

The House re-assembled at twelve of the Clock,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Illegal encroachment of wakf properties

*81. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE : Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a number of wakf properties are illegally encroached;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of applications received for removal of illegal encroachments;
- (d) the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN) : (a) and (b) The State Wakf Board is established by the respective State Government as per the provisions of Section 13 of the Wakf Act, 1995. As per Section 32 of the Act, the general superintendence of all the wakfs in a State/UT vests in the Board. Hence, it is the duty of the Wakf Board to exercise its powers under this Act to ensure that the wakfs under its superintendence are properly maintained, controlled, administered and not encroached. Section 54 of the Wakf Act, 1995 provides for removal of encroachment from wakf properties by the State/UT Wakf Boards with the help of their State/UT Governments. Therefore, the details of wakf properties encroached are with the State/UT Wakf Boards and not with the Central Government. However, this Ministry has written to the State/UT Waqf Boards requesting them to send the details of the encroachments on wakf properties on 8.7.2011, 23.8.2011, 17.11.2011 and 30.11.2012.

(c) to (e) As per the Wakf Act, 1995, the subject matter of removal of encroachments of wakf properties is primarily the concern of the State/UT Wakf Boards. However, if any complaint regarding illegal encroachments on Wakf properties is received in this Ministry, the same is forwarded to the concerned State/UT Wakf Board for taking appropriate action to remove such encroachments as per the provisions of Section 54 of the Wakf Act, 1995. During the year 2012-13, the Ministry has received 27 complaints regarding encroachment on wakf properties from various quarters which have been forwarded to the concerned State/UT Wakf Boards and State/UT

Governments for taking necessary action with regard to removal of encroachments from such wakf properties.

Financial assistance and scholarships to minorities

*82. SHRI TARUN VIJAY : Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to provide financial assistance and scholarships to women and students belonging to those communities which are in numerical minority in the States like Jammu and Kashmir and in the North East;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and whether any scheme is available to such minorities?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN) :

(a) No, Sir. However, financial assistance under National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC) and Scholarship under the different scholarship schemes is awarded to eligible women and eligible students from notified minority communities in the programme respectively. Under the Scheme of Leadership Development of Minority Women there is provision to include women from other communities living in the same locality as that of the notified minorities in which the programme is being implemented to the tune of 25% in a group. Each trainee is paid Rs. 50 per day for 6 days.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) This Ministry is mandated to oversee the socio-economic development of notified minority communities in the country. Notified minority communities are those which have been notified under Section 2(c) of the NCM Act, 1992. The schemes of this Ministry in the form of educational empowerment, economic empowerment, area development and strengthening of minority institutions are focused toward notified minority communities.

Schemes for repair and renovation of ponds

*83. SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Central schemes for repair and renovation of ponds, State-wise, particularly in Karnataka; and