

Haj Operations

- Central Haj Committee is a statutory body for making necessary arrangements for carriage of Haj pilgrims under MEA, the administrative Ministry for Haj Affairs. It is the duty of the CHC to finalise the annual plan, execute the plan, including the arrangements for travel by air or any other means. Calling of the applications for Haj Pilgrimage, selection of pilgrims and collection of fare from them is also done by the CHC.

Ministry of Civil Aviation is responsible for transporting Haj pilgrims from India to Saudi Arabia and back in consultation with CHC and MEA and administers grant of subsidy for Haj operations. It may be noted that while the subsidy is borne from the budget of Civil Aviation Ministry, selection of the beneficiaries is done by the Central Haj Committee.

A procedure has evolved under which AI makes arrangements for chartering aircraft for carrying Haj Committee Pilgrims from various embarkation points in India to Jeddah and back in consultation with CHC, MEA and DGCA . Ministry of Civil Aviation reimburses the actual cost of operations or the actual fares charged by the other operators (after deducting the amount of fare received from the pilgrims to Air India)which in turn is adjusted against balance payment to Air India and also distributed by AI to other operators /facilitators to other operators based on the actual carriage of pilgrims by them.

Saudia, the national carrier of Saudi Arabia has also been sharing Haj Charter traffic with Air India. The per passenger fare is paid by Air India to Saudia for the flights operated by it to/from Jeddah, based on the agreement signed by the Ministry of Civil Aviation.

The details of the subsidy since 2001 is as below

Year	No.of Pilgrims actually travelled	Total travel cost per pilgrim (Rs.)	Amount paid by each pilgrim (Rs.)	Subsidy per pilgrim (Rs.)
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
2001	71215	*29000	12,000	*17000
2002	70298	*36609	12,000	*24609
2003	70019	*36504	12,000	*24504
2004	71945	*34240	12,000	*22,240
2005	80,786	36,513	12,000	*24,513
2006	99,926	41,094	12,000	*29,094
2006- II	1,08,372	47,477	12,000	*35,477
2007	1,10,000	55,340	12,000	*43,340
2008	1,21,695	85,526	12,000	*73,526
2009	1,20,131	69,430	12,000	*57,430
2010	1,26,192	69,428	12,000	*57,428
2011	1,25,000	54800	16,000	*38,800

* Figures are provisional