

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 568  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.02.2019**

**OPEN DEFECATION**

**†568. SHRI LALLU SINGH:**

**SHRIMATI BHAVANA PUNDALIKRAO GAWALI PATIL:**

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government is aware that people are facing a lot of inconvenience due to open defecation near railway stations;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the Government has taken any initiative under the Swachh Bharat Programme to maintain cleanliness near railway stations of the country and to construct public toilets; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)**

**(a) to (d) Yes, Madam. The problem of open defecation near the railway stations largely exists where the population adjoining the railway land lack the basic amenities and/or railway land has been encroached upon. It not only causes public nuisance but also affects the safety of train operations due to inability of Railway Staff to work in such areas.**

**Indian Railways has undertaken a series of measures to address this problem as under:**

- (i) Guidelines have been issued to zonal railways to permit provision of suitable mobile toilets / eco-friendly mobile toilets by the local Government for the use of encroachers in the railway land to avoid human defecation on the railway track and nearby.**
- (ii) Adequate toilets as per norms have been provided at railway stations for the passengers. Toilets are also being provided in circulating area for general use.**
- (iii) Regular cleaning drives and awareness campaigns under Swachh Bharat Mission have been undertaken for keeping railway premises clean which include prevention of open defecation.**
- (iv) Indian Railways was actively associated with the Government of India's initiative for generating awareness for prevention of open defecation alongside the railway tracks in coordination with local Government.**
- (v) At major trespass locations alongside the stations in the city areas, wherever feasible boundary wall has also been planned.**

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