

Sl. No.	Name of States/Union Territory	Haj 2016	Haj 2017
20.	Maharashtra	7357	9780
21.	Manipur	352	388
22.	Odisha	517	688
23.	Puducherry (UT)	111	123
24.	Punjab	303	303
25.	Rajasthan	3525	4686
26.	Tamil Nadu	2399	3189
27.	Tripura	93	134
28.	Uttar Pradesh	21828	29017
29.	Uttarakhand	847	1061
30.	West Bengal	8905	9940
31.	Telangana	2532	3367
TOTAL		98820	123700
Seats reserved for			
(i)	Central Government	300	300
(ii)	HCoI	200	200
(iii)	Mehram	200	200
(iv)	Khadim ul Hujjaj	500	625
GRAND TOTAL		100020	125025

*Assam includes Muslim population of Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Sikkim.

Higher payments for facilities by Indian Haj Pilgrims

4460. SHRI MIR MOHAMMAD FAYAZ: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Hajis are paying more amount as compared to other countries for accommodation and transportation, having same type of facilities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any steps has been taken by Government in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, including providing total facilities to Indian Haj pilgrims?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI): (a) and (b) No, Madam. Accommodation and transportation of Indian Pilgrims in Saudi Arabia are arranged by the HCoI in association with the Consulate General of India (CGI), Jeddah. Indian Haj pilgrims are provided quality facilities and services commensurate with the charges paid by them in conformity with the rules and regulations of Saudi Government. A cost-comparative analysis of Haj expenditure of the pilgrims of the countries sending largest number of pilgrims to Saudi Arabia is as under:

Countries	Hajis Expenditure during Haj 2016 (approx.)
Indonesia	₹ 2,10,000/- (excluding Government subsidy of ₹ 95,000)
Pakistan	₹ 2,02,000/- (₹ 1,75,000 Haj Package + 27,000 Personal Expenses) No Green Category
Bangladesh	Cat. I - ₹ 308,449/- Cat. II - ₹ 260,454/-
India	Azizia - ₹ 1,47,200 Haj Package + ₹ 37,800 as Personal Expenses (Total - ₹ 185,000/-) Green - ₹ 1, 81,200 + ₹ 37,800 as personal expenses (Total- ₹ 2,19,000/-) (Approx. ₹ 37,800/- (SR 2100) is returned to Hajis before their embarkation to Saudi Arabia)

(Source: enquires by CGI, Jeddah/HCoI)

(c) and (d) Government of India takes a number of measures for the welfare of the Indian Haj pilgrims both in India and in Saudi Arabia. These measures *inter-alia* include basic facilities and services for their smooth, safe and comfortable Haj experience. Haj Committee of India (HCoI) makes arrangements for the pilgrims in India which

include inviting applications, making selection of pilgrims for Haj, Haj Visa, accommodation and transport in Makkah and Madinah, Group Insurance, vaccination, stainless steel Bracelets/tri-colour identity cards for identification of the pilgrims in close coordination with State/Union Territory Haj Committees. It also facilitates their passport, foreign exchange in Saudi Riyals and conduct orientation/training programmes. Ministry of Civil Aviation supervises the Air Charter operations during Haj period and deploys officials in Saudi Arabia to assist in embarkation and disembarkation of pilgrims in 21 Embarkation points across India. Consulate General of India, Jeddah, has the responsibility to look after the pilgrims and to redress their grievances on reaching Jeddah/Madinah Munawwarah airport and while they are in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Government of India deputs administrative and medical staff during Haj Season in the form of Haj Assistant/Assistant Haj Officer/Doctor/para-medical staff including Co-ordinator for providing round-the-clock facilities to Haj pilgrims in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Consulate General of India also provides various medical facilities to the Indian Haj pilgrims.

Discrimination being faced by minority communities

4461. SHRI K.T.S. TULSI: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plans to take or has taken, any action to prevent the discrimination being faced by members of minority communities on the basis of their religion, in being denied housing accommodation on rent or sale; and

(b) if so, the details therefor and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI): (a) and (b) National Commission for Minorities (NCM) was set up to safeguard the interest of Minorities and the Commission has been entrusted with a number of functions which, *inter alia*, include looking into specific complaints regarding deprivation of rights and safeguards of the Minorities and taking up of such matters with the appropriate authorities. However, the subject matter of providing housing accommodation on rent or sale comes under the jurisdiction of the State Government concerned.

Skill development of minorities under Nai Manzil Programme

4462. SHRI K. T. S. TULSI: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of individuals belonging to minority communities who were