

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3491
ANSWERED ON:26.04.2012
LAND SCAM OF WAKF PROPERTIES
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Commission for Minorities and National Wakf Board have taken note of the land scam of wakf properties in the country;
- (b) if so, the number of States where land scam have come to the notice of the Government during the last three years;
- (c) whether the National Wakf Board has issued instructions to State Wakf Boards for proper maintenance of records of wakf properties and computerization thereof;
- (d) if so, whether the Union Government has asked for reports from the State Governments; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken or being taken by the Union Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI VINCENT H. PALA)

- (a): The National Commission for Minorities receives individual complaints with regard to encroachment / illegal occupation of wakf land/ properties from various parts of the country. These individual complaints are forwarded to the concerned authorities for appropriate action. So far as National Wakf Board is concerned, there is no such organization / institution.
- (b): According to Section 32(1) of the Wakf Act, 1995, the general superintendence of all auqaf in a State vests in the State /UT Waqf Board established or the State and it is the duty of the Board to ensure that the auqaf under its superintendence are properly maintained, controlled and administered. Moreover, as per the Wakf Act, 1995, the Waqf Board is empowered for recovery and for removal of encroachment from waqf properties. Therefore, when any complaint is received of alienation/sale /encroachments of wakf properties by the Ministry, the matter is referred to the concerned State Government and State Waqf Board for necessary action.
- (c) to(e): The Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) on Waqf, in its 9th Report presented to Rajya Sabha on 23rd October, 2008, recommended computerization of records of the State Waqf Boards (SWBs) with central financial assistance. The proposal was approved by the Government and the scheme of computerization of records of State Waqf Boards was launched by the Ministry of Minority Affairs in December, 2009. This scheme is applicable to all the 30 State Waqf Boards in the country. The main objective of the scheme is to streamline record keeping, introduce transparency and to computerize various functions & processes of the SWBs. The scheme envisages to develop a web-based software named Wakf Management System of India (WAMSI), to host a Centralized data base of waqf properties for all the SWBs in four modules viz. registration of wakf, leasing details of wakf properties, annual return assessment and litigation tracking. The Ministry calls for reports on the status of implementation from time to time and takes suitable steps where bottleneck arises in implementing the scheme.