

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3589
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.08.2018**

ENCROACHMENT ON VACANT LAND

**†3589. SHRI RAJENDRA AGRAWAL:
SHRI P. KUMAR:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the cases of illegal occupation of vacant railway land have come into light;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof, zone-wise;**
- (c) whether the collusion of certain officers of railway with land mafia have come into light in such cases and if so, the details of the action taken in this regard;**
- (d) whether such encroachments have been causing serious operational problems and if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Railways thereto; and**
- (e) the measures taken by the Government to remove such encroachments?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)**

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3589 BY SHRI RAJENDRA AGRAWAL AND SHRI P. KUMAR TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 08.08.2018 REGARDING ENCROACHMENT ON VACANT LAND

(a) to (e): As on 31.03.2018, out of 4.77 lakh hectare land available with Indian Railways, approximately 844.38 hectare (0.18%) land is under encroachment (illegal occupation). Most of the encroachments are in the approaches of the Stations in Metros and big cities in the form of slums.

The zone-wise details of land under encroachment are as under:-

(As on 31.03.2018)

Zonal Railway	Land under encroachment (in Hectares)
Central	58.05
Eastern	20.52
East Central	1.99
East Coast	14.21
Northern	202.93
North Central	40.94
North Eastern	25.63
Northeast Frontier	98.50
North Western	18.53
Southern	58.69
South Central	16.98
South Eastern	147.82
South East Central	43.57
South Western	16.26
Western	39.27
West Central	34.75
Production Units	5.74
Total	844.38

As and when any complaint against any Railway official regarding collusion with land mafia is received, the matter is got investigated. If any involvement of the official is found, appropriate action is taken by following prescribed procedure.

At certain locations, encroachments cause bottlenecks and safety hazards in train operations and difficulties in track maintenance which at times affects the line capacity and the throughput which ultimately affects the revenue of Railways which may not be feasible to assess.

Railways carry out regular surveys of encroachment and take action for their removal. If the encroachments are of a temporary nature (soft encroachments) in the shape of jhuggies, jhopris and squatters, the same are got removed in consultation and with the assistance of Railway Protection Force and local civil authorities. For old encroachments, where party is not amenable to persuasion, action is taken under Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorized Occupants) Act, 1971 [PPE Act, 1971], as amended from time to time. Actual eviction of unauthorized occupants is carried out with the assistance of State Government and police.
