

Traffic congestion outside railway stations

3539. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether blatant encroachment by hawkers, vendors and illegally parked auto rickshaws continues outside the railway stations of major cities in the country, leading to chaos and traffic snarls;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government to ease traffic congestion outside the railway station;

(c) whether Railways have coordinated with the various municipal corporations and traffic police departments in the major cities in the matter;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State and city-wise, for last three years and the current year and the outcome thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) No, Sir. There is no blatant encroachment by hawkers, vendors and illegally parked auto rickshaws outside the Railway stations of the major cities. However, sustained efforts are being made by Railway administration to provide adequate space in circulating areas to ease traffic congestion at major Railway stations by regulating the vehicles in queue system and providing separate parking facilities for two wheelers, three wheelers and four wheelers. Besides, regular drives are being conducted by Railway Protection Force and Government Railway Police in coordination with the City Traffic Police against the offenders and prosecuting them under the provisions of the Railways Act and other penal sections.

(c) to (e) Railway administration maintains close liaison with the civil authorities and Traffic Police of the major cities in ensuring proper maintenance of traffic at the circulating area of the major stations and keeping the activities of hawkers/vendors and illegal parking of auto rickshaws outside Railway station premises under check.