

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.960
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.07.2015**

NEW SYSTEM FOR LEASING OF WAQF PROPERTIES IN PUNJAB AND HARYANA

960. SHRI GULAM RASOOL BALLYAWI:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that Punjab and Haryana Waqf Boards are facing a lot of problems due to the new system of lease of Waqf properties put in place by the Central Government recently;
- (b) whether those Waqf Boards represented to the Central Government to review the system;
- (c) whether Government is also aware that the revenue of Punjab and Haryana Waqf Boards have gone down drastically because of the new system of lease of Waqf properties; and
- (d) if so, what action Government proposes to take to remedy the situation?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS

(SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI)

- (a) Yes, Sir. Waqf Properties Lease Rules 2014 were notified on 3rd June 2014. Punjab & Haryana State Waqf Boards have informed their difficulties in implementation of Waqf properties Lease Rules, 2014.
- (b) Punjab & Haryana State Waqf Boards have submitted representations with the request to review certain clauses of Lease Rules 2014.
- (c) As per provisions of the Waqf Properties Lease Rules, 2014 notified by the Government of India, before making lease of any waqf property for more than one years and upto 30 years, the State Waqf Boards are required to publish details of lease and invite bids in at least one leading national and regional news papers. The Punjab and Haryana Waqf Boards are facing difficulties in implementing Rules 4 and 7 thereof. As such, these Waqf Boards are neither implementing the above provisions nor collecting the admissible lease rent. In view of above, their income has decreased not because of implementation of lease rules but it is attributable to their inability to implement the notified rules.
- (d) The government has taken note of representations for resolving the difficulties.
