

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *303
ANSWERED ON 24.03.2022

Haj Embarkation at Calicut International Airport

*303. SHRI M.K. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to reinstate the Haj Embarkation at Calicut International Airport considering request of eighty per cent of the pilgrims in Kerala and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has noticed that a large number of beneficiaries were left out under National Merit-cum-Means Scholarship and if so, the steps taken by the concerned to resolve the issue;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to condone the delay caused in submission of applications for National Merit-cum-Means Scholarship of minority community due to cogent issues arising as a result of the pandemic; and
- (d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to ensure that no child is left out from the benefit of minority scholarships due to delay in filing of application?

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
(SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *303 FOR 24.03.2022 RAISED BY SHRI M.K. RAGHAVAN REGARDING “HAJ EMBARKATION AT CALICUT INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT”

(a) The Ministry of Civil Aviation has informed that the Commercial operation of wide-body aircraft (Code D & E) to/from Calicut airport are currently suspended.

(b) The Ministry under the Merit-cum-Means based Scholarship (MCM) Scheme has received 86,105 verified applications for grant of scholarship under the fresh applications category in the current year, out of which 60,000 applicants will be awarded the scholarship, which is around 70% of the verified applications received. Further, the three Scholarship schemes being implemented by the Ministry of Minority Affairs, including the Merit-cum-Means based Scholarship (MCM) scheme, are budget driven with a fixed annual quota and are not demand driven. In addition to the fresh quota, the Ministry also awards scholarship to the eligible renewal applicants, under the Merit-cum-Means based Scholarship 62,070 renewal scholarships have been awarded to the needy eligible students during the last year.

(c) & (d) The National Scholarship Portal was opened w.e.f 18th August, 2021 to 30th November, 2021 for registration of applications by students. The date for registration of applications was thereafter extended thrice i.e. up to 15th December, 2021, then 31st December, 2021 and finally up to 15th January, 2022.
