

(f) It has emerged from the study of pattern of accidents that manning of unmanned level crossings is not an ideal solution for avoiding accidents. Therefore, the policy of manning of unmanned level crossings has been reviewed and Railways have decided to progressively eliminate all unmanned level crossings by:

- **Closure** Closing unmanned level crossings having NIL/negligible Train Vehicle Unit(TVU).
- **Merger** Merger of unmanned level crossing gate to nearby manned or unmanned gates or subway or Road Under Bridge (RUB) or Road Over Bridge (ROB) by construction of diversion road.
- **Provision of Subways/RUBs.**
- **Manning** The unmanned level crossings which cannot be eliminated by above means will be progressively manned based on rail-road traffic volume, visibility conditions.

#### **Unutilised railway land**

†152. SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways have a large area of unutilised land throughout the country;

(b) if so, whether Railways have made any assessment of this unutilised land;

(c) if so, the details of such land, State-wise;

(d) whether Government is contemplating any plan to utilise or to sell this land; and (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY) : (a) to (e) Indian Railway network occupies a land area measuring about 10.65 lakh acres. Ninety per cent of this land is directly

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

under railway tracks, yards, workshops and allied infrastructure. The vacant land, measuring about 1.13 lakh acres is mostly in the form of a narrow strip along tracks which railways have been utilizing, or plan to utilize, for its expansion in the form of doubling, third line, quadrupling, gauge conversion, freight corridors, yard remodelling, traffic facility works, workshops, etc. for servicing and maintenance of track and other rail related infrastructure. Vacant railway land/air-space not required by Railways for its immediate future operational needs is utilized for commercial development through Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA), wherever feasible by leasing of Railway land. State-wise record of land holding are not maintained. However, zone wise details are as under:

Railway	Vacant land (in acres)
Central	6188
Eastern	3792
East Central	8620
East Coast	4707
Northern	9489
North Central	1079
North Eastern	14352
Northeast Frontier	11718
North Western	5953
Southern	5673
South Central	5557
South Eastern	4467
Southeast Central	9659
South Western	2255
Western	17970
West Central	1458
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>112937</b>