

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1365
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.07.2018**

ENCROACHMENT ON RAILWAY LAND

**†1365. SHRIMATI REKHA VERMA:
SHRIMATI BHAVANA PUNDALIKRAO GAWALI PATIL:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has prepared any Action Plan for removal of encroachment from railway land across the country;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) the number of times demolition drive was conducted by the Railways under different zones during the year 2014 and 2017 along with the area of land cleared from encroachers as a result thereof, zone-wise;**
- (d) the total area still under encroachment along with the steps taken to clear encroachment; and**
- (e) the action being taken by the Railways on priority basis for construction of boundary wall at railway stations located in densely populated areas with a purpose to check encroachments and proper maintenance of railway stations?**

**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. 1365 BY SHRIMATI REKHA VERMA AND SHRIMATI BHAVANA PUNDALIKRAO GAWALI PATIL TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 25.07.2018 REGARDING ENCROACHMENT ON RAILWAY 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. For 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 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. The removal of encroachments by launching demolition drive is a continuous process, as a result of which in the years 2014-15 and 2017-18, 45.062 hectares of encroached land has been retrieved. During 2014 and 2017, 1797 demolition drives were conducted by the Zonal Railways to get Railway land freed from encroachments. The details of encroachment existing as on 31.03.2018 and the land retrieved from encroachments in 2014-15 and 2017-18 are as under:-

(Figures in Hectares)

Zonal Railway	Land under encroachment as on 31.03.2018	Land retrieved during the years 2014 & 2017
Central	58.05	1.310
Eastern	20.52	0.507
East Central	1.99	1.000
East Coast	14.21	3.306
Northern	202.93	3.632
North Central	40.94	0.010
North Eastern	25.63	0.210
Northeast Frontier	98.50	24.957
North Western	18.53	0.324
Southern	58.69	1.620
South Central	16.98	0.145
South Eastern	147.82	3.130
Southeast Central	43.57	2.491
South Western	16.26	0.000
Western	39.27	2.150
West Central	34.75	0.270
Production Units	5.74	0.000
Total	844.38	45.062

Railways take regular measures to protect Railway land from encroachment which includes licensing of land to Railway employees for Grow More Food (GMF) scheme, provision of boundary wall, fencing, tree plantation at vulnerable locations.

The construction of boundary wall is a priority item at such locations to check encroachment around vulnerable locations like densely populated areas around Railway stations which also help in proper maintenance of stations. During the years 2015-18, 563 kilometers of boundary wall have been constructed.
