MHA

Islamic Research Foundation banned for five more years under UAPA

MHA S.O. 6182(E) of November 13, 2026 declares the Islamic Research Foundation an unlawful association under the UAPA for five years from publication.

THE MINISTRY OF HOME Affairs (MHA) has declared the Islamic Research Foundation (IRF) an unlawful association for another five years. Notification S.O. 6182(E), dated November 13, 2026, is made under sub-sections (1) and (3) of section 3 of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 (37 of 1967), the UAPA. It has effect for five years from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette, subject to any order made under section 4 of the Act.

KEY FACTS

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It was published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (ii), No. 5943, dated November 13, 2026 (CG-DL-E-13112026-277870). Rakesh Rathi, Joint Secretary, signed it under F. No. 14017/4/2026-NI-MFO.

The IRF was first declared an unlawful association by S.O. 3460(E) of November 17, 2016 and again by S.O. 4731(E) of November 15, 2021. The Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Tribunal confirmed those declarations by orders published as S.O. 1656(E) of May 22, 2017 and S.O. 1510(E) of March 30, 2022. The notification records that the ban under section 6(1) of the Act would cease on November 14, 2026.

The notification states the Central Government's opinion that the IRF and its members, particularly its founder and President, Dr. Zakir Abdul Karim Naik alias Dr. Zakir Naik, have been encouraging and aiding followers to promote disharmony or enmity between religious communities on grounds of religion. Its grounds are that his statements and speeches are objectionable and subversive, that through them he has been promoting enmity and hatred amongst different religious groups and inspiring youths of a particular religion in India and abroad to commit terrorist acts, and that he made radical statements to millions of people worldwide through international satellite TV, the internet, print and social media.

It also states the Government's opinion that, if not curbed, the IRF would continue its subversive activities, reorganize activists who are still absconding, disrupt the secular fabric of the country, propagate anti-national sentiments, escalate secessionism by supporting militancy, and undertake activities prejudicial to the sovereignty, integrity and security of the country. For those reasons, it says, it is necessary to declare the IRF an unlawful association with immediate effect.

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Document	Notification S.O. 6182(E)
Dated	November 13, 2026
Published	Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (ii), No. 5943, November 13, 2026 (CG-DL-E-13112026-277870)

Legal basis	Section 3(1) and 3(3), Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 (37 of 1967)
Association	Islamic Research Foundation (IRF)
Duration	Five years from publication in the Official Gazette, subject to any order under section 4
Earlier declarations	S.O. 3460(E), November 17, 2016; S.O. 4731(E), November 15, 2021
Tribunal confirmations	S.O. 1656(E), May 22, 2017; S.O. 1510(E), March 30, 2022
Earlier ban was to cease	November 14, 2026
Signed by	Rakesh Rathi, Joint Secretary
File number	F. No. 14017/4/2026-NI-MFO

The notification (PDF, 575 KB)

Source: Gazette of India, Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (ii), No. 5943, November 13, 2026 (CG-DL-E-13112026-277870).

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IndusDesk

hello@indusdesk.com · +91 11 4141 3939

9th Floor, Hemkunt House, Rajendra Place, New Delhi, Delhi 110008, India

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