

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:321

ANSWERED ON:02.12.2010

SURPLUS RAILWAY LAND

Nahata Smt. P. Jaya Prada;Shekhar Shri Neeraj

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Railways propose to utilize surplus land for commercial purposes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Rail Land Development Authority is contemplating to lease out land in Varanasi Junction, Dehradun and Delhi to private players;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of the rates at which the land is likely to be leased out?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 321 BY SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR AND SHRIMATI JAYA PRADA TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 2.12.2010 REGARDING SURPLUS RAILWAY LAND.

(a) to (e): The first charge on utilization of the vacant railway land is for Railways' own development works such as doubling, gauge conversions, yard re-modeling and traffic facility works, freight corridors as well as for servicing the track and other infrastructure. In addition, Railways plan to utilize its land bank, wherever feasible, for setting up of rail coach and component factories, loco component factories, wagon factories, Coach rehabilitation and wagon repair workshops, Multi-Modal Logistic Parks, Auto hubs, Cold Storages & Perishable Cargo Centres, refrigerated container factory, etc.

Vacant railway land/air-space not required by Railways for its operational needs in immediate future, is utilized for commercial development, wherever feasible. In this regard, Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA), has been set up by Railways through the Railway (Amendment) Act, 2005 to undertake commercial development. So far, 135 sites of such vacant land on various Zonal Railways measuring about 3760 acre in aggregate have been entrusted to RLDA for commercial development.

RLDA has taken up commercial development of a plot of railway land measuring about 38 acre at Sarai Rohilla, Delhi. At present, there is no plan to lease out Railway land at Varanasi Junction and Dehradun. The lease rate is discovered through a fair, transparent and open-tender bidding process; and the offer of the highest bidder is accepted if considered suitable.