HAJ COMMITTEE OF INDIA

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CIRCULAR

Haj - 2017 19

Sub: Health Requirement for pilgrims of Haj 1438 (H) – 2017.

A copy of the norms of Haj Ministry Saudi Authorities on the health requirements to be met by Haj pilgrims conveyed to us by Royal Consulate General of Saudi Arabia, Mumbai is enclosed herewith for general information and necessary compliance.

2. All the concerned may be advised to follow the instructions strictly.

(Md. Shahbaz Ali) Chief Executive Officer.

- 1. Executive Officer, All State / Union Territory Haj Committees.
- 2. Chairman & All Members, Haj Committee of India for kind information.
- 3. Joint Secretary (Haj), Ministry of Minority Affairs, GOI, New Delhi.
- 4. Joint Secretary (Public Health), Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Room No.158, Nirman Bhawan, (A Wing), New Delhi–110 001.
- 5. Computer Section, Haj Committee of India.

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Health Requirements for the year 1438(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, with 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.

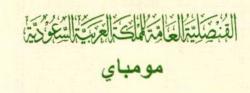
4. Maintaining Vigilance against MERS CoV

Saudi Health Ministry would like to advise all pilgrims to abide by the health guidelines to curb the spread of MERS Corona virus and other respiratory diseases which is summarized in the following:

- Practice frequent washing both hands with water and soap or with antiseptic substances, especially after coughing and sneezing.
- Use napkins while coughing or sneezing and dispose it into wastebaskets.
- iii. Try as much possible to avoid touching the eyes, nose and mouth by the hand.

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- iv. Avoid direct contact with the casualties and not to share their belongings.
- v. Wear masks especially in crowded places.
- vi. Stay away from the camels gathering places and avoid direct contact with them.
- vii. Do not have un-boiled camel milk or pasteurized or camel meat not cooked well.

5. International Outbreaks Response

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.