

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1375
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2006
FLIGHTS FROM HYDERABAD FOR HAJ PILGRIMS
Yerrannaidu Shri Kinjarapu

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that a large number of persons from Andhra Pradesh visit Saudi Arabia every year for Haj festivals;
- (b) if so, whether any proposal to operate flights from Hyderabad for Haj Pilgrims;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c): Haj operations are carried out jointly by Air India, Indian Airlines and Saudi Arabian Airlines. During Haj 2006, the operation of Haj flights from Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh was entrusted to Saudi Arabian Airlines. 23 flights were operated in each Phase. 6245 pilgrims (i.e. 6194 adults, 11 children and 40 infants) were carried in Phase I and 5661 pilgrims (5610 adults, 9 children and 42 infants) returned in Phase II.

(d): Does not arise.