# Waqf Amendment Bill needed for transparency, accountability of Waqf Boards: Delhi Haj Committee chair

New Delhi, March 26: Refuting allegations that the Waqf Amendment Bill, 2024, encroaches on the rights of the Muslim community, Delhi Haj Committee chairperson Kausar Jahan says the proposed legislation will bring much-needed transparency and accountability to the Waqf Boards.

After its introduction last year, the Waqf Amendment Bill, 2024, was referred to a Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) in an effort to bring in bipartisan support. The government claims the proposed amendments will streamline the declaration and regulation of properties controlled by the Waqf Boards. Opposition parties have opposed the Bill, terming it an encroachment on Muslim rights.

"Some people believe that there is no need for these amendments, and a propaganda is being spread about the intentions of the government, but these changes are needed to fully realise, with accountability and transparency, the intentions behind setting up the Waqf Board," said Ms. Kausar Jahan.

and cronyism'

"The Waqf Board had been set up to assist underprivileged Muslims, but instead, the Board is being misused to fill the pockets of a few people. For example in Delhi, the former chief Amanatullah Khan did not pay salaries to Imams, which finally Delhi's Lt Governor V.K. Saxena made sure to allocate. Widow pensions were held back and issues related to transparency of how money was spent also came up. Even appointments were also done of friends and relatives of the chief," said Ms. Kausar Jahan in a strong defence of the Bill.

"There are many who feel that the Waqf Board was being run by a club of like-minded people. The specific role of the Collector as surveyor of Waqf property is needed to ensure proper identification with proper documentation. With the administration involved, a proper procedure will be followed, and documents maintained," she said.

The Waqf Amendment Bill, 2024, proposes that the district collector, or a person nominated by him (not below the rank of deputy collector) be empowered to carry out a survey of Waqf property. The Bill also makes provisions for the registration of Waqf property through a centralised portal, a broad-based composition of the Waqf Council and State Waqf Boards, including non-Muslim and women members, as well as spelling out a detailed procedure for the mutation of property as per revenue laws and with due notice to all concerned before classifying any property as Waqf property.




Continued from Page 1

## Chandrababu Naidu Emphasizes Tourism Development at Collectors Conference

the CCLA Commissioner, with a vote of thanks delivered by the Senior Collector.

On the first day of the conference, Naidu implemented strict time management protocols, limiting departmental presentations to five or six slides and enforcing a strict adherence to the agenda. He emphasized the importance of concise communication, reminding participants, "Time is time." Naidu's efforts to curtail lengthy discussions stemmed from criticism received after a previous conference that lasted nearly 14 hours, which strayed from its agenda.

The CM's commitment to efficient time management was evident as he concluded his own remarks in 40 minutes, well within a scheduled hour. "We need to communicate directly and clearly about our plans," he urged the secretaries, marking a shift towards a more focused and productive conference environment.

With a clear mandate to enhance tourism as a key driver of economic growth, CM Naidu's focus at this year's Collectors Conference signifies a strategic move towards fostering a vibrant and employment-generating tourism sector across Andhra Pradesh.

**Highlights P-4 Initiative and District Action Plans**

The Andhra Pradesh collectors meeting met on second day had focused on the P-4 (Public Private People's Partnership) initiative addressing district-wise action plans and addressed pressing issues faced by local governments. The meeting commenced with presentations from the Collectors representing the Zone 1 districts, which include Srikakulam, Vizianagaram, Parvathipuram Manyam, Anakapalle, Visakhapatnam, and Alluri Seetharamaraju. Each Collector articulated their respective plans, highlighting key strategies aimed at enhancing public services and fostering better collaboration between sectors.

Following the presentations by the district Collectors, remarks and insights were provided by the Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, the Ministers of the respective districts, and Zonal Officers. Their feedback aimed to refine the action plans presented and deepen the understanding of the collaboration necessary to tackle district-specific challenges. The discussion concluded with a consensus on the importance of effectively implementing the P-4 model to drive sustainable development and improve the welfare of the communities across the zones.

## Continued pattern of biased and politically motivated assessments:

State's Guidelines to Support Civil Society and Human Rights Defenders.

**The US Congress should:**

Reintroduce, pass, and enforce the Transnational Repression Reporting Act of 2024 to ensure the annual reporting of acts of transnational repression by the Indian government targeting religious minorities in the United States;

Conduct a review assessing whether arms sales to India, such as MQ-9B Drones under Section 36 of the Arms Export Control Act, may contribute to or exacerbate religious freedom violations; and

Request and prioritize meetings with religious minority communities and faith-based civil society organizations during congressional delegations to India.

