PRNO: 3

4.1.09

TAMIL NADU STATE HAJJ COMMITTEE 3rd Floor, 'Rosy Tower', New No.13(Old No.7), Mahathma Gandhi Road, (Nungambakkam High Road), Chennai-600 034.

PRESS RELEASE

The pilgrims from Tamil Nadu were sent for Hajj 2008 in sixteen flights from Chennai from 20th November to 1st December 2008. Among them, the first batch of 300+2(infants) pilgrims from Tamil Nadu, including 153 women and 2 infants arrived at 4.15 A.M. today i.e. on 4th January 2009 at Anna International Airport, Chennai through Saudi Arabian Airlines after successfully performing Hajj pilgrimage (2008). Thiru. J.M. Aaron Rashid, M.P., and Chairman, Tamil Nadu State Hajj Committee, Thiru. K. Allaudin, I.A.S., Member and Executive Officer and members of the Committee, Officials of Airports Authority of India, Saudi Arabian Airlines/Air India, Customs, Immigration and Central Industrial Security Force received the pilgrims at the airport and extended a warm welcome to them.

- 2. The pilgrims completed the immigration/customs formalities and collected their baggages with the help of concerned agencies, staff and volunteers of Hajj Committee. They were served refreshments on their arrival and free buses were arranged to transport the pilgrims from Airport to the Haj House to transit accommodation centres provided by Haj Service Society.
- 3. The other pilgrims will be returning to Chennai in <u>fifteen</u> flights subsequently upto 15th January 2009. A total of <u>4242</u>+17 (infants) pilgrims including 240 pilgrims from Puducherry and <u>67</u> pilgrims from Andaman and Nicobar Islands will disembark at Chennai. Tamil Nadu State Hajj Committee has made necessary arrangements to receive the pilgrims with the help of various Central and State Government agencies.

K. ALLAUDIN, I.A.S., Member & Executive Officer.

் வளயிடு, இயக்கு அ. ஈய்இ, மக்கள் தொடர்புத் து. கலைமைச் செயலகம், சென்னை - 9