

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4448
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.08.2025

SAFEGUARDS UNDER UMEED

4448. SHRI TEJASVI SURYA:

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

- (a) the details of safeguards that have been introduced under the Unified Waqf Management, Empowerment, Efficiency and Development Act to prevent arbitrary or unilateral declaration of private or public land as waqf;
- (b) whether the Act mandates a formal enquiry before registering any property as waqf and if so, the details thereof along with the competent authority constituted for such enquiry;
- (c) the manner in which the registration and validation process under the Act ensures transparency, public disclosure, and protection against unverifiable claims;
- (d) the details of role assigned to District Collectors and revenue officials in verifying waqf land records and preventing encroachments or false claims; and
- (e) the manner in which the UMEED Central Portal has improved access to waqf-related information, public services and grievance redressal mechanisms?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS

(SHRI KIREN RIJU)

(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 Section 3A of the Act, waqf creation requires the individual to be the lawful owner of the property and competent to transfer or dedicate it.
- (ii) A waqf deed is mandatory for registering new waqf properties as waqf, ensuring proper documentation.
- (iii) As per Section 36 of the Act, 1995, all waqf registration applications must be submitted on the UMEED Central Portal-2025. The Waqf Boards forward the application to the District Collector, who conducts an inquiry to verify the claim's genuineness and validity of the application and correctness of particulars.
- (iv) Section 40 of the Waqf Act, 1995, which previously allowed the Waqf Board to unilaterally declare properties as waqf based on collected information has now been omitted under the Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025.

(d): 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.

(e) 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, ensuring transparency, efficiency and effective management and faster grievance redressal.
