

(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/mm<sup>2</sup>) and with minimum yield strength of 560MPa(N/mm<sup>2</sup>). Considering the requirement for 25T axle load, RDSO has developed the specification for rail grade 1175HT having minimum UTS 1175MPa(N/mm<sup>2</sup>). 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:-