

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:35

ANSWERED ON:02.12.2004

CONSTRUCTION OF WALLS TO REDUCE THE MENACE OF ENCROACHMENT

Patil Shri Shrinivas Dadasaheb

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is planning to construct armed boundary walls around the railway property in metropolitan cities like Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata to reduce the menace of encroachment;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to protect the railway properties from being encroached upon by slum dwellers in metropolitan cities of Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata and Delhi;

(c) whether the Government is also planning to commercialise the un-used lands belonging to railways to mobilise funds for development; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 35 BY SHRI SHRINIVAS DADASAHEB PATIL TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 02.12.2004 REGARDING CONSTRUCTION OF WALLS TO REDUCE THE MENACE OF ENCROACHMENT.

(a) & (b) : Construction of boundary walls have been taken up, specially in the metropolitan cities to protect railway land from encroachments, including slum dwellers. However, there is no such proposal to construct armed boundary walls. Apart from boundary walls, the land is put to plantation, landscaping, and thorn bearing trees along the boundary to prevent encroachments.

(c) : Yes, Sir; Railways have taken up commercial use of vacant Railway land / air space having potential.

(d) : Under the scheme, the available/developable land is/shall be given on long lease to Developers/Promoters on payment of lease money up-front and nominal annual licence/lease charges. In addition, some of the floor space shall be kept reserved for Railway's own use. The development will be done in tune with local bye-laws and with such approvals as may be needed from local bodies/State Government