

The number of pilgrims availing shipping transport for Haj pilgrimage for the last three years is nil.

Withdrawal of subsidy has not affected the number of pilgrims going on Haj pilgrimage and the total number of Haj pilgrims has increased in the last two years. Before withdrawal of subsidy, the number of Haj pilgrims during 2016 and 2017 was 135902 and 169940 respectively. However, after withdrawal of subsidy, the number of Haj pilgrims increased to 175013 and 199987 during 2018 and 2019 respectively.

Objections on new provisions of MV (Amendment) Act, 2019

†*7. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Transport Associations have registered their objections on the applicable provisions of Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019 by going on strike in Delhi and NCR in the month of September;

(b) places where amount received from the fine for violation of these provisions are being used;

(c) whether Government would consider using the fine levied to improve traffic arrangements;

(d) whether provisions made in the said Act are compatible with traffic arrangements and quality of the road; and

(e) details of States that have implemented the said Act and the number of those States that have reduced the fine?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) Yes, Sir. The Ministry received representation from the Transport Association raising apprehensions on the implementation of certain provisions of Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019.

(b) and (c) The amount so collected is deposited in the exchequer of the States and it is the prerogative of the State Government to utilize the fund as per their need and requirements.

(d) Yes, Sir. The major objectives of the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019 is to ensure road safety and reduce road accident and fatalities across the country.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(e) The Ministry has not received any information from any State that they are not implementing the provisions of the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019. As per section 200 of the Motor Vehicles Act 1988 the State Government may by notification in the official gazette specify such amount for compounding of certain offences.

Proposal to set up Aluminium Alloys Development and Production Unit

*8. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is going to set up Aluminium Alloys Development and Production Unit in Nellore district of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) by when it is likely to be completed and will start production; and

(d) the direct and indirect employment opportunities that are likely to be created, particularly for local youth?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI RAJNATH SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Mishra Dhatu Nigam Limited (MIDHANI), a Mini Ratna Public Sector Undertaking under Department of Defence Production along with National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO), a Navratna Public Sector Unit under Ministry of Mines, have incorporated a Joint Venture (JV) Company with equal equity partnership for setting up a 60000 TPA (Tons Per Annum) High end Aluminium Alloy development and manufacturing Plant at Nellore, Andhra Pradesh.

(c) The project is likely to be completed and would start production within 5 years from the zero date. The zero date will be the date of obtaining statutory clearances and completing other pre-project activities like obtaining unencumbered possession of land, environmental clearance, financial closure etc.

(d) The project has the potential to create direct employment opportunities for about 400 people and indirect employment opportunities for about 1500 people through ancillary/auxiliary industries including employment opportunities for the local youth.

Lack of garbage dumping grounds in Himachal Pradesh

*9. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state: