

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 95
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.03.2016**

ENCROACHMENT OF RAILWAY LAND

**†* 95. COL. SONARAM CHOUDHARY:
SHRI SULTAN AHMED:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any action plan to remove encroachments from the railway land across the country and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the number of times the demolition drive was conducted by the Railways under its various zones during 2014 and 2015 and the land in hectares, freed from the encroachers, zone-wise;

(c) the total area of land still under possession of encroachers and the steps being taken to free it; and

(d) whether action being taken by the Railways to construct boundary walls at railway stations located in densely populated areas in order to check encroachment and for proper maintenance of stations on priority basis and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU)

(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. 95 BY COL. SONARAM CHOUDHARY AND
SHRI SULTAN AHMED TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON
02.03.2016 REGARDING ENCROACHMENT OF RAILWAY LAND**

(a) to (d): As on 31.03.2015, out of 4.61 lakh hectare land available with Indian Railways, only approximately 914.80 hectare (0.19%) land is under encroachment. For these encroachments, Railways carry out regular surveys and take action for their removal. If the encroachments are of a 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. The removal of encroachments by launching demolition drive is a continuous process, as a result of which in the last three years and current year (up to January 2016), 106 hectares of encroached land has been retrieved. During 2014 and 2015, 1261 demolition drives were conducted by the Zonal Railways to get Railway land freed from encroachments.

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The details of encroachment and the land retrieved from encroachments in the last two years are as under:

(Figures in Hectares)

Zonal Railway	Land under encroachment as on 31.03.2015	Land retrieved during the year 2014-15	Land retrieved during the year 2015-16 (upto January 2016)
Central	60	0.15	0.69
Eastern	21	0.46	0.29
East Central	3	0.46	0.56
East Coast	17	2.76	1.68
Northern	209.19	1.02	2.68
North Central	41.17	0.01	0.19
North Eastern	25.63	0.06	0
Northeast Frontier	126	21.32	18
North Western	19	0	0
Southern	60.51	1.1	0.01
South Central	18.77	0	0.7
South Eastern	158.10	0.78	1
Southeast Central	55.45	0.03	6.28
South Western	16.26	0.0	0.005
Western	41.44	0.0	0
West Central	36.78	0.24	0
Production Units	5.74	0	0
Total	914.80	28.39	32.085

Besides demolition, regular measures are taken to protect Railway land from encroachment which includes licensing of land to Railway employees for Grow More Food (GMF) scheme, provision of boundary wall, fencing, tree plantation at vulnerable locations.

During last three years (2012-2015), 352 kilometer boundary walls have been constructed to check encroachment around vulnerable locations like densely populated areas around Railway stations.