

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1985  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.07.2019**

**PROPER UTILISATION OF VACANT LAND**

**†1985. SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH JAUNAPURIA:**

**SHRI RAMCHARAN BOHRA:**

**SHRI GOPAL CHINNAYA SHETTY:**

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

- (a) whether major chunk of railway land is lying vacant in different zones of railway and if so, the details thereof, State and Zone-wise;**
- (b) whether the Government is aware that land is lying vacant in Sawai Madhopur and if so, the facts thereof;**
- (c) whether the Railways has any plan to provide vacant land to the poor on lease and if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) whether there is any plan to set up hospitals, schools or other training centres on vacant land of Railways; and**
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the monitoring mechanism chalked out to protect such vacant land from encroachment as well as for its proper development and use ?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND COMMERCE & INDUSTRY**

**(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)**

**(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.**

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1985 BY SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH JAUNAPURIA, SHRI RAMCHARAN BOHRA AND SHRI GOPAL CHINNAYA SHETTY TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 03.07.2019 REGARDING PROPER UTILISATION OF VACANT LAND.**

**(a): As on 31.03.2018, Indian Railways has about 0.51 lakh hectare (approximately) of vacant land. The Railways do not maintain State-wise details of vacant Railway land. However, zone-wise details/data are maintained by Railways and the same are as under:-**

**(Figures in hectares)**

<b>Zonal Railway</b>	<b>Vacant Land</b>
<b>Central</b>	<b>2022.03</b>
<b>Eastern</b>	<b>2110.49</b>
<b>East Central</b>	<b>4094.75</b>
<b>East Coast</b>	<b>3011.28</b>
<b>Northern</b>	<b>11438.69</b>
<b>North Central</b>	<b>735.11</b>
<b>North Eastern</b>	<b>5564.67</b>
<b>Northeast Frontier</b>	<b>1410.45</b>
<b>North Western</b>	<b>1277.35</b>
<b>Southern</b>	<b>2741.44</b>
<b>South Central</b>	<b>1276.58</b>
<b>South Eastern</b>	<b>464.76</b>
<b>South East Central</b>	<b>3142.72</b>
<b>South Western</b>	<b>4662.15</b>
<b>Western</b>	<b>6258.54</b>
<b>West Central</b>	<b>617.45</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>50828.46</b>

**(b): Yes, Sir. In Sawai Madhopur an area of 8.34 Ha of Railway land is lying vacant.**

**(c): The vacant land is mostly in the form of narrow strips along tracks and is utilized for servicing and maintenance of track, bridges, other infrastructure and execution of various infrastructural projects for meeting future growth needs of Railways. The vacant land is also utilized for ancillary logistic support/infrastructure such as bulk oil installations and oil depots, steel yards, concrete sleeper plants, connectivity to private sidings, connectivity to ports 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, to mobilize additional financial resources. Railway has no plan to provide vacant land to the poor on lease.**

**(d): Railways provide hospitals, schools or other training centres on vacant land as per the requirement for its employees and their family members.**

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

**Further, in order to safeguard vacant Railway land, regular inspections are carried out at various levels. In case any trespass is noticed which may eventually lead to encroachment, it is removed then**

**and there. If the encroachments are of 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.**

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