

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:209
ANSWERED ON:09.07.2014
DIFFICULTIES OF HAJ PILGRIMS
Ajmal Maulana Badruddin;Sundaram Shri P.R.

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware about the difficulties being faced by the Haj Pilgrims in the country as well as in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government has initiated corrective measures to ease their hardships; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) to (d) The Government is aware of the difficulties faced by the Haj pilgrims in the country as well as in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. These difficulties relate to pilgrims not getting desired category of accommodation, inadequate facilities at the place of stay, problems regarding local transportation, delay in arrival/departure of flights, change in flight schedule etc.

It has been a constant endeavour of the Government and the Haj Committee of India to keep making improvements in the arrangement for the Haj pilgrims and provide them with better facilities after taking into account the feedback received from all concerned. There is a system in place for redressal of difficulties faced by the pilgrims.