Title: Need to increase Haj quota of Andhra Pradesh and other states in the country.

SHRI PONNAM PRABHAKAR (KARIMNAGAR): Hon. Madam Speaker, I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

As the House is aware, every year thousands of people are going for Haj Pilgrimage from Andhra Pradesh and also from all over the country. There is a heavy demand from the Muslim minority people to avail of the Haj Pilgrimage and this demand is increasing every year in Andhra Pradesh and also in other States. A lot of applications are pending in this regard but the limit is very low particularly for Andhra Pradesh. The Haj quota number for Andhra Pradesh is limited to 6700 only but the demand is more.

Our hon. Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, Shri Rosaiah ji has already written a letter to the Government of India seeking an extra 2,000 seats for Haj Pilgrims in Andhra Pradesh to get additional quota for the State Haj Pilgrims.

I would, therefore, request the Government of India to kindly intervene in the matter and take urgent steps to increase the Haj quota not only for Andhra Pradesh but to all States by removing the private operators in the current year itself. ...(Interruptions)

DR. MIRZA MEHBOOB BEG (ANANTNAG): Madam, I would like to associate with it....(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Do you want to associate with it? You please send the slip.

...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA (RAMPUR): I would like to associate with the hon. Member on this issue....(Interruptions)

SHRI BADRUDDIN AJMAL: I also associate with it.

SHRI RAJAIAH SIRICILLA: I am associating with the hon. Member in the matter of increase in the quota for Haj Pilgrims.â&! (Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: All right, you all associate with it. आप अपना नाम भेज दीजिए।