

Comp. 141193
F. No: HCOI25-0099/1/2024-HCOI
HAJ COMMITTEE OF INDIA
Ministry of Minority Affairs
Government of India
Section: Medical Section

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

Date: 13-10-2025

Haj – 2026
17

CIRCULAR

Subject: Health Requirements and Immunization Guidelines for Haj-2026 G (1447 H) as Prescribed by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

The Haj Committee of India hereby notifies all selected pilgrims for Haj-2026 G (1447 H) that the Ministry of Haj and Umrah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, has issued updated Health Requirements and Guidelines applicable to all pilgrims and workers arriving in the Kingdom for Haj 1447 H (2026 G).

2. All intending pilgrims are required to comply strictly with the following health and immunization requirements as a prerequisite for travel to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

3. **Health Requirements and Diseases Affecting Eligibility:** Pilgrims must be physically fit and free from diseases that hinder their ability to perform Haj rituals or pose a public health risk. **The following categories of individuals are not permitted to proceed for Haj 2026 G (1447 H):**

- i. Patients suffering from major organ failure, such as:
 - a. Kidney failure requiring dialysis
 - b. Heart failure with symptoms during minimal physical activity
 - c. Chronic lung disease requiring intermittent or continuous oxygen support
 - d. Advanced liver cirrhosis with signs of liver failure
- ii. Persons with severe neurological or psychiatric disorders that impair cognition or cause major motor disability.
- iii. Elderly pilgrims with dementia
- iv. Pregnant women in the last three months of pregnancy or with high-risk pregnancies at any stage
- v. Persons suffering from active infectious diseases (e.g., open pulmonary tuberculosis, viral haemorrhagic fevers)
- vi. Cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy or other immunosuppressive treatments

4. **Recommended Immunization (for COVID-19 Patients):** All pilgrims and seasonal workers must provide **proof of immunity or vaccination against COVID-19** prior to travel. Proof of immunity/vaccination shall be **any one** of the following:

- i. At least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine (updated for 2025–2026 season)
- ii. Completion of basic COVID-19 vaccination (two or more doses administered during 2021–2024)

iii. Laboratory-confirmed recovery from COVID-19 infection during the year 2025 G

5. **Mandatory Immunization – Meningococcal Meningitis (ACWY):** All pilgrims are required to be vaccinated against *Neisseria meningitidis* prior to departure. Any one of the following vaccines must be administered, ensuring compliance with the specified validity period:

- i. Conjugate Quadrivalent (ACYW) Vaccine or Pentavalent (ACWXY) Vaccine to be taken at least 10 days before travel, and not earlier than 5 years of travel.

OR

- ii. Polysaccharide Tetrameric (ACYW) Vaccine to be taken at least 10 days before travel, and not earlier than 3 years of travel.

- iii. Pilgrims are advised to retain the original vaccination certificate as it may be checked by Saudi health authorities at ports of entry.

6. **Preventive Measures at Entry Points:** The health authorities in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia may implement additional preventive measures at airports or entry points based on risk assessment of the countries from which pilgrims are arriving.

7. **Response to International Health Emergencies:** In case of a public health emergency of international concern or disease outbreak as per the International Health Regulations (2005), the Ministry of Health, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, may impose additional health measures in coordination with the World Health Organization.

8. **Compliance and Advisory:** In view of the above, all pilgrims are advised to:

- i. Undertake medical examination before departure to ensure they meet the required fitness standards.
- ii. Carry vaccination certificates for Meningitis (ACWY) and COVID-19.
- iii. Follow all advisories issued by the Haj Committee of India, State/UT Haj Committees, and Saudi health authorities.
- iv. Cooperate with health screening procedures and comply with any additional instructions issued at the time of arrival in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
- v. Remain updated through official communications issued by the Haj Committee of India and the Ministry of Minority Affairs, Government of India.
- vi. Non-compliance with the health and immunization requirements may result in denial of entry into the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia or cancellation of Haj travel.


(Shanavas C, IAS)
Chief Executive Officer

Copy to:

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