

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 547
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.09.2020**

ENCROACHMENT BY SLUMS NEAR RAILWAY TRACKS

†547. SHRI KAUSHAL KISHORE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the jhuggis/slum areas along the railway tracks in several States including Delhi have been instructed to be removed as per the recent Supreme Court orders;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has any data regarding the jhuggis/slums situated illegally along the railway tracks in different States including Uttar Pradesh;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any incident of deaths of migrant workers while sleeping on the railway tracks during lockdown imposed due to COVID-19 has been reported recently and the details thereof; and

(f) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and the compensation provided by the State Government/ Central Government to their family members?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) to (f): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 547 BY SHRI KAUSHAL KISHORE TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 16.09.2020 REGARDING ENCROACHMENT BY SLUMS NEAR RAILWAY TRACKS

(a) and (b): Hon'ble Supreme Court in its order dated 31.08.2020 in Writ Petition(s) No.(s)13029/1985 issued in the context of piling up of the waste/garbage by the sides of railway tracks in Delhi has directed for preparation of a comprehensive plan for removal of jhuggis present along the railway track and removal of encroachments in the safety zone in the region of National Capital Territory of Delhi within a period of 3 months.

(c) and (d): Most of the encroachments on Railway land are in the approaches of stations in Metros and big cities in the form of slums around railway tracks. The State-wise details are not maintained by the Railways. However, the Zone-wise details which include encroachment in Uttar Pradesh also, as on 31.03.2020, are as given below:

(Figures in Hectares)

Zonal Railway	Land under encroachment as on 31.03.2020
Central	56.10
Eastern	20.52
East Central	1.52
East Coast	13.89
Northern	175.99
North Central	41.44
North Eastern	25.39
Northeast Frontier	93.93
North Western	18.29
Southern	54.79
South Central	15.98
South Eastern	141.16
Southeast Central	42.99
South Western	16.26
Western	53.93
West Central	36.65
Production Units	5.72
Total	814.55

(e) and (f): An unusual incident of run over of 16 migrant labourers by a Goods Train was reported between Badnapur-Karmad Railway Stations of Parbhani-Manmad broad gauge section of Nanded Division of South Central Railway on 08.05.2020. Since the Railways were not at fault, no compensation or ex-gratia was paid in this case. However, purely on humanitarian grounds, an amount of ₹ 32 Lakh at the rate of ₹ 2 Lakh each to the family of 16 labourers was paid by Prime Minister's National Relief Fund (PMNRF), wherein the payment was disbursed through South Central and South East Central Railways. Further, the Government of Madhya Pradesh has also announced compensation to the families of the deceased.
