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ಪತ್ರಿಕೆಯ ಹೆಸರು : NAME OF THE NEWS PAPER: Deccan Herald ದಿನಾಂಕ : DATE : 26/9/21

Manippady report on Wakf tabled, names political bigwigs

Properties worth Rs 2 lakh cr encroached, it says

26/9/20
BENGALURU, DHNS.

Eight years after it was submitted, the BJP government on Wednesday tabled the controversial Anwar Manippady report on encroachment of Wakf properties in Karnataka, which names several politicians, in the Assembly.

The special report by the Karnataka State Minorities Commission, which Manippady headed back then, blames Congress leaders including Rajya Sabha member Mallikarjun Kharge, Shanthinagar (Bengaluru) MLA N A Haris, former minister Tanveer Sait, former Congress leader R Roshan Baig, among others.

The report noted major anomalies in the management of Wakf properties in the state, terming it as "Wakf land mafia".

"Wakf properties worth Rs 2 lakh crore have been encroached or sold by the chairman and members of the successive Wakf Boards. Most of the time, big political leaders belonging to the minority community are neck deep in the misuse of Wakf properties," the report stated, calling it the "biggest scam ever" to have taken place in Karnataka and equating its magnitude to the 2G scam.

Officials at all levels in the districts are acting like "real

estate agencies of Wakf properties", the report said.

The report sought disbanding of the Karnataka State Board of Wakf for a period of one year. The scam must be investigated by the Lokayukta, while the government should conduct an audit of the Wakf properties, it recommended. It also urged a Task Force to review Wakf properties.

The Manippady report also asked the state government to constitute a high power committee to figure out the modalities of the Karnataka State Board of Wakf, consisting of two senior retired IAS officers, one retired judge,

two NGOs that have focus for retrieval of Wakf properties and three representatives from the minority commission.

Pointing out the involvement of all the Wakf office Board chairman, members of the Board, political representatives and "so-called social reformers," Manippady, in the report, called for criminal cases to be initiated against everyone involved.

He recommended a term of a minimum of five to ten years for the guilty, from levying a fine on the encroached property value.