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Title: Need to free illegal encroachment of Waqf Board properties in West Bengal

**SHRIMATI SAJDA AHMED (ULUBERIA):** I would like to thank you, Sir, for giving me the chance to speak during 'Zero Hour'. I would like to speak on the need to expedite the administrative process to free the encroachment of waqf properties across the country.

It has been mentioned by the Government that 16,937 Waqf Board properties were under encroachment in the country. These encroachments are by private parties and even sometimes by the Government agencies. To protect the properties of the Waqf Board and to prevent the encroachment, a dedicated online portal has been set-up. But so far, 5,94,139 immovable properties of Waqf Board have been registered on the portal. But so far no mechanism has been adopted to get these properties free from encroachment.

As per the Waqf Act, superintendence of all Waqf properties in States is vested with the State Waqf Boards, which are empowered to manage and take legal action against unauthorized occupation and encroachment of such properties. But State Waqf Boards are fixed with the Waqf law formulated by the Central Government.

As reported in media, about 24,000 litigations on Waqf properties are pending in court and State Waqf Boards are not in a position to get these properties free.

I urge the Government to establish a high-power committee to study and review the delay of litigation and any loopholes in law, so that all

the Waqf properties can be made free from illegal encroachment and can be utilised for the larger benefit of Muslim minorities.

**माननीयअध्यक्ष** : **माननीयसदस्यगण,**  
मैंफिरआपसेआग्रहकरताहूंकियदिआपलिखकरभीलाएंहैं,  
तोअपनीबातसंक्षिप्तमेंबोलें ।आपएकमिनटमेंअपनेविषयऔरअपनीमांगकोरखें ।  
मैंकलसुबहभीआपकोमौकादूंगा ।