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PRESS RELEASE

Text of the D.O. letter dated 5.7.2015 addressed by **Selvi J Jayalalithaa**, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu to **Shri Narendra Modi**, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India is reproduced below:

"The Tamil Nadu State Hajj Committee has received 15,032 applications from pilgrims in Tamil Nadu for Hajj 2015. The Hajj Committee of India, Mumbai, has allotted a quota of 2585 seats only to Tamil Nadu for this year. As per the guidelines for Hajj 2015, out of the quota, 1699 pilgrims have been selected under the reserved category, while 886 seats have been utilized for the general category pilgrims. This leaves 12,000 disappointed applicants.

During earlier years, the Government of India had released additional seats over and above the quota which enabled a larger number of pilgrims from Tamil Nadu to perform Hajj. A total of 3696 and 2858 pilgrims have performed the Hajj during Hajj 2013 and 2014 respectively.

The Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India may be requested to release additional quota for Tamil Nadu to enable more pilgrims to perform the Hajj this year."

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