

HAJ COMMITTEE OF INDIA

(Statutory body of Ministry of External Affairs)

Haj House,
7-A, M.R.A. Marg,
(Palton Road),
Mumbai – 400 001

HC-18/105/2015-16/2595

Date : 19th August, 2016.

CIRCULAR

HAJ – 2016

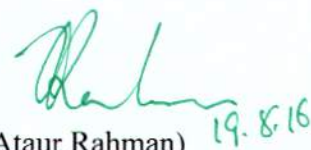
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Subject : Haj - 2016. Regarding kitchen facility for Hajis of GREEN Category.

As per building hiring norms every building in Green Category and Aziziya in Makkah has been provided one kitchen for upto 30 pilgrims.

2. However, Consulate General of India, Jeddah vide e-mail/fax message No. Jed/Haj/118/Catering/2016 dated 18th August, 2016 have informed that the Saudi Ministry of Haj & Umrah alongwith Saudi Civil Defence Department have recently given instructions to Maktabs/Moallims conveying that no cooking is permitted in Markaziya (area closed to Haram Shareif)/Green Zone in Makkah Mukarramah. The officials of Ministry of Haj & Umrah, alongwith Civil Defence Department personnel are visiting the buildings in Green Category and are removing the kitchen facilities including gas stove with cylinder / electric hot plates. The Saudi Authorities have given warning to building owners to remove all the arrangements made for cooking purposes in the buildings, otherwise the buildings will be fined heavily and non-compliance will also incur sealing of buildings. Many of the Maktabs and building owners are conveying that they would not be able to provide cooking facilities to the Haj pilgrims as the Saudi Authorities are not allowing cooking in the Markaziya/Green category region. They are compelled to remove kitchen facility which they have already put in place for Haj pilgrims.

3. Though the Consulate has raised the requirement of kitchen facility for Indian pilgrims with Saudi authorities, enforcement of Saudi norms of no cooking in Markaziya/Green category cannot be ruled out. The new norms about cooking prohibition in the Markaziya/Green Category may please be apprised to the pilgrims at the Embarkation Point itself.



(Aatur Rahman)
Chief Executive Officer.

The Executive Officers, All State/U.T. Haj Committees.
Computer Section, Haj Committee of India for uploading on website of HCoI.
All Members, Haj Committee of India for kind information.
Joint Secretary, Ministry of Minority Affairs, New Delhi.
Deputy Secretary (Haj), Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi.