



Waqf Boards in Jammu & Kashmir

Why in News

The process of establishing Waqf Boards in **Jammu and Kashmir** and **leh-kargil** has started recently.

Key Points

- There are thousands of Waqf properties in Jammu-Kashmir and Leh-Kargil and the process has been started to **register these Waqf properties**.
 - **Digitisation, Geo Tagging/GPS** Mapping of these Waqf properties has also been initiated.
- The Central Government will provide adequate **financial assistance** to construct infrastructure for socio-economic and educational activities on Waqf properties in Jammu-Kashmir and Leh-Kargil under **“Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram”** (PMJVK).
 - **Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram** (PMJVK) seeks to provide better socio economic infrastructure facilities to the minority communities particularly in the field of **education, health & skill development** which would further lead to lessening of the gap between the national average and the minority communities with regard to backwardness parameters.
 - The erstwhile **Multi-sectoral Development Programme** (MsDP) has been restructured and renamed as Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram for effective implementation since 2018.

Central Waqf Council

- Central Waqf Council is a **statutory body** under the administrative control of the **Ministry of Minority Affairs** set up in 1964 as per the provision given in the Waqf Act, 1954.
- It is an **advisory body** to the Central Government on matters concerning the working of the Waqf Boards and the due administration of **Auqaf**.
 - **Auqaf** (also spelled awqaf,) is an Arabic word meaning assets.
 - The Council consists of **Chairperson**, who is the **Union Minister** In charge of Waqf, such other members, **not exceeding 20 in number**, as may be appointed by the **Government of India**.
- **Each state has a Waqf Board headed by a chairperson**, one or two nominees from the state government, Muslim legislators and parliamentarians, Muslim members of the state Bar Council, recognised scholars of Islamic theology and mutawalis.

[Source:PIB](#)

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