

CONSULATE GENERAL OF INDIA JEDDAH

Press Note

Press Note as on 30.09.2011 (23:59 hrs)

A total of 6327 pilgrims have arrived from India. 1064 are in Makkah. 5263 pilgrims are in Madinah. 22 flights have come from India. Movement of pilgrims from Makkah to Madinah starts from 02.10.2011.

Press Note dated 28.09.2011

The first flight carrying Indian pilgrims is expected to arrive at Madinah on 29th September 2011 from Calicut. Chairperson of the Haj Committee of India Smt. Mohsina Kidwai is presently in the Kingdom and has discussed the Haj arrangements in Jeddah, Makkah and Madinah with Consul General Faiz Ahmad Kidwai.

Some unique features of Haj arrangements for this year are as follows:

1. During departure pilgrims need not carry their check-in baggage with them. An agency designated for this would visit the buildings of the pilgrims and check-in their baggage 24 hours before their departure. Pilgrims have to only carry their hand baggage with them to the airport.
2. An agency has been designated for providing on call services for cleaning, plumbing and lift related services at pilgrims' buildings. This agency would also provide water supply to buildings in emergencies. Indian Haj Mission would utilize the services of this agency to provide quick and immediate services to pilgrims' buildings.
3. An arrangement has been made with the local telecom company to distribute SIM cards at low cost to Indian pilgrims. These SIM cards will also have all important numbers required by the pilgrims pre-loaded in it.
4. A meeting was convened with all the Moallims handling Indian pilgrims. During the meeting Consul General discussed various issues related to the welfare of pilgrims. Moallims have agreed to work as in close coordination with the Indian Haj Mission to ensure that the pilgrims are attended to with due care.
5. Chairman, South Asian Moassasa has agreed for a joint inspection to all the tents in Mina in which Indian pilgrims coming through Haj Committee of India stay. This inspection would be on the 5th Zil Hijja. The objective of this joint

- inspection with South Asian Moassasa would be to ensure that adequate facilities and space are provided to pilgrims.
6. Special medical teams have been formed to visit the pilgrims over 70 years and to ensure that they require adequate medical attention.
 7. A media room to assist media personnel is being setup at the Indian Haj Mission office in Makkah. Members of the media may avail this facility.

General Arrangements:

Number of Pilgrims: During Haj 2011 (1432H) 170,491 pilgrims from India would perform Haj. The Consulate General of India would directly coordinate the arrangements for 125,000 Indian pilgrims coming through Haj Committee of India (HCoI). Another 45,491 pilgrims would perform Haj through India based Private Tour Operators.

Flight Arrangements: For the Haj Committee of India pilgrims, a total number of 424 (SV-315 and NAS-109) aircrafts would operate. Saudi Arabian Airlines would carry 92948 pilgrims and 30228 pilgrims would be carried by NAS. The first flight at Madinah would be landing on 29th September at 1325 hrs from Calicut. The first flight at King Abdul Aziz International Airport, Jeddah (Jeddah Haj Terminal) would be landing from Ranchi on 29th September, 2011 at 1715 hrs carrying 300 pilgrims by NAS Airlines.

Starting from 29th September, an average 13 aircrafts would be carrying about 3900 pilgrims per day till 1st November from 21 different embarkation points (*Ahmedabad, Aurangabad, Bangalore, Bhopal, Calicut, Chennai, Delhi, Goa, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Indore, Jaipur, Kolkata, Lucknow, Mangalore, Mumbai, Nagpur, Ranchi, Varanasi, Patna and Srinagar*) in India. Patna, and Srinagar are two Hub & Spoke embarkations.

During the arrival phase 187 flights carrying 64000 pilgrims would land in Jeddah and 244 flights carrying 60000 pilgrims would land in Madinah. During the departure phase 255 flights carrying 75000 pilgrims would depart from Jeddah and 176 flights carrying 49,000 pilgrims would depart from Madinah.

Officials on deputation from India: To assist the Consulate in Haj arrangements, the Government of India is deputing 5 Senior Officers as Coordinators, 135 Doctors, 146 Paramedics, 51 Assistant Haj Officers and 181 Haj Assistants. Thus, total 518 officials on deputation would be deputed from India. So far 137 officials have already arrived and taken up their duties.

Arrangements for Accommodation for Pilgrims in Makkah:

About 620 buildings have been hired so far to accommodate pilgrims in Makkah:-

Category	Pilgrims to be accommodated
Green (within 1.2 KM from Haram)	50564
White (1.2 – 2 KM from Haram)	13526
Azizia	59569
TOTAL	1,23,569

Almost all the requirements for accommodating pilgrims in Makkah has been completed. Around 800 pilgrims would stay in Rubats.

Accommodation arrangements for Madinah: Accommodation and other arrangements at Madinah have also been completed. 60% of Indian pilgrims will be accommodated in Markazia area this year.

Arrangements at Mina and Arafat: During Haj 2011, all our pilgrims coming through HCOI would be accommodated within the traditional boundaries of Mina and exclusive moallims would be earmarked for the HCOI pilgrims.

Administrative arrangements: 24/7 offices and dispensaries has been set-up in Jeddah, Makah and Madinah.

a. Jeddah Haj Terminal: Round the clock office and dispensary arrangements have been made at the JHT to facilitate reception of pilgrims.

b. Makkah: The Indian Haj Mission has set-up a 50 bedded hospital in Makkah. 12 branches and 12 dispensaries has also been set-up. All these offices would function round the clock. One dedicated information Center near the vicinity of Haram to guide pilgrims and to convey information related to pilgrims will operate round the clock.

Transport arrangements between Azizia and the Holy Mosque have been made for 59,000 pilgrims residing in Azizia. A large number of staff would be manning different bus stops to assist pilgrims.

c. Madinah: A 10 bedded hospital, 5 branches and 5 dispensaries have been set-up in Madinah. All these offices would function round the clock.

As every year, this year also, senior volunteers of Indian Pilgrims Welfare Forum will actively work hand in hand with the Consulate to look after the welfare of the pilgrims. Other Haj Welfare organizations are also joining hands with the Consulate to assist the pilgrims.

Date:- 28th September, 2011

Place:- Jeddah