

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 825
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.02.2018**

ENCROACHMENT ON RAILWAY LAND

825. SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether large stretches of railway land are being encroached upon in various parts of the country including northern railway;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether such encroachments have been causing serious operational and other problems;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Railways thereto; and**
- (e) the measures taken by the Railways to remove such encroachments?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)

(a) to (e) Presently, Railways has about 4.73 lakh hectare land, out of which approximately 862.00 hectare (0.18%) land is under encroachment including 205.54 hectares land of Northern Railway.

Most of the encroachments on Railway land are in the approaches of stations in Metros and big cities in the form of slums. At certain locations, these encroachments cause

bottlenecks and safety hazard in train operations and difficulties in maintenance which at times affect the line capacity and the throughput which ultimately affects the revenue of Railways.

For removal of these encroachments, Railways carry out regular surveys and take action for their removal. If the encroachments are of a temporary nature (soft encroachment) in the shape of jhuggies, jhopries and squatters, the same are got removed in consultation with and 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.
