

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4172  
ANSWERED ON:19.12.2012  
RESTRICTIONS ON HAJ PILGRIMAGE  
Annayagari Shri Sai Prathap

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

- (a) whether the Government is planning to restrict Haj Pilgrimage to only once in lifetime for an individual;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether objections in this regard have come up from any quarters; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b) Yes. As per the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, an Affidavit was filed in the Supreme Court on 12.4.12 regarding Haj policy for Haj-2012, wherein it was stated that the number of pilgrimages to a Haj applicant through the Haj Committee of India (HCOI) be restricted to "once in a life time" as against the existing "once in five years". This will ensure that applicants who have never performed Haj will get the benefit of performing Haj through HCOI.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.