**QUESTION DETAILS

MINISTRY OF : MINORITY AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 2717**

TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.12.2015
Wakf property leasing rules

2717. Shri K. Rahman Khan

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:-

(a) whether Government has recently announced the Wakf property leasing rules;

(b) if so, what are the amendments which have been done;

(c) whether Government has reduced the percentage of lease rent from 5 per cent to 2 per cent, if so, the reasons for such amendments; and

(d) whether the amendment will affect the income of the Wakf?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS

(SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI)

(a): Yes, Sir. The Government has formulated and notified the Waqf Properties Lease Rules, 2014 vide notification dated 3rd June, 2014.

(b): Some amendments in the Waqf Properties Lease Rules 2014 have been made vide notification dated 26th August, 2015. The details of amendments notified in the above Rules are:
(i) Rule 7: The reserve price per square feet for lease of an immovable waqf property shall (a) for hospitals, educational institutions and social sectors, be not less than 2% per annum; (b) for commercial activities, be not less than 2.5% per annum, of the market value of the property; and
(ii) Rule 17 (1) : A lease of any immovable waqf property exceeding the period of three years and extending upto thirty years may be granted for the purpose of carrying out any commercial activity, education or health purposes, with the approval of the State Government and if the State Government fails to grant permission within forty-five days, the permission shall be deemed to be granted.

(c): The percentage of reserve price and not the lease rent has been reduced keeping in view the difficulties faced by the Waqf Boards.

(d):The amendment will not affect the income of the waqf as the waqf properties will be leased out by the process of competitive bidding after giving wide publicity through advertisement in the Newspapers and the waqf will fetch the highest lease rent.

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