

HAJJ MISSION 2008 & PRE-HAJJ MISSION 2009 (14/04/09)

(No. B/239) Mr S. Lauthan (Third Member for Port Louis Maritime and Port Louis East) asked the Minister of Education, Culture and Human Resources whether, in regard to the Hajj pilgrimage, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Islamic Cultural Centre, information as to-

(a) The composition of the -
Hajj mission 2008;

Pre-Hajj Mission 2009 and

(b) The remedial measures he proposes to take to avoid any shortcomings for the forthcoming Hajj.

Reply: (The Minister of Housing and Lands): The Hajj Mission of 2008 was composed as follows-

Mr Nazeer Abdus Samad

Mr Abdullatif Yusuf

Mr Atchia Aboo Bakar

Dr Farhad Kauroo

Mr Badullah Twaher

Mr Aboo Bakar Manjoo

Mr Swadeck Somally

Mr Mamood Hosenbaccus

Mr Dawood Beg

Mr Salim Pirbacosse

Mr Neenoth Imran

Mr Saumtally Shawkat

Regarding pre Hajj Mission 2009, I wish to inform the House that I shall myself lead the delegation which will also comprise of Mr Habibullah Sayed Hossen, Special Adviser to me on Hajj Matters and Mr Hassen Beebeejaun, representative of Air Mauritius.

With over 3M pilgrims converging to the Holy Mosques of Makkah and Madinah over a short period of time and accommodated in limited space at the Holy sites at Mina and Arafat, problems are bound to arise.

Over the past years and specially for Hadj 2008, there has not been any significant shortcomings. In fact, there was no fatal casualty at the Jamarat. This has been the result of the continuous upgrading of the conditions in the Hadj cities and Holy sites by the Saudi Authorities and strict monitoring by our Hajj Mission.

In fact, strict control is being exercised this year on operators to ensure that the Hajj Pilgrimage proceeds smoothly.