

HAJ COMMITTEE OF INDIA

(Statutory body of Ministry of Minority Affairs, Government of India)

Ref. HC-24/52/2021-2022/884

14th December, 2021.

CIRCULAR

HAJ - 2022

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Subject: - Relaxation in upper age limit for making online application for Haj 1443 (H) – 2022 (C.E.) – regarding.

In partial modification to para 4 of the provisional Guidelines for Haj 1443 (H) – 2022 (C.E.), the restriction of upper age limit is hereby cancelled so as to facilitate the elderly intending Pilgrims to make online application for Haj – 2022.

Subsequently, the pilgrims above the earlier notified age limit of 65 years are eligible to submit online application for Haj 1443 (H) – 2022 including those above the age of 70+ years. It is further notified that the application(s) of 70+ intending pilgrims shall be registered under Reserved Category as per the Haj Policy for Haj-2018-22.

70+ RESERVED CATEGORY:-

Conditions :-

- i) Only those applicants shall be eligible for Reserved Category, who have NEVER performed Haj in their entire life time, either through Haj Committee of India or Private Tour Operator or by any other means (but excluding official Haj duty which exclude deputation as KuH).
- ii) In case the number of applications under Reserved Category received in a State/UT, exceeds the quota allocated to the State/UT, then Qurrah (draw of lots) will be conducted within the Reserved Category. Therefore, even in Reserved Category, no applicant can claim selection as a matter of right.
- iii) The Reserved Category applicants shall submit a Solemn Declaration in the given format on plain paper with signature.
- iv) Registration under the Reserved Category, shall be final only after the details and documents etc. furnished by the applicant have been verified by the SHC and HCoI.

Reserved Category : 70+ Applicants :

- i) An applicant who completes 70 years or more as on 31st May, 2022 (i.e. applicants who were born on or before 31st May, 1952), along with ONE companion will be registered under this category.
- ii) Companion is a MUST and no 70 + applicant alone will be registered under this category. For two 70+ pilgrims in a single cover, two companions shall be allowed.
- iii) The companion should be an immediate relative namely Husband/ Wife/ Brother / Sister / Son / Daughter or Grandson / Granddaughter or Son-in-law / Daughter-in-law or Nephew / Niece. No other relation will be allowed to travel as companion.

- iv) Neither 70+ pilgrim, nor his / her companion will be allowed to travel alone. If the application of the 70+ pilgrim is cancelled for whatever reason, the application of the companion shall get cancelled automatically. Substitution of companion by a person who is not a part of the Cover can be allowed only in case of death of original companion. However, a companion will be allowed to travel for Haj in case of death of 70+ applicant or lady pilgrim, if the death occur after allotment of Flight Date. CEO, HCoI is the Competent Authority to review and consider such cases and his decision shall be final and binding on all affected Repeater Haj Applicants.

NOTE : *The benefit of Reserved Category will not be applicable to invalid applications. In case a Cover comprises pilgrims falling under Reserved Category and General Category, the Cover shall be registered under General Category.*

WARNING :

IN THE FOLLOWING CASES, ALL APPLICATIONS SHALL BE CANCELLED AT ANY STAGE OF HAJ APPLICATION PROCESSING. SUCH AN APPLICANT SHALL NOT BE ALLOWED TO PROCEED FOR HAJ AND SHALL BE OFF-LOADED EVEN AT THE EMBARKATION POINT. THE ENTIRE AMOUNT DEPOSITED BY SUCH APPLICANTS SHALL BE FORFEITED. BESIDES, SUCH APPLICANTS MAY ALSO BE PROSECUTED:-

- I) AN APPLICANT WHO HAS DECLARED WRONG ADDRESS, OR HAS APPLIED MORE THAN ONCE IN ONE OR MORE STATE / UNION TERRITORY FOR HAJ - 2022.
- II) AN APPLICANT OF GENERAL CATEGORY WHO FURNISHED FALSE INFORMATION OR CONCEALED THE FACT OF HAVING ALREADY PERFORMED HAJ THROUGH HCoI.
- III) AN APPLICANT OF RESERVED CATEGORY WHO FURNISHED FALSE INFORMATION OR CONCEALED THE FACT OF HAVING ALREADY PERFORMED HAJ THROUGH HCoI OR PRIVATE TOUR OPERATOR OR BY ANY OTHER MEANS.

To reiterate, it is clarified that all the arrangements for Haj 1443 (H) – 2022 (C.E.) are being made under Special Circumstances with special norms, rules and regulations, eligibility criteria, age restrictions, health and fitness requirements and other relevant conditions as Kingdom of Saudi Arabia may determine and deem appropriate amid Covid - 19 Pandemic. However, the entire process of inviting online applications for Haj – 2022 is provisional subject to further changes or amendments in guidelines by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Ministry of Minority Affairs, Government of India.

(Mohd. Yakooob Shekha)
Chief Executive Officer.

14/12/24

To,

1. The Joint Secretary (Haj), Ministry of Minority Affairs, Government of India, New Delhi.
2. The Consul (Haj), Consulate General of India, Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
3. The Director (Haj), Ministry of Minority Affairs, Government of India, New Delhi.
4. The Executive Officer, All State / U.T. Haj Committees.
5. The Deputy Executive Officer (Op./Admin./Accounts), Haj Committee of India, Mumbai.
6. All Superintendents, Haj Committee of India, Mumbai.
7. PS / Secretariat Section, Haj Committee of India, Mumbai.