

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 79
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.02.2022**

ENCROACHMENT OF RAILWAY LAND

79. SHRI GNANATHIRAVIAM S.:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether large stretches of railway land are being encroached upon in various parts of the country including Tamil Nadu;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether such encroachments have been causing serious operational and other problems;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Railways thereto;**
and
- (e) the measures taken by the Railways to remove such encroachments?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) & (b): As on 31.03.2021, a total of 810.31 hectare of Railway land is under encroachment in various parts of the country including Tamil Nadu.

(c) & (d): Encroachments cause bottleneck and safety hazard in train operations and difficulties in track maintenance which at times affects

the line capacity and through put which ultimately affects the revenue of Railways. Encroachments also pose problem for execution of development works.

(e): Railways carry out regular surveys for identifying encroachments and take action for their removal. If the encroachments are of temporary nature (soft encroachments) in the shape of jhuggies, jhopris 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.
