

(b) whether it is also a fact that the tensile strength of the existing railway track was "not adequate" for 25-tonne axle load operations; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the remedial steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) Rail being supplied by Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) to Indian Railway meets the quality parameters of Indian Railway Standard Specification for Flat Bottom Rails Serial No.-T-12-2009, with its latest amendments, issued by the Research Designs & Standards Organisation (RDSO) of Indian Railways (IR).

(b) and (c) Based on RDSO's recommendation, for the track structure for 25-tonne (25T) axle load on mixed traffic, the minimum requirement of rail is 60kg section having Ultimate Tensile Strength (UTS) of 1080MPa(N/mm²) and with minimum yield strength of 560MPa(N/mm²). Considering the requirement for 25T axle load, RDSO has developed the specification for rail grade 1175HT having minimum UTS 1175MPa(N/mm²). The Special Technical Conditions and Inspection & Testing regime for 1175HT grade rails have been shared with Ministry of Steel and SAIL and they have been requested to develop such rails domestically.

Profitability of railways

2191. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the operating ratio of Railways in the last five years;
- (b) the Compound Annual Growth Rate of Railways in the last five years; and
- (c) the net revenue accrued to Railways in the last five years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) The Operating Ratio of Railways in the last five years is given below:

Year	Operating Ratio
2014-15	91.3%
2015-16	90.5%
2016-17	96.5%
2017-18	98.4%
2018-19	97.3%

(b) The Compound Annual Growth Rate of Railways' Gross Traffic Receipts in the last five years (2013-14 to 2018-19) was 6.4%.

(c) The Net Revenue accrued to Railways in the last five years, year-wise is given below:

Year	Net Revenue (₹ in crore)
2014-15	16,838
2015-16	19,228
2016-17	4,913
2017-18	1,666
2018-19	3,774

The Operating Ratio and Net Revenue have been adversely affected after 2015-16 due to implementation of 7th Central Pay Commission's recommendations, the annual recurring impact whereof is over ₹22,000 crore on the Revenue expenditure of the Railways.

Encroachment/illegal occupation of railway land

2192. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that instances of encroachment/illegal occupation of railway land are increasing in recent years;

(b) if so, the details of railway land encroached or illegally occupied in the country and measures taken to free the land from encroachment/illegal occupation;

(c) whether there is any national policy on public/private use of railway land; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (d) No, Sir. The instances of encroachment/illegal occupation of railway land in recent years, have decreased due to closed monitoring by the Railways. The details of Railway's land under encroachment/illegal occupation during the last 5 years are as under:-