

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 56
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.07.2022**

SLUM DWELLERS ON RAILWAY LAND

**†*56. MS. LOCKET CHATTERJEE:
SHRI MANOJ KOTAK:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways has removed railway track side encroachments by undertaking demolition drives in the country;**
- (b) if so, the details of the demolition drives undertaken in the country especially in Mumbai, zone-wise;**
- (c) the number of slum dwellers removed/evicted from railway land during the last three years and till date, State-wise, including in Mumbai since the announcement of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY); and**
- (d) the number of slum dwellers rehabilitated after being removed from railway land till date, State-wise, particularly in Mumbai and Amravati under the said scheme?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)**

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 56 BY MS. LOCKET CHATTERJEE AND SHRI MANOJ KOTAK TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 20.07.2022 REGARDING SLUM DWELLERS ON RAILWAY LAND

(a) to (c): Removal of encroachments, which includes slums on Railway land and track side encroachments, by Railways is a continuous process. During the last three years, 38.64 Hectare of encroached Railway land (including slums) has been retrieved from encroachment. The state-wise data of removal of encroachment is not maintained. However, the details of zonal railway-wise demolition drives conducted during the last 3 years and upto June, 2022 are as under:-

Zonal Railway	No. of drives conducted	No. of encroachments removed
Central	87	1544
Eastern	651	2662
East Central	89	2749
East Coast	151	949
Northern	162	2233
North Central	128	369
North Eastern	40	1623
Northeast Frontier	159	593
North Western	8	22
Southern	281	396
South Central	12	486
South Eastern	65	492
South East Central	26	401
South Western	0	0
Western	335	9780
West Central	20	317
Total	2214	24616

Further, in the city of Mumbai which comes under the jurisdiction of Central and Western Railways, a total of 322 No. of demolition drives were conducted and 6636 No. of encroachments have been removed since the announcement of PMAY i.e. from the year 2015 to June, 2022.

Implementation of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY), a scheme of Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs, is not feasible on Railway land as Railway's land, which is mostly in the form of narrow strips along tracks, is required for Railway's operational and infrastructural needs.

(d): There is no provision of rehabilitation in Railway Act whose Section 147 only provides for eviction of unauthorized occupants from railway's land. Housing is a State Subject and responsibility for providing alternative sites for rehabilitation / resettlement as well as bearing cost for the same, vests with the State Governments or the Urban Local Bodies concerned. However, in the case of Mumbai Urban Transport Project (MUTP) project partly funded by World Bank, Railways, as one time exception, is sharing the cost of Rehabilitation of all Project Affected Persons including encroacher with the State Government of Maharashtra on 50:50 basis primarily as World Bank stipulated this as a pre-condition for the loan. Accordingly, 361 slum dwellers have been rehabilitated under this project in Mumbai.
