

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
BENCH AT AURANGABAD

983 WRIT PETITION NO.5861 OF 2023

SHAIKH AHEMAD SHAIKH CHAND AND OTHERS
VERSUS
HAJ COMMITTEE OF INDIA THROUGH ITS CHIEF EXECUTIVE
OFFICER AND OTHERS

Mr.G.R.Syed, Advocate for the Petitioners.
Mr.P.K.Lakhotiya, AGP for Respondent No.3.
Mr.D.B.Gaikwad, Advocate for Respondent Nos. 2 and 4.

(CORAM : RAVINDRA V. GHUGE AND
S.G.MEHARE, JJ.)

DATE : SEPTEMBER 29, 2023

PER COURT :

1. This Petition is with regard to the purported disproportionate charges towards embarkation, levied by the Haj Committee. In identical matters, we have directed the Petitioners to tender fresh representations through email, if not already tendered. If such representations are pending, we have directed the Haj Committee of India to decide the said representations on their merits and if any Petitioner is found entitled for refund, the refund should be paid expeditiously.

2. We have also mentioned in our earlier orders that the Haj Committee should endeavour to have parity in the embarkation charges between the embarkation point at Mumbai and the embarkation point at Aurangabad and also look into an option of permitting the Haj pilgrims to shift their embarkation point from Aurangabad to Mumbai and vice versa, without additional charges.

3. In view of the above, **this Petition is disposed off** with the following directions :-

[a] In the event, the Petitioner has already tendered his representation, the Haj Committee would consider the same for either change in embarkation point or for drawing parity in embarkation charges.

[b] Grant refund to the pilgrim if he has been charged any excess amount for the embarkation point at Aurangabad in comparison to the rates for the embarkation point at Mumbai.

[c] If the representation is not filed by the Petitioner, he is at liberty to tender his representation even after returning from the Haj Pilgrimage and such representation would be considered by the Haj Committee in the light of the above directions.

(S.G.MEHARE, J.)

(RAVINDRA V. GHUGE, J.)