

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.†137
ANSWERED ON 02.02.2023

PROPERTY OF WAQF BOARD

†137. SHRI NAYAB SINGH:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government collects information with regard to the properties of Waqf Board in coordination with the State Governments;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the details regarding the manner in which the property is likely to be identified in case of any contention with regards to its identification/classification as Waqf property?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
(SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Minority Affairs implements the scheme namely Qaumi Waqf Board Taraqqiati Scheme (QWBTS) through the Central Waqf Council (CWC) which is a statutory body under the Ministry of Minority Affairs. Under this scheme, a dedicated online portal has been developed. This dedicated online portal is the Waqf Assets Management System of India (WAMSI) for computerization, digitization of records of Waqf properties and Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping of Waqf properties to prevent encroachment. The Waqf property details on WAMSI have been entered by the respective State Waqf Boards (SWBs). Upto the month of December, 2022, a total of 8,65,646 Waqf immovable properties and 3,53,850 GIS Mapping of Waqf properties have been entered on WAMSI portal.

(c) As per Section 40 of the Waqf Act 1995 (as amended in 2013) the State Waqf Board is empowered to decide any question which arises as to whether a particular property is a Waqf property or not or whether a Waqf is a Sunni Waqf or a Shia Waqf. The Board, after duly considering such cause as may be shown in pursuance of notice and after making an inquiry as it may deem fit, decides the case. The decision of the Board on a question under the said provision shall, unless revoked or modified by the Tribunal, be final.
