

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **CLARIFICATION REGARDING SUBMISSION OF COPY OF CHEQUE:**

In order to ensure speedy disposal of refundable amount, if any, through electronic transfer, the submission of cancelled cheque along-with the Application Forms for Haj-2013 by the applicants is mandatory. Certain cases have been reported wherein the Pilgrims are not in a position to submit the copy of cancelled cheque. In view of various representations received from such intending applicants, it has been clarified by Haj Committee of India vide its Circular No.3 dated 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2013 as under:-

If the Pilgrim is not in a position to submit the copy of the cancelled cheque, he is required to submit a certificate / letter issued by the bank, where he is holding an account, incorporating following details:-

- i) Bank's Name ;
- i) Bank's Branch ;
- ii) IFS Code Number ;
- iii) Name of the Accounts Holder ;
- iv) Account Number ; and
- v) Type of Account.

It is also not necessary for each and every Pilgrim to submit each and every person's cheque. The cover head or a person responsible for making payment and receiving refunds has to submit copy of cancelled cheque / certificate / letter.

### **MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS' CIRCULAR FOR SPEEDY DISPOSAL OF PASSPORT APPLICATIONS:**

For speedy disposal of Passport Applications, Government of India, Ministry of External Affairs vide their No.V.I/401/1/2/2013 dated 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2013 have directed all the Passport Offices to accord high priority to processing the Passport applications of prospective Haj applications submitted by intending Pilgrims and to ensure timely issuance of Passports in such cases upon completion of requisite documentation, police verification and other formalities. The Passport Offices throughout the country have been asked to extend requisite assistance for expeditious issuance of Passport to prospective Haj applicants by means of nominating a nodal officer, opening of facilitation counter, reserving appointment slots for such applicants and attending to the requests / grievances petitions received from such citizens in a very prompt manner.

(Dr. S. Shakir Hussain)IRS.,  
Chief Executive Officer,  
Haj Committee of India.

To:

The Executive Officers / Secretaries of all State / Union Territory Haj Committees.