In its summary on India, the USCIRF said that in 2024 "religious freedom conditions in India continued to deteriorate as attacks and discrimination against religious minorities continued to rise".

It said that ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) members, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi, "propagated hateful rhetoric and disinformation against Muslims and other religious minorities to gather political support".

"Such rhetoric-fuelled attacks on religious minorities that continued after the election, including vigilante violence, targeted and arbitrary killings, and demolition of property and places of worship".

Referring to the crackdown on civil society organisations, it said "Authorities continued to exploit antiterror and financing laws, including the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA) and the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA) to crack down on civil society organizations and detain members of religious minorities, human rights defenders, and journalists reporting on religious freedom".

On the new criminal code, it said the new legislation left "religious minorities susceptible to targeting if it deemed them as "endangering the sovereignty, unity, and integrity of India".

It said that "Several individuals remained in detention under the UAPA for peacefully protesting the CAA in 2019, including Umar Khalid, Meeran Haider, and Sharjeel Imam. In combination with the National Register of Citizens (NRC), requiring all residents to provide proof of citizenship, the CAA sparked fear among Muslim communities that the authorities may strip them of their citizenship—as in July, when Foreigners' Tribunals in Assam declared 28 Muslims "non-citizens" and sent them to deportation centers".

It said that various authorities, including the Delhi Development Authority (DDA), "facilitated the expropriation and demolition of places of worship, including the construction of Hindu temples atop razed mosques". It referred to the consecration of the Ram Temple in Ayodhya, "which stands on the ruins of the Babri Masjid that a Hindu mob demolished in 1992".

"Following the consecration, attacks against religious minorities erupted across six states. Authorities also repeatedly violated Section 295 of India's Penal Code, which criminalizes the destruction or damage of houses of worship, by bulldozing Muslim-owned property including mosques deemed "illegal"."

On the activities of pro-Khalistan elements in Canada and other countries abroad, the USCIRF report said:

"The Indian government also continued to expand its repressive tactics to target religious minorities abroad, specifically members of the Sikh community and their advocates. Journalists, academics, and civil society organizations documenting India's religious freedom violations reported denial of consular services, including the revocation of Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) cards as well as threats of violence and surveillance.

"International reporting and intelligence from the Canadian government corroborated allegations linking an official in India's Research and Analysis Wing (RAW) and six diplomats to the 2023 assassination attempt of an American Sikh activist in New York", it said in reference to Khalistani extremist Gurpatwant Singh Pannun.

Created by the International Religious Freedom Act (IRFA), USCIRF is an independent, bipartisan US government advisory body, separate from the State Department, that monitors and reports on religious freedom abroad and makes policy recommendations to the US President, Secretary of State, and the US Congress.

## PM Modi to visit Tamil Nadu amid alliance talks with AIADMK

Nadu BJP chief Annamalai, needed to be sorted out before any formalisation of a coalition.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's choice of the Ramanathaswamy temple and the timing of the visit, the birth celebrations of Lord Rama on April 6, is also significant. It was in January 2024, just before the consecration of the Ram Mandir in Ayodhya, that Mr. Modi last visited the temple, describing the experience as one that he would "never forget". A Shiva temple, the site is also connected to the Ramayana, as the deity, the Shiva linga, is believed to have been installed there by Lord Rama.

The New Pamban Bridge, to be inaugurated by the PM on his visit, is India's first vertical lift railway sea bridge, designed to connect the sacred island of Rameswaram to the mainland, touching on his "virasat bhi vikas bhi" (heritage and development) plank.

The old Pamban bridge could no longer meet the demands of modern transportation and was suffering from erosion due to climactic factors of harsh sea weather. In 2019, the Indian government sanctioned its reconstruction. The New Pamban Bridge spans 2.08 kilometres (2,078 meters) and features 99 spans of 18.3 metres each, with a single 72.5-metre vertical lift span that can be raised to allow ships to pass underneath. Standing three metres taller than its predecessor, it provides greater clearance for larger vessels.

The New Pamban Bridge's foundation is built with 333 piles and 101 pile caps, and the bridge is designed to accommodate two tracks. A robust surface protection system further enhances longevity of up to 58 years. A successful trial run of a goods train over a 1.5-kilometre section from the Mandapam end was conducted to verify the bridge's structural integrity.

## Chandrababu Naidu restores Vizag land to Lulu Group

Nicknamed "Lulu Land," the property was later listed for auction by the previous government through NBCC at a reserve price of Rs.107 crore per acre, but it failed to attract any bidders.

