

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:215

ANSWERED ON:10.03.2011

UTILISATION OF VACANT LAND

Das Shri Bhakta Charan;Viswanathan Shri P.

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total area of vacant land owned by Railways, currently, zone-wise;
- (b) the area of vacant land put to commercial use during the last three years, zone-wise;
- (c) the revenue earned by the Railways from commercial utilisation of such land; and
- (d) the plan/programme chalked out for gainful utilisation of the remaining land?

Answer

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 215 BY SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS AND SHRI P.VISWANATHAN TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 10.03.2011 REGARDING UTILISATION OF VACANT LAND.

(a) to (d): Indian Railway network occupies a land area measuring about 10.65 lakh acres. Ninety per cent of this land is directly under railway tracks, yards, workshops and allied infrastructure. The vacant land, measuring about 1.13 lakh acres is mostly in the form of a narrow strip along tracks which railways has been utilizing, or plan to utilize, for its expansion in the form of doubling, third line, quadrupling, gauge conversion, freight corridors, yard remodelling, traffic facility works, workshops, etc. and for servicing and maintenance of track and other infrastructure.

Railway also plans to utilize its vacant land, not required by railway for its immediate future operational needs, for setting up of rail coach and component factories, loco component factories, wagon factories, coach rehabilitation and wagon repair workshops, multi-model logistic parks, auto hubs, cold storage and perishable cargo centres, etc.

Vacant land not required by railway for its immediate future operational needs is also utilized for commercial development, wherever feasible, for the interim period, through a Statutory Authority namely Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA) set up in 2007 through an act of Parliament. Till now, developers have been fixed by RLDA for 5 sites involving an area of about 45 acres and a revenue of approximately Rs.71 crore has been realised. Realisation of additional revenues through such measures is an on-going process.