

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1584

ANSWERED ON:29.07.2015

Haj Pilgrimage

Biju Shri Parayamparanbil Kuttappan;Innocent Shri

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

- (a) the total number of Haj pilgrims who performed Haj this year, State-wise;
- (b) the quota allocated to each State, State-wise;
- (c) the total Haj quota of Government; and
- (d) the quota of Private Tour Operators (PTOs) and quota given to each PTO along with the norms therefor?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
[GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD)]

(a) For Haj-2015, Government of Saudi Arabia has granted a total quota of 1,36,020 seats to India. Out of this, 1,00,020 seats have been allotted to Haj Committee of India and 36,000 seats to Private Tour Operators. No State-wise breakup of pilgrims undertaking Haj-2015 is available as Haj pilgrimage will commence from 16th August, 2015.

(b) The quota for States/ Union Territories is distributed by Haj Committee of India in proportion to their Muslim population, as per 2001 Census. If the number of Haj Application Forms received by a State Haj Committee is less than the quota allotted to the State/Union Territory concerned, such excess quota stands surrendered to the Haj Committee of India (such States are referred to as under-quota States). The surrendered seats are redistributed among the States/Union Territories where the number of applications are received in excess of their allocated quota, in proportion to their Muslim population as per 2001 Census. The breakup of the quota allotted to each State/Union Territory is at Annexure 'A'.

(c) There is no separate Government Quota granted by the Government of Saudi Arabia. However, Hon'ble Supreme Court of India had vide its order dated 16th April, 2013, restricted the number of Haj seats under VIP quota (Discretionary quota) to dignitaries to 500 seats as per details given below:

- a) Hon'ble President of India : 100 seats
- b) Hon'ble Vice-President of India : 75 seats
- c) Hon'ble Prime Minister of India : 75 seats
- d) Hon'ble External Affairs Minister : 50 seats
- e) Haj Committee of India : 200 seats

(d) As per the past practice, the quota between Haj Committee of India and PTOs is being distributed at an approximate ratio of 73:27. In terms of the PTOs Policy 2013-17 which was approved by Hon'ble Supreme Court vide its judgment dated 16th April, 2013, PTOs have been divided into two Categories. The PTOs who have facilitated Haj for 7 years or more are covered under Category-I and the PTO who have facilitated Haj for 1-6 years or have facilitated 50 pilgrims on Umrah in a year for any 5 years are covered under Category-II. The PTOs Policy, 2013-17 also stipulates provision for distribution of seats between Category-I and Category-II PTOs at a ratio of 70% and 30% respectively. Thus, against the total quota of 36,000 granted to PTOs in 2014, 25,200 seats (70%) were being allotted to Category-I PTOs and 10,800 seats (30%) to Category-II PTOs. The same criteria for allocation of seats, is being followed in 2015.

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