

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:687
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2013
KAILASH MANSAROVAR YATRA
Mahendrasinh Shri Chauhan

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the expenditure incurred by the Union Government on pilgrims of Kailash Mansarovar Yatra during each of the last three years;
- (b) whether the Union Government has upgraded the annual expenditure and facilities of these pilgrims; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) Year-wise expenditure incurred on the Kailash Manasarovar Yatra by the Union Government during the last three years is as follows:

Year Expenditure

2010 Rs.64.57 Lakh
2011 Rs.71.21 Lakh
2012 Rs.77.50 Lakh

(b) & (c) The Government of India has been organizing the Yatra through the Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam Limited, which, on self-payment basis, provides transport, accommodation and food to the Yatris on the Indian side of the Yatra route; and the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) and the State Government of Uttarakhand, which provide security cover and basic medical assistance to Yatris on the Indian side. Ministry of External Affairs appoints one Liaison Officer for each batch who is responsible for the safety and well-being of pilgrims. The Liaison Officer is provided with a satellite phone to stay in touch with Indian authorities concerned and to seek assistance in case of any emergency- A provision of air-lift of pilgrims by helicopter is also made for medical emergency. Each year, Ministry of External Affairs has allocated sufficient funds for the Kailash Manasarovar Yatra and on continuing basis improved facilities en route.