HCOI01-000200005/1/2024-HCOI 1/41422/2025

F. No: HCOI01-000200005/1/2024-HCOI

HAJ COMMITTEE OF INDIA

Ministry of Minority Affairs Government of India Section: Passport Section

Bait-ul-Hujjaj (Haj House), 7/A, M.R.A. Marg (Palton Road), Mumbai-400 001.

July 23, 2025.

<u>HAJ – 2026</u> 03

CIRCULAR

Subject: Speedy Disposal of Passport Applications

In view of the requirement of passports with validity at least up to 31st December 2026 and the approaching deadline of 31st July 2025 for submission of Haj-2026 applications, the Ministry of External Affairs has issued OM No. VI/401/1/16/2025 dated 30th June 2025, directing all Passport Officers to accord high priority to passport applications of prospective Haj pilgrims and to provide necessary facilitation and assistance through appropriate mechanisms. A copy of the said OM is enclosed for the information and necessary action of all concerned.

- 2 . All State/Union Territory Haj Committees are requested to coordinate proactively with the respective Regional Passport Offices (RPOs), District Passport Cells, and Passport Seva Kendras (PSKs) to ensure timely and smooth processing of passport applications of Haj applicants.
- 3. Further, State/UT Haj Committees are advised to give wide publicity to the contents of this circular through suitable communication channels, so that intending pilgrims are adequately informed and prepared in a timely manner.

Digitally signed by SHANAVAS C Date: 23-07-2025 (Shanavas C, IAS) Chief Executive Officer

Enclosure: As stated above.

Copy to:

- 1. The Joint Secretary (Haj), Ministry of Minority Affairs, New Delhi;
- 2. The Director (HCoI), Ministry of Minority Affairs, New Delhi;
- 3. The Executive Officer, All State/ Union Territory Haj Committees;
- 4. In-Charge, Computer Section, Haj Committee of India for uploading on the website of HCoI.

VI/401/1/16/2025 Government of India Ministry of External Affairs (PSP Division)

Patiala House Annexe, Tilak Marg New Delhi, 30th June 2025

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Haj-2026: Speedy disposal of Passport Applications - reg.

The undersigned is directed to refer to the reference received from Ministry of Minority Affairs, Government of India informing that the preparations for Haj-2026 will begin soon by the Government of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA). It has also been mentioned that the timelines prescribed by the Government of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for completion of different processes of Haj are shorter this year. All the applicants applying for Haj pilgrimage need to possess machine readable valid Indian Passport valid at least upto 31.12.2026.

- 2. In view of the above, all Passport Offices are directed to accord high priority to process the passport applications of prospective Haj Pilgrims and ensure timely issuance of Passports upon completion of requisite documentation, Police Verification and other formalities.
- 3. There could be last minute rush for submission of passport applications by intending pilgrims. All Passport Offices are therefore requested to extend requisite assistance to prospective Haj applicants by means of nominating a nodal officer, opening of facilitation counters, reserving appointment slots for such applicants and attending to requests/grievance petitions received from such citizens in a prompt manner.
- 4. All the Verification Officers, Granting Officers and officials of Service Provider may be advised suitably in this regard.

(Rajesh Ranjan)

Under Secretary to the Govt. of India

Tel: 23388015

Email: uspv1@mea.gov.in

To,

(a) All Regional Passport Offices in India

(b) Andaman & Nicobar Islands Administration [Assistant Secretary (Home)]

Copy to:

- (a) Additional Secretary (Gulf), Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India
- (b) Joint Secretary, Ministry of Minority Affairs, Govt. of India