Polity & Governance · GS - II

Land disputes involving Waqf properties highlight the challenges of balancing statutory property administration with citizens' property rights and livelihood security. Examine the issues involved and suggest a fair and lawful resolution mechanism.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 22/10/2026	GS - II	Polity & Governance

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Waqf property administration; property rights; Article 300A; due process; documentary evidence; livelihood security; dispute resolution; judicial review; stakeholder consultation; constitutional governance

Model Answer

Introduction

The Munambam land dispute in Kerala highlights the complexity of reconciling claims concerning Waqf property with residents' concerns over ownership, housing and livelihood security.

Major Issues

- **Ownership and title:** Historical records, land deeds and statutory documents must be examined to establish competing claims.
- **Residents' security:** Uncertainty over ownership can affect housing, livelihoods and access to credit.
- **Legal complexity:** Disputes may involve Waqf legislation, land records, property law and the jurisdiction of relevant tribunals and courts.

- **Social cohesion:** Prolonged disputes can generate mistrust and community tensions.

Constitutional and Legal Framework

Article 300A states that no person shall be deprived of property except by authority of law. Authorities must follow applicable legal procedures, while affected parties should have access to appropriate remedies and judicial scrutiny.

Way Forward

The government should facilitate a transparent, time-bound review of land records and claims. The Waqf Board, residents and relevant authorities should participate in consultations. Interim protection against unlawful dispossession, accessible grievance redressal and legally valid negotiated settlements can help reduce hardship.

Conclusion

A durable resolution must rely on verifiable evidence, statutory compliance and due process while protecting legitimate property interests and maintaining social harmony.

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