	100 seats
The Hon'ble Vice-President	75 seats
The Hon'ble Prime Minister	75 seats
The Hon'ble External Affairs Minister	50 seats

(c) No.

(d) Not applicable.

(e) & (f) While Hon'ble Members of Parliament could make recommendations, no quota has been fixed in this regard.