

PRESS RELEASE

The Tamil Nadu State Haj Committee, Chennai on behalf of Haj Committee of India, Mumbai, invites Haj applications from the Muslims residing in Tamil Nadu and intending to perform Haj pilgrimage during Haj 2021 subject to certain terms and conditions. Haj-2021 will take place under Special Circumstances with Special Norms, Rules and Regulations, Eligibility Criteria, Age Restrictions, Health and Fitness requirements and other relevant conditions as Kingdom of Saudi Arabia may impose as and when they feel appropriate amid Corona virus Pandemic. The entire process of Haj Application for Haj-2021 is provisional subject to final Guidelines of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The process of application for Haj-2021 through Haj Committee of India shall commence online from 07.11.2020 and will conclude on 10.12.2020. Applicants can fill online application through Haj Committee of India website i.e. www.hajcommittee.gov.in or through android Mobile App "HAJ COMMITTEE OF INDIA" available on Google Playstore. Pilgrims must upload first and last page of machine readable passport issued on or before 10.12.2020 and valid atleast upto 10-01-2022, latest passport size photograph with white background, copy of cancelled cheque of cover head and copy of address proof. Payment of Registration Fee (Rs.300/- per head) is to be made online only. Applicants can fill in their applications themselves or through Cybercafes, NGOs or through Tamil Nadu State Haj Committee as per their convenience. The applications filled for Haj 2020 by women under without "Mehram" (Male companion) category is valid for Haj 2021 also.

The following changes/features will be Hallmark of Haj 2021:-

- Age limit 18-65 years.
- Infant/Child below 18 year NOT allowed.
- Cover size is maximum of Three (3) persons.

- Haj Journey 30-35 days.
- Accommodation space 9 sq.mtrs per pilgrim.
- Norms of Social Distancing.
- Standardized baggage will be provided by Haj Committee of India.
- In view of Covid-19 pandemic situation, the Embarkation Point for Haj 2021 has been reduced from 21 to 10 namely Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Cochin, Delhi, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Lucknow, Mumbai and Srinagar. No option/choice has been given to pilgrims for selecting nearest economical Embarkation point. For Haj pilgrims of Tamil Nadu, Cochin will be the Embarkation Point.
- No provision of NRI's due to Covid-19.
- Advance Haj Amount increased to Rs.1,50,000/-.
- Haj charges increase may range between Rs.3,70,000/- and Rs.5,25,000/-.

2. For details about Haj 2021, the pilgrims should go through the guidelines for Haj 2021 and for further particulars, applicants may contact Haj Information Center of Haj Committee of India : 022-22107070 (100 lines).

**Principal Secretary to Government,
Backward Classes, Most Backward
Classes and Minorities Welfare
Department**

Issued By: - DIPR, Secretariat, Chennai - 9.