

No.15/13/2019-Haj-MoMA

भारत सरकार
Government of India
अल्पसंख्यक कार्य मंत्रालय
Ministry of Minority Affairs
(Haj Division)

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दिनांक / Date: 21.06.2019

CIRCULAR

Subject: Policy for Haj Group Organisers (HGOs) for Haj 2019-23 –regarding.

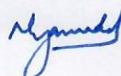
After detailed consultations with all the stakeholders, the Policy for Haj Group Organisers (HGOs) for Haj 2019-23 was finalised and circulated vide Ministry's circular dated 20.12.2019. Para 4 of the circular states as under:

"The IIT Delhi study in its analysis of various scenarios concluded that the policy adopted for Haj 2018 and the formulation suggested by HPRC would not be sustainable over the next 5 years policy period and therefore recommended a sustainable modified criteria optimized for avoiding Qurrah(draw of lots) at each category level. The analysis has assumed availability of a minimum of 45000 seats for allocation to PTOs. **It has further been decided that to pass on the benefits of the enhanced quota of the PTOs to common Haj pilgrims, the seats allocated to PTOs over and above 45000 seats will be charged by the PTOs as per applicable rates of HCol.**"

2. Various provisions of the HGO Policy, including the above provision were challenged before the Hon'ble Supreme Court in W.P.(C) No.4 of 2019 and other connected petitions. As per the directions of the Hon'ble Court, a meeting was held in the Ministry on 17.01.2019. The demand of the HGO Associations for allocation of total quota of 50,000 seats to HGOs without any condition, i.e. without imposing the condition to charge additional seats over and above 45,000 seats at the rate of Haj Committee of India (HCol) was agreed to by the Ministry and apprised to the Hon'ble Court. Hon'ble Court in the judgment dated 04.02.2019 observed the extensive task involved in finalisation of the HGO Policy 2019-23 and the simplification/modifications/ clarifications made in the said policy over the previous policy and declined to interfere in the HGO Policy 2019-23. Thus the policy issues regarding Haj Group Organisers have been settled for the next five years i.e for Haj 2019-23.

3. Accordingly, circular dated 01.03.2019 was issued amending the HGO Policy circular dated 20.12.2018. 45,000 seats was revised to 50,000 seats in para 4 of this Ministry's circular dated 20.12.2018 and wherever occurred in part B of the Policy for HGOs for Haj 2019-23. Subsequently, vide circular dated 03.06.2019 guidelines have been issued with regard to implementation of the decision of the Government to allocate additional quota over and above 50,000 seats to HGOs at the applicable rates of HCol.

4. An orientation meeting was also organised for all HGO Associations in Mumbai on 9th June, 2019 for clarity about the implementation of various provisions of HGO Policy 2019-23 including the additional quota allocation to HGOs to be operated at the applicable rate of HCol. The HGO associations submitted a joint representation with regard to operational issues during the meeting. Subsequently, in connection with a writ petition No.768/ 2019 filed in Hon'ble Supreme Court, on the request of petitioner, a meeting was held in the Ministry on 20.06.2019. During the meeting, the representative of the association submitted their representations for consideration.



5. All the representations received in the Ministry from HGO Associations and individual HGOs have been considered in the Ministry in consultation with CGI, Jeddah. In order to ensure smooth implementation of the initiative taken by the Government, following clarifications are issued:

- (i) With regard to authorising persons other than partner/ owner/ director as Munazzim, relaxation may be given to the HGOs having women proprietor. Other cases may be considered on medical/ genuine grounds on case to case basis in exceptional circumstances.
- (ii) The rates of HCol for Aziziya/ NCNT category for designated embarkations points will be the maximum package rate for the additional quota. There is no item-wise charge to be compared with the HCol rates. The HGOs may make adjustments within the overall package rate.
- (iii) Since the HGOs provide food as part of their Haj packages, there may not be requirement for return of SR 2100 to the pilgrims on the lines of HCol. However, the HGOs who do not provide food as part of their Haj package are required to return SR 2100 to the pilgrims booked against additional quota.
- (iv) As per the communication received from Saudi Government, it is not necessary that the additional number of pilgrims will be accommodated within the religious boundaries of Mina. Accordingly, HGOs may make arrangements with the Moallims.
- (v) HGOs may make air travel arrangement through the scheduled flights at par with the services they are providing to other pilgrims.
- (vi) HGOs may charge GST as per the prevailing law.


21/6/19
(Nizamuddin)

Director to the Government of India