

**Title:** Need to take steps to check encroachment on railway land and formulate plan for its proper utilisation.

SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR (MYSORE): It is a matter of great concern that the Railway land worth crores of rupees has been encroached upon in different parts of the country. According to an estimate, 2457 hectares of land has been encroached upon by different people. This is ten per cent of the total unutilised Railway land. The remaining 90 per cent of surplus Railway land is lying unutilised. In the absence of any activity, there is a vast scope for the encroachment of the surplus land. Unless immediate steps are taken to tackle the twin problems of encroachment and non-utilisation of the surplus land, Railways will continue to remain the loser. Though there are State and Central Acts but they are not being implemented properly and effectively. The Railway Protection Force is also not taking any action to evict the encroachers or to stop the encroachers.

In view of this, I demand that the encroachment on Railway land should be stopped forthwith. Action should be initiated to evict the encroachers and action plan should be formulated for the proper utilisation of the surplus Railway land.