

HAJ COMMITTEE OF INDIA

(Statutory body of Ministry of External Affairs)

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Sub: Health Requirement for pilgrims of Haj 1436 (H) – 2015.

A copy of the norms of concerned Saudi Authorities on the health requirements to be met by Haj pilgrims is enclosed for general information and strict compliance. Further the Royal Consulate General of Saudi Arabia, Mumbai, has also informed that all Haj pilgrims will have to submit a valid certificate of vaccination with the quadrivalent (ACYW135) vaccine against Meningococcal Meningitis issued no more than 3 years and no less than 10 days before their arrival in Saudi Arabia, for issue of Haj visa to them. The Haj Committee of India has been asked to ensure that the vaccination certificate against Meningococcal Meningitis is attached with the passports for obtaining visa for Haj- 2015.



(Ataur Rahman)
Chief Executive Officer.

1. The Executive Officer / Secretary, All State / Union Territory Haj Committees.
2. Computer Section, Haj Committee of India.
3. The Chairman & All Members, Haj Committee of India for kind information.

CC to:-

The Joint Secretary (Public Health), Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Room No.158, Nirman Bhawan, (A Wing), New Delhi-110 001.



Health Requirements for the year 1436(H)

Requirements to be fulfilled before applying for a Umrah and Haj Visa

1. Meningococcal Meningitis

A valid certificate of Meningococcal Meningitis Vaccine is compulsory for every pilgrim planning for Umrah or Haj or some seasonal work in Haj area (10 days as a minimum or 3 years as a maximum prior to their arrival in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia). This is mandatory to obtain a Haj or Umrah or Seasonal work visa where the Health Authority of the concerned country will make sure that the vaccine process is completed with a single dose of quadruple vaccine (ACYW135).

2. Seasonal Influenza

Saudi Health Ministry advises the pilgrims to have Seasonal Influenza Vaccine especially those who are suffering from chronic diseases such as (cardiac diseases, kidney disease, respiratory diseases, neurology and diabetes), HIV congenital and acquired, metabolic diseases, children less than 5 years, obesity and pregnancy problems.

3. Health Education

The Health Authorities of the concerned countries should raise awareness among their pilgrims about the contagious diseases, its symptoms, its spreading, complications and the preventive measures.

4. Food Material

It is prohibited to bring foodstuffs in the kingdom by the visitors including Haj and Umrah pilgrims within their luggage unless it is canned and sealed properly or in the containers easy to open for inspection and in the quantities sufficient for their journey only.

5. Maintaining Vigilance against MERS CoV

Saudi Health Ministry would like to advise all elderly and those people with chronic diseases (heart, kidney, respiratory diseases and diabetic mellitus) and those effected with congenital and acquired immune deficiency diseases, tumors, pregnant women and children travelling to Saudi Arabia this year for Haj & Umrah, to postpone their trip for their own safety.



The Ministry also advises to abide by the health guidelines to curb the spread of MERS Corona virus and other respiratory diseases which is summarized in the following:

- a. Practice frequent washing both hands with water and soap or with antiseptic substances, especially after coughing and sneezing.
- b. Use napkins while coughing or sneezing and dispose it into wastebaskets.
- c. Try as much possible to avoid touching the eyes, nose and mouth by the hand.
- d. Avoid direct contact with the casualties and not to share their belongings.
- e. Wear masks especially in crowded places.
- f. Maintain the personal cleanness.
- g. Stay away from the camels gathering places and avoid direct contact with them.
- h. Do not eat un-boiled camel milk or pasteurized or camel meat not cooked well.

6. International Outbreaks Response

1. In case of any other health emergency that raises international concern or any epidemic outbreak subject to International health regulations in any country the Haj or Umrah pilgrims come from, the health authorities of the kingdom may take any additional preventive measures against those coming from these countries (not included within the above mentioned conditions) coordinating with World Health Organization at that time in order to avoid the spread of infection among the Haj and Umrah pilgrims and not to carry the infection to their home countries.