



**KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY**  
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# Waqf Board

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## Why in news?

The center has proposed a bill that seeks to make women Waqf board members.

## About :

The Waqf Board is a significant institution in India that manages waqf properties, which are assets dedicated for charitable or religious purposes under Islamic law.

## Definition

**Waqf:** A waqf is an endowment made by a Muslim for religious, educational, or charitable purposes. It involves dedicating property or assets to these causes.

**Purpose of Waqf Board:** To manage and oversee the administration of waqf properties and ensure their proper utilization for the intended purposes.

## Legal Framework

**Waqf Act, 1995:** The primary legislation governing the management and administration of waqf properties in India.

**Amendments:** The Act has been amended several times to improve its efficacy. The most recent amendment is the Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2013.

**Waqf Rules:** Rules under the Act provide details about the functioning and management of waqf properties.

## Structure

**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 awkaf,) 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**,

**Kamaraj IAS Academy**

Plot A P.127, AF block, 6 th street, 11th Main Rd, Shanthi Colony, Anna Nagar, Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600040

Phone: **044 4353 9988 / 98403 94477** / Whatsapp : **09710729833**

**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.**

### **Functions and Responsibilities**

**Administration:** Oversee the administration and management of waqf properties.

**Revenue Collection:** Ensure proper collection of revenues from waqf properties and use the funds for charitable purposes.

**Dispute Resolution:** Address disputes related to the management and utilization of waqf properties.

**Development:** Implement development schemes for the betterment of waqf properties and their intended purposes.

**Audits:** Conduct regular audits to ensure transparency and proper management of funds.

### **Recent Developments**

**Digitalization:** Efforts are being made to digitalize the records and management systems of waqf properties for greater transparency and efficiency.

**Reforms:** Ongoing reforms to address issues of mismanagement and improve the functioning of Waqf Boards.