With the TDP-led coalition back in power since 2024, the project has been revived. Lulu Group Chairman Yusuff Ali and Executive Director Ashraf Ali M. A. met with the Chief Minister in September 2024 to discuss restarting the initiative.

Now approved again, the Rs.2,200 crore project includes a 6 lakh sq. ft international convention centre, 2 million sq. ft multiplex, and a five-star deluxe hotel, creating an estimated 7,000 jobs.

The State Investment Promotion Board (SIPB), chaired by Naidu, recently gave its formal clearance for the project's revival.

## Trump pushes for major election reforms, citing India as model

are tying voter identification to a biometric database, while the United States largely relies on self-attestation for citizenship," he noted.

He further criticised the US for its inconsistent approach to ballot processing, comparing it to countries like Germany and Canada, which require paper ballots for vote tabulation. "Germany and Canada require paper ballots when tabulating votes, while the United States has a patchwork of methods that often lack basic chain-of-custody protections," Trump said, highlighting the need for a more secure and uniform voting system.

The executive order also highlights the issue of mail-in voting. Trump pointed out that countries like Denmark and Sweden limit mail-in ballots to those who cannot vote in person, and they do not accept late-arriving ballots, regardless of the postmark.

"Many American elections now feature mass voting by mail, with many officials accepting ballots without postmarks or those received well after Election Day," he added.

This executive order is part of Trump's continued efforts to restore what he believes to be the integrity of US elections, which he has frequently claimed were compromised in the 2020 Presidential Election. Trump emphasised that "free, fair, and honest elections unmarred by fraud, errors, or suspicion are fundamental to maintaining our constitutional Republic."

"The right of American citizens to have their votes properly counted and tabulated, without illegal dilution, is vital to determining the rightful winner of an election," said Trump.

## Amit Shah responds to alleged Andhra Liquor Scam during Jagan's tenure

office to seek further details. During the meeting, Lavu Sri Krishna Devarayalu informed Amit Shah that the scale of corruption in Andhra Pradesh far exceeded that of the Delhi liquor scam. He submitted related documents to support his claims.

According to Lavu Sri Krishna Devarayalu, out of the Rs.90,000 crore liquor business in Andhra Pradesh, Rs.18,000 crore was misappropriated, and an additional Rs.4,000 crore was allegedly transferred under benami names to Dubai and African countries. It is reported that Amit Shah inquired further into these allegations.

Lavu Sri Krishna Devarayalu also handed over key documents to Amit Shah, allegedly confirming that N. Sunil Reddy from Hyderabad had transferred Rs.2,000 crore to Dubai. The Union Home Minister reportedly assured him that an investigation would be initiated into the Andhra Pradesh liquor scam.

Lavu Sri Krishna Devarayalu also claimed that one Member of Parliament resigned and withdrew from politics due to the impact of this scandal. He further alleged that out of Rs.99,000 crore in sales through government-run liquor outlets, only Rs.690 crore were digital transactions, implying that the remaining funds were largely misappropriated by Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy and his associates.

Between 2019 and 2024, the YSRCP government introduced 38 new liquor brands, all of which, Lavu Sri Krishna Devarayalu stated, were linked to businesses associated with the ruling party. He alleged that 26 new companies profited heavily from liquor sales and that liquor worth Rs.20,356 crore was sold through covert channels.

## Key announcement by Central Govt on Gaming and Online betting

Ashwini Vaishnaw replied, "No one has the right to question the morality of the Central Government." He clarified that the Constitution grants states both the legal and moral authority to legislate on this subject. He urged members to understand the federal structure of the country.

While emphasizing that gaming and online betting fall within the jurisdiction of the states, Ashwini Vaishnaw also stated that the Central Government has taken action based on complaints received and has banned 1,410 gaming websites.

## About 70% work on Bhogapuram International Airport has been completed:

completing the Tarakarama project, for which steps are being taken," the Collector said.

Mr. Ambedkar further said that efforts were being made to establish a mango cluster zone in the district. Drones were being deployed at every police station, he said.

**Dialysis centre sought**

The Collector requested the establishment of a dialysis centre at the government hospital in Vizianagaram.

He further said the Pydithalli temple and Ramateertham would be developed as spiritual tourist spots to increase tourism revenue. The Tribal University in the district was expected to commence classes from June, he said.

## Planned effort to reach Growth Hub targets

He said that due to many factors in the district, about two thousand hectares of lands are useless and 200 hectares of land will be cultivated in the coming year. Innovative cultures in the cultivation of rice and millets will be launched and new varieties are introduced. The collector explained that the varieties such as MTU-1224, RNR-15048, Indravati and Vegavathi in the millets are available to increase the product.


