

Review of new Haj Policy

2058. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a provision in new Haj Policy, which debars persons with disabilities from applying for the pilgrimage to Mecca;

(b) if so, whether Government has received representations to review the Haj Policy; and

(c) the status of the representations?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI):
(a) to (c) Haj pilgrimage is generally physically demanding to be performed in a foreign land. Therefore, as per prevailing old practice for more than 30 years, the Haj Policy/guidelines for Haj Committee of India (HCoI) pilgrims provided that any person who is physically disabled or suffering from specified diseases are not eligible to apply for Haj pilgrimage through HCoI. Representations have been received in the Ministry to review this provision of the Haj Policy for HCoI pilgrims. The Ministry has advised HCoI to make necessary corrections/ amendments in the Haj policy/guidelines to allow persons with disabilities in terms of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016.

Training under Seekho aur Kamao Scheme

2059. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of beneficiaries that have received training under the Seekho aur Kamao Scheme since 2013, year-wise;

(b) the number of beneficiaries that have received placements in jobs that were trained under the scheme since 2013, year-wise; and

(c) the quantum of funds allocated for the scheme for the financial year 2018-19?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI):
(a) and (b) The number of trainees trained and placed under Seekho aur Kamao Scheme since 2013-14 are as follows:—

Sl. No.	Year	No. of trainees sanctioned/ allocated	No. of trainees trained	No. of trainees placed
1.	2013-14	20,164	19,524	15,247
2.	2014-15	20,720	20,686	15,956
3.	2015-16	1,23,330	96,494	49,493
4.	2016-17	53,240*	48,997	**
5.	2017-18	1,18,500***	-	-

* Less number of trainees sanctioned during 2016-17 due to compliance of Common Norms introduced by MSDE.

*** Data is yet to finalized.

**** The number of trainees have been recently allocated.

(c) The Budgetary Allocation (BE) under the scheme for the financial year 2018-19 is ₹ 250.00 crore.

Slow down in the renewable energy sector

2060. SHRIN. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the renewable energy sector is in the midst of a lull after the storm, as bidding for wind and solar energy projects is seeing a short term slow down;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact the wind energy sector is facing near term headwinds and the capacity addition in the near term remains adversely impacted due to migration from feed in tariff to bid tariff route; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI RAJ KUMAR SINGH): (a) to (d) No Madam. The total grid interactive renewable energy capacity addition in 2017-18, as on January, 2018 has been 7091 MW as against the total capacity addition of 11,294 MW in 2016-17.

The capacity additions in Biomass, Solar, Small Hydro and Wind Sectors during 2016-17 and 2017-18 (up to February, 2018) are as given below:—