

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3621
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.08.2018**

USE OF VACANT LAND

**†3621. SHRI BHARAT SINGH:
SHRI AJAY MISRA TENI:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has prepared/proposes to prepare any action plan for commercial use of additional land lying with the Railways;**
- (b) if so, the benefits likely to accrue to the Railways therefrom and the details of commercial activities for which such land has been given; and**
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): Indian Railways has about 0.52 lakh hectare (approximately) of vacant land, which is mostly in the form of narrow strips along the tracks, and is used for servicing and maintenance of track, bridges and other railway infrastructure. This 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 & 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. From such usage of land, Railways earned ₹5286.96 crore in last 3 years. 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 by leasing the land through open transparent bidding for activities like Commercial Complexes, Hotel, Malls etc. in order to mobilize additional financial resources. At present, 59 land parcels measuring 214 hectares (approximately) where commercial development seems feasible, have been entrusted to RLDA.
