GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2516

TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.08.2025

UTILISATION, MONITORING AND INCLUSIVE GOVERNANCE OF WAQF PROPERTIES

2516# SHRI BRIJ LAL: DR. DINESH SHARMA:

Will the Minister of Minority Affairs be please to State:-

- (a) the manner in which the Unified Waqf Management, Empowerment, Efficiency and Development Act, 1995 ensures best use of Waqf land and income for community welfare;
- (b) provisions made under the Act to prevent encroachment, illegal sale or misuse of Waqf properties; and
- (c) the manner in which the Act helps in promoting the participation of local bodies and disadvantaged groups in the planning and use of Waqf income?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS

(SHRI KIREN RIJIJU)

- (a) to (c) The Unified Waqf Management, Empowerment, Efficiency and Development Act, 1995, as amended by the Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025, provides following safeguards to prevent arbitrary or unilateral declaration of private or public land as waqf and improve measures to enhance transparency, accountability, and lawful management of waqf properties:
- (i) As per the Section 3(ka) of the Act, the Ministry has launched the statutory UMEED Central Portal–2025 on 06.06.2025 for uploading details of existing waqf and the property dedicated to the waqf, which also automate entire lifecycle of waqf properties, including registration, verification, survey by the Collector, mutation, annual account updates, audit, leasing and monitoring. Transparent & scientific management of waqf alongwith a proper accounting and auditing of its finances can enhance revenue generation and also ensure that the waqf serves its intended pious and charitable purpose.
- (ii) The Collector is responsible for verifying genuineness and accuracy of details of new waqf registration applications submitted on the UMEED Central Portal-2025 and also entrusted with conducting surveys of waqf properties to prevent encroachment and alienation of waqf assets.
- (iii) In accordance with Section 14 of the Act, Waqf Boards will now have representation of backward Muslims, Aghakhani and Bohras. Additionally, two or more elected members from Municipality or Panchayat belonging to Muslim community have also been included in the Waqf Boards to ensure the local perspectives and participation of underprivileged group of Muslim community in the decision making and planning.