**TRUHOME FINANCE LIMITED** (Formerly Shriram Housing Finance Ltd.)

**Head Office:** Level -3, Wockhardt Towers, East Wing C-2 Block, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai 400 051;
**Tel:** 1800 102 4345 ; **Website:** http://www. truhomefinance.in
**Reg.Off.:** Srinivasa Tower, 1st Floor, Door No.5, Old No.11, 2nd Lane, Cenatoph Road, Alwarpet, Teynampet, Chennai-600018

**APPENDIX-IV-A [SEE PROVISION TO RULE 8(6)] SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES**

**E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provision to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.**

NNotice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower/s and Guarantor/s that the below described immovable properties mortgaged/ charged to Truhome Finance Limited (formerly M/s Shriram Housing Finance Limited), the Physical Possession of which have been taken by the Authorized Officer of Truhome Finance Limited, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" basis in e-auction on 15.04.2025 between 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for recovery of the balance due to Truhome Finance Limited from the Borrowers And Guarantors, as mentioned in the table.

Details of Borrowers and Guarantors, amount due, Short Description of the immovable property, reserve price and earnest money deposit and date of Inspection are also given as:

| Name of Borrowers/ Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors/Mortgagers | Amount of Recovery and date of Demand Notice | Reserve Price (Rs.) & Bid Increment | Date & Time of Auction | Contact Person Details – (AO and Disposal team) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. MR.VELAGA VENKATA RAMANA S/O VELAGA SATHGAYANARAYANA<br>2. MRS.VELAGA JYOTHI W/O VENKATA RAMANA<br>ADDRESS: HNO 98/2B BRUNDAVANAM OPPOSITE PSR TOWERS PAYAKA RAO PET VISAKHAPATNAM ANDHRA PRADESH INDIA 531126.<br>LOAN ACCOUNT NO. SHLHRJMD0000769<br>Date of Possession & Type<br>22nd Jan, 2025 & Physical Possession<br>Encumbranches known Not known | DEMAND NOTICE 07-11-2024<br>Rs.32,28,052/-(Rupees Thirty Two Lakhs Twenty Eight Thousand Fifty Two Only) (in respect of Loan Account No.( SHLHRJMD0000769) as on 08-09-2022 with further interest at the contractual rate, within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. | Rs. 1700000/- (Rupees Seventy Lakhs Only)<br>Bid Increment<br>Rs.10,000/- and in such multiples<br>Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (Rs.)<br>Rs. 170000/- (Rupees One lakhs Seventy Thousand Only)<br>Last date for submission of EMD : 14th April , 2025 Time 10.00 a.m. to 05.00 p.m. | 15th Apr. 2025 Time: 11.00 P.M. to 1.00 p.m. | Ashfaq Patka 9819415477<br>Mr. SATISH & Anjibabu 9849225412(M) &9966365296<br>Property Inspection Date: 13-04-2025 |

**Description of Property**

ALL THE PIECE AND PARCEL OF LAND/uds MEASURING 145.44 SQ.YDS of VACANT SITE ,IN PLOT NO.3 BLOCK NO.3 WITH NO.34/DATED 27-09-2017 APPROVED BY SRI PAYAKARAOPETA GRAM PANCHAYAT ,IN SY.NO.98/1,TO THE NEAREST D.NO.18-88,SITUATED AT PAYAKARAOPETA VILLAGE ,NAKKAPALLI SRO DISTRICT -BOUNDARIES BY: EAST : 35 FT :HOUSE OF OTHERS D.NO.20-129/3 WEST : 33 FT :ROAD NORTH: 45 FT : SITE IN PLOT NO.S 1 AND 2 SOUTH : 32 FT: SITE IN PLOT NO.4.

1) **For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer the website of Truhome Finance Limited (Formerly Shriram Housing Finance Limited) website.**
2) **The intending bidders have to submit their EMD amount to be deposited by way of RTGS/NEFT to the account details mentioned herein below: BANK NAME: AXIS BANK LIMITED BRANCH: BANDRA KURLA COMPLEX, MUMBAI BANK ACCOUNT NO. Current Account No. 911020045677633 IFSC CODE: UTIB0000230.**

Place : PAYAKA RAO PET/ VIZAG/TUNI
Date : 27-03-2025

Sd/- Authorised Officer- Truhome Finance Limited (Formerly Shriram Housing Finance Limited)