

Details of schemes, mentioned at serial no. 1 to 9 are available on the website of this Ministry *i.e.* [www.minorityaffairs.gov.in](http://www.minorityaffairs.gov.in). whereas details of the schemes mentioned at serial no. 10 is available on [www.maef.nic.in](http://www.maef.nic.in).

#### **Aircraft travel subsidy for haj pilgrims**

316. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Government is aware of the fact that the fare difference between the Haj Chartered flights and the regular scheduled flights to Jeddah is more than three times;

(b) Whether Government plans to cover the exorbitant charges of the chartered flights as the subsidy provided to the Haj pilgrims will be totally withdrawn in near future; and;

(c) Whether Government under these circumstances, would propose to address this burden of subsidy withdrawal on the Haj Pilgrims who perform Haj through Haj Committee of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI): (a) The fares of regular flights between India and Saudi Arabia vary from time to time. These are not comparable to the Haj fares. Haj operation is a specialized operation which requires committed resources in terms of aircraft and crew. While scheduled flights carry passengers to and fro in the sector, the chartered flights are not carrying any passenger on the return phase of the operation, thereby necessitating deployment of more number of flights. Since a large number of Haj pilgrims are to be transported to Saudi Arabia and back in a short span of time, it is not possible through regular flights and therefore operation of chartered flights is essential.

(b) The exact fares for the Haj operation from each Embarkation Point (EP) are arrived at after following the process of competitive bidding from the domestic and Saudi airlines. This airfare varies from EP to EP. The pilgrims deposit a fixed amount decided on year to year basis towards airfare, after taking into account the available Central Government subsidy and service tax.

(c) Supreme Court in its judgment dated 08.05.2012 in Special Leave Petition (Civil) No. 28609 of 2011 directed the central Government to progressively reduce the amount of subsidy so as to completely eliminate it. Accordingly, Haj subsidy has been gradually reduced since the year 2013. With a view to review the existing Haj Policy and to suggest a framework for a new Policy for the period 2018-22, a

Committee has been constituted by the Ministry to look into various aspects of Haj arrangements including air travel for Haj pilgrims and issues related with Haj subsidy.

**Violation of Code of NSDCI by NSFs**

317. SHRI K. C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the aims and objectives of National Sports Development Code of India (NSDCI);

(b) whether it is not a fact that in spite of the above Code, violation of Code by National Sports Federations (NSFs) has been rampant in the last three years;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the details of each of the National Sports Federation that has violated the Code and other guidelines/instructions/ directions issued by GOI/Courts, etc. in the last three years;

(e) whether there are any plans to revisit National Sports Development Code, 2011; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) Sir, the aim of the National Sports Development Code of India (NSDCI) is to bring in transparency and accountability in the functioning of National Sports Federations (NSFs) and Indian Olympic Association (IOA) for healthy development of sports in the country. The objectives of the Code, *inter alia*, are:-

- (1) To define the areas of responsibility of the various agencies involved in the promotion and development of sports;
- (2) To identify NSFs eligible for coverage under the code, to set priorities, and to detail the procedures to be followed by the federations; and
- (3) To state the conditions for eligibility to receive Government recognition and grant.

As per the NSDCI, NSFs are required to follow proper democratic and healthy management practices, ensure greater accountability and transparency at all levels; adherence to age and tenure restrictions of office bearers; adopt and follow the basic universal principles of good governance in sports; comply with the provisions of Right to Information Act and holding of elections as per the Model election guidelines issued by the Government.