

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3504
ANSWERED ON:12.02.2014
HAJ YATRA
Bhujbal Shri Sameer

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of pilgrims who actually performed Haj during 2013 under the Government and the private tour operators quota;
- (b) the criteria adopted by the Government for selection of Haj pilgrims through the Government quota;
- (c) the number of pilgrims selected by the Union Government during 2013, State-wise;
- (d) whether any requests from MPs have been received to consider special cases from their constituencies;
- (e) if so, the details thereof especially from Maharashtra; and
- (f) the number of such requests considered/disallowed and the reasons for the same?

Answer

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

- (a) 121,338 pilgrims under Government quota through Hajj Committee of India (HCOI) and 14,600 pilgrims through Private Tour Operators (PTOs) performed Hajj during 2013;
- (b) The criteria for selection of Hajj pilgrims through Government quota are given in Hajj Policy 2013-17 which is available on the official website of the Hajj Committee of India (HCOI). Allocation of Haj seats to each state/union territory (UT) is done by the Haj Committee of India (HCOI) in proportion to the Muslim population in each state/union territory vis a vis the national population of Muslims as per 2001 Census. The surplus seats, available from states/union territories which receive less number of applications than their allotted quota, are distributed to states/union territories with excess demand and in proportion to the Muslim population.
- (c) State -wise list is enclosed at Annexure I.
- (d) & (e) Yes . However, no Haj seat quota has been fixed specifically for the Hon`ble Members of Parliament.
- (f) Question does not arise.