

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1243
ANSWERED ON 11.02.2022

RAILWAY LAND

1243# DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total land/area of land owned by Railways in the country;
- (b) the total area of land being used and the reasons for remaining area left unused;
- (c) the market value of the area owned by Railways;
- (d) the total area of railway land which is occupied illegally; and
- (e) the steps taken to vacate the railway land from illegal occupation?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1243 BY DR KIRODI LAL MEENA ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 11.02.2022 REGARDING RAILWAY LAND

(a) to (c): As on 31.03.2021, the total land available with the Indian Railways is 4.84 lakh hectares out of which 4.22 lakh hectare land is under operational and allied usages and 0.62 lakh hectare (approximately) land is vacant. This vacant land is mostly in the form of narrow strips along tracks and is utilized for servicing and maintenance of track, bridges and other infrastructure. The vacant land is also utilized for execution of various infrastructural projects for meeting future growth needs of Railways which include projects like doubling/tripling and traffic facilities works, etc. Railways' operations also necessarily require development of ancillary logistic support/infrastructure such as bulk oil installations and oil depots, steel yards, concrete sleeper plants, coal dumps, connectivity to private sidings, connectivity to ports and other infrastructure, commercial plots, vending stalls, etc. for which land is leased/licensed. The Railways do not maintain market price of land as it is governed by various factors and keeps on fluctuating.

(d) and (e): Out of 4.84 lakh hectare land available with Indian Railways, approximately 810.31 hectare land (0.17%) is under encroachment. For prevention/removal of encroachments, Railways carry out regular surveys of encroachment and take action for their removal. If the encroachments are of temporary nature (soft encroachments) in the shape of jhuggies, jhopris and squatters, the same are removed in consultation with and 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.
