

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2971
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.08.2017**

UNUSED LAND

†2971. SHRI RAM CHARAN BOHRA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any survey in respect of unused land available with the Railways during the last three years and if so, the State-wise details thereof;**
- (b) whether the Government is formulating any plan for commercial use of such unused land and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) the name of States where maximum and minimum unused land is available;**
- (d) whether the Government has formulated/proposes to formulate any scheme to earn revenue from unused land available with the railways in Rajasthan; and**
- (e) if so, the details thereof?**

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.2971 BY SHRI RAM CHARAN BOHRA TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 02.08.2017 REGARDING UNUSED LAND

(a) to (e): Railways have vacant land which is mostly in the form of narrow strips along the tracks. The fifteen (15) metre width of this strip from toe of the embankment comes under safety zone, as most of the electrical, signalling and other installations required for operation of trains lie in this zone, and this width is also used for servicing and maintenance of track, bridges and other railway infrastructure. The vacant land is also utilized for execution of various infrastructural projects for meeting future growth needs of Railways which include projects like doubling/tripling and traffic facilities works, etc. Railways' operations also necessarily require development of ancillary logistic support/infrastructure such as bulk oil installations and oil depots, steel yards, concrete sleeper plants, coal dumps, connectivity to private sidings, connectivity to ports and other infrastructure, commercial plots, vending stalls, etc. for which land is leased/licensed. The vacant land, which is not required by Railways for its immediate operational needs, is utilized in the interim period for commercial development through Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA), wherever feasible, in order to mobilize additional financial resources. At present 497 hectares (approximately) of land has been entrusted to RLDA for commercial development to earn revenue which also includes 30.43 hectares of land in Rajasthan. The details of Zonal Railway-wise vacant railway land for which data is maintained in the Ministry during the last three years are given below:

(Figures in hectares)

Zonal Railway	As on 31.03.2015	As on 31.03.2016	As on 31.03.2017
Central	2738.81	2680.70	2293.77

Eastern	2245.69	2246.91	2172.80
East Central	4299.16	4298.43	4148.06
East Coast	2708.98	2840.04	3138.03

...2/-

- 2 -

Zonal Railway	As on 31.03.2015	As on 31.03.2016	As on 31.03.2017
Northern	8120.36	11990.69	11612.40
North Central	746.52	787.52	740.02
North Eastern	5771.40	5770.37	5564.67
Northeast Frontier	1332.58	1401.65	1406.82
North Western	437.69	1278.08	1277.35
Southern	2577.04	2721.98	2725.70
South Central	1364.9	1363.67	1284.49
South Eastern	468.24	470.17	703.16
South East Central	3161.28	3331.15	3159.48
South Western	4190.92	4245.18	4431.98
Western	5203.83	5875.90	5889.07
West Central	486.48	621.12	617.39
Total	45853.88	51923.56	51165.19

As on 31.03.2017 maximum vacant land available is on Northern Railway (11612.40 hectares) and minimum vacant land available is on West Central Railway (617.39 hectares).
