GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2174 TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.07.2019

Details regarding Wakf Properties

2174. DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR SHRI KHAGEN MURMU:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total area of Wakf Boards' land which are illegally occupied in the country;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to free these illegally occupied lands and if so, the details of the concrete steps taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) the total revenue of the Wakf Boards in the country and the details of different schemes being run with the funds;
- (d) whether the Government has established the National Waqf Development Corporation Ltd. (NAWADCO) for developing Waqf properties in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the NAWADCO has not developed a single property so far and the targets set in this regard are not being achieved, if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI)

(a): As per provisions of Section 32 of the Waqf Act 1995 as amended, general superintendence of all auqaf in a State is vested with the State Waqf Board (SWB) and the Waqf Board is empowered to manage the waqf property and take legal action against unauthorized occupation and encroachment of such properties. Further, as per Section 54 and 55 of the Waqf Act, SWB may take action for the removal of encroachment from the encroacher. As per the available information with Central Waqf Council (CWC) received from various State Waqf Boards, State wise position of number of Waqf Properties facing encroachment is given at Annexure.

(b): Major provisions added in the amended Waqf Act 1995 giving more power to State/UT Waqf Boards to deal with encroachment on waqf properties inter alia include stringent definition of "encroacher"; mandate to State Governments to appoint Survey Commissioners and complete the survey of waqf properties in a time bound manner; rigorous imprisonment for alienation of waqf properties without prior approval of the State/UT Waqf Boards; alienation of waqf property to be cognizable and non-bailable offence; three member Tribunals with extended jurisdiction to deal with disputes concerning eviction of a tenant. Central Government monitors compliance of various provisions of Waqf Act by State Governments/ State Waqf Boards from time to time.

Under QaumiWaqf Board Taraqqiati Scheme (QWBTS), various new provisions have been added where financial assistance is provided to SWBs for GIS Mapping of WaqfProperties, setting up of Video Conferencing Facility, maintenance of Centralized Computing Facility (CCF) and ERP Solution for better administration of SWBs.

The Central Waqf Council under the Ministry has taken the initiative of Geo-tagging of Waqf Properties and the progress in this regard is as under:-

SI.No	Institute engaged for GIS/GPS Mapping of Waqf properties	State Waqf Boards (SWBs) covered so far
1	IIT- Roorkee	Three
2	AMU, Aligarh	Six

Under National WAMSI Project (Waqf management System of India), an online system of registration, as on date, 5,81,799immovable Waqf properties have been registered online and2,81,967 records of Waqf Properties have been digitized.

(c): As per information received from Central Waqf Council, the annual income from statutory contribution collected by SWBs under section 72 of the Waqf Act, 1995 as amended for the Financial Year 2016-17 & 2017-18 are Rs.3,063.91 lakh & Rs.3,622.72 lakh respectively.Further, Ministry does not maintain the information of the Schemes being run by the State/UT Waqf Boards in the country.

(d): Yes, Sir. Government of India has incorporated National Waqf Development Corporation Limited (NAWADCO) under Companies Act, 1956 on 31st Dec, 2013 with the objective of developing the waqf properties for enhancing their income, which can be utilized for socioeconomic development of the community.

(e) and (f): The Waqf properties are not owned by the Central or State Government or any individual. In many cases, there is a custodian/ Mutawalli/Waqf Institution who manages the property and the entire Waqf affairs are governed by the Waqf Act, 1995 as amended in 2013 with Rules made therein.NAWADCO has identified properties across India which could be considered for development of these properties.Based on preparedness of the state agencies/waqf institutions, feasibility study/evaluation of 10 properties in the state of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Haryana and Rajasthan has been done through an expert in Real Estate (the technical and financial). After evaluation of properties found feasible for development the matter is sent to State Government for permission and then these are taken up for development by way of engaging suitable Developer/ Concessionaire.

Annexure referred to in reply to Part (a) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.2174 due for answer on 04/07/2019 raised by DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR and SHRI KHAGEN MURMU regarding 'Details regarding Wakf Properties'

S.No.	Name of Waqf Board	Number of Waqf Properties encroached by Private org./individuals
1.	Assam Board of Waqfs	191
2.	Andaman & Nicobar Waqf Board	01
3.	Bihar State Sunni Waqf Board	180
4.	Bihar State Shia Waqf Board	58
5.	Chhattisgarh State Waqf Board	200
6.	Chandigarh Waqf Board	06
7.	Delhi Waqf Board	373
8.	Haryana Waqf Board	754
9.	Himachal Pradesh Waqf Board	503
10.	Jharkhand Waqf Board	02
11.	Karnataka State Waqf Board	862
12.	Kerala State Waqf Board	29
13.	Madhya Pradesh Waqf Board	3,240
14.	Manipur Waqf Board	76
15.	Maharashtra State Waqf Board	81
16.	Odisha Board of Waqf	07
17.	Punjab Waqf Board	5,610
18.	Puducherry Waqf Board	05
19.	Rajasthan Board of Muslim Waqf	164
20.	Tamil Nadu State Waqf Board	1,335
21.	Tripura Board of Waqf	41
22.	Uttar Pradesh Sunni Central Waqf Board	12
23.	UttarakhandWaqf Board	119
24.	Board of Waqfs, West Bengal	3,082

Details of State wise position of encroached Waqf Properties