

Government should go by the case and allow gun licences for individual farmers to shoot down these animals. I would rather not take this option, but the second option he has given is that the Central Government finances and allocates money to the State for different projects to put barbed wires to enclose the farms. I would like to know from the hon. Minister how much money has been allocated to Punjab and how much has been spent on it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am afraid, Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Reimbursement of expenditure incurred by Government of Karnataka on Youth Parliament Competitions

*248. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Karnataka had requested the Ministry for reimbursement of expenditure of Rs. 15 lakhs incurred during the three years namely 2010-11 to 2012-13, on conducting Youth Parliament Competitions; and

(b) if so, by when the funds would be reimbursed?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) Yes.

(b) Reimbursement of ₹ 10,000,00/- (₹ 5,00,000/- each for the years 2010-11 and 2011-12) has been made on 11.12.2013 through Punjab National Bank draft No.298015 dated 9.12.2013 and reimbursement of ₹ 5,000,00/- for the year 2012-13 has been made on 11.04.2014 through Punjab National Bank draft No. 368334 dated 07.04.2014 to the State Government of Karnataka for conducting Youth Parliament Competitions during the years 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13.

Discontinuation of financial aid to Haj pilgrims

†*249. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to reduce/discontinue the financial aid/grants given to the Haj pilgrims, if so, the reason therefor; and

(b) if not, whether Government is ready to increase the number of Haj pilgrims on the request of the State Governments?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ):

(a) Government does not provide any financial aid/grant directly to the Haj pilgrims. However, subsidy is provided on Haj air travel. Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, *vide* order of 8th May, 2012, has directed the Government to progressively reduce the amount of subsidy on air tickets so as to completely eliminate it within a period of ten years. As per this directive, the Government has been reducing the Haj subsidy in a phased manner.

(b) The Haj quota is allocated among various States/Union Territories *pro rata* on the basis of their respective muslim population based on 2001 census. The quota of Indian Haj pilgrims has been reduced by Government of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia since Haj 2013 due to the ongoing construction work in the Haram Sharief.

New mission in place of JNNURM

*250. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new mission would be launched soon in place of the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government has fixed a priority to ensure housing for all by 2020 and to reduce interest rate on home loans and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI M. VENKAI AH NAIDU): (a) and (b) The Government has set the target of providing pucca houses to all by 2022 as announced in the President's Address to Joint Session of both the Houses of Parliament on 9th June, 2014. Government is holding consultations with various stakeholders for this purpose. Government, at present, under Rajiv Rinn Yojana (RRY) provides an interest subvention of 5% on loans upto ₹ 5 lakh and ₹ 8 lakh availed by Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) and Low Income Group (LIG) categories respectively to construct their houses or extend the existing ones, though interest subvention is available upto ₹ 5 lakh only in case of loan of more than ₹ 5 lakhs availed by LIG category.

Ill-treatment of elderly people by their kins

*251. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the policy framework, action plan or roadmap put in place by Government for securing the rights of the elderly people in Maharashtra and the rest of the country, with the details thereof;