



Press Release

BANKS RECEIVE 214,221 HAJJ APPLICATIONS IN FIVE DAYS

Lahore, April 21, 2017

The Punjab Information Technology Board (PITB)'s automated Hajj operations devised for the Federal Ministry of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony, being successfully implemented for the third year reveals that the Hajj applications invited under Hajj Policy 2017 shows a number of 214,221 applications received from April 17 to 21, 2017 so far by 9061 branches of ten scheduled banks.

This year 179,210 pilgrims from Pakistan will perform Hajj. 60 per cent intending pilgrims will perform Hajj under Government Scheme while 40 percent under Private Hajj Group Organizers (HGOs). A total of 107,526 and 71,684 pilgrims will perform Hajj under the Government and HGOs schemes respectively.

The applications are being received from April 17, 2017, which will be closed on April 26, 2017 while draw will be held on April 28, 2017. The specified 9061 branches of ABL, BOP, UBL, HBL, MCB, NBP, Bank Alfalah, Habib Metro Bank, Meezan Bank and Zarai Tarqiyati Bank are receiving Hajj applications countrywide.

The region breakup of applications so far received show AJK: 1611, Baluchistan: 10,683, FATA: 4490, Gilgit-Baltistan: 3192, Capital Territory Islamabad: 5973, KPK: 52524, Punjab: 102,530 and Sindh: 33,268.

The PITB's Hajj automation is being lauded at international level as the PITB is providing assistance to the Government of Nigeria to develop their Hajj operations according to their requirements and to train their staff for the upcoming Hajj. Recently a team of PITB officials visited Nigeria for this purpose.