

RECOMMENDATIONS

- The mismanagement of Awqaf in India reflects the Muslim community's failure to build a clean and organized establishment that could look after the vast estate efficiently. Implementation of existing ICT and geo-spatial technologies for the digitization of records seems to be the only way forward and the first step towards better management.
- The issue of Waqf record management is inherently linked to the issue of the land titles in India and there needs to be a comprehensive approach which should include a cross checking with civil and revenue records.
- Accountability and transparency are two vital elements missing from the existing system. There must be a structured database of all the records, transactions of sale purchase or whatever, repairs, maintenance be made open to the public all must go on to the website.
- Proper administrative structure is required for the Awqaf. The states can have their own sensitization programme for fresh Indian as well as State Service officers.
- It is important that LBS National Academy of Administration should take the initiative in this sphere and a course module should be introduced during the training of officers.
- Few case studies can be adapted in terms of approach and mind-set change and that might be a learning experience which can then be adapted and replicated all over the country.
- The annual return filing should be separate Waqf wise instead of the present composite system.
- Lack of subject matter experts is also a major roadblock, technical manpower should be engaged in bridging the gap between technical teams and the Waqf Boards. A strong collaborative approach is required between record managers, the employees and in matters of land record, the surveyors also.
- Where the properties are linked to the commercial aspect, there must be a system of periodical updation of the rental value of lands based on the fair value of the region.
- It needs to be assessed why people are opting for registration of trusts and societies instead of Awqaf even in the religious institutions, the trends are discouraging.