

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5063  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.07.2019**

**ENCROACHMENT IN SOUTHERN RAILWAY**

**5063. DR. A. CHALLAKUMAR:**

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether large stretches of railway land are being encroached upon in various parts of the Southern Railway;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof, division-wise;**
- (c) whether such encroachments have been causing serious operational and other problems; and**
- (d) if so, the measures taken by the Railways to remove such encroachments?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND COMMERCE & INDUSTRY  
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)**

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

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5063 BY DR. A. CHALLAKUMAR TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 24.07.2019 REGARDING ENCROACHMENT IN SOUTHERN RAILWAY**

**(a) to (d): As on 31.03.2019, against total land holding of about 26884.70 Hectare, 55.42 Hectare land (0.2%) is under encroachment in Southern Railway. The division-wise details of encroachment is as under:-**

<b>Divisions</b>	<b>Area under encroachment(in hectares)</b>
<b>Chennai</b>	<b>29.77</b>
<b>Salem</b>	<b>6.13</b>
<b>Palakkad</b>	<b>0.11</b>
<b>Thiruvananthapuram</b>	<b>3.06</b>
<b>Tiruchchirapalli</b>	<b>4.98</b>
<b>Madurai</b>	<b>11.37</b>

**Encroachments causes bottleneck and safety hazard in train operations and difficulties in track maintenance which at times affects the line capacity and throughput which ultimately affects the revenue of Railways. Encroachments also pose problem for execution of development works.**

**Encroachments of temporary nature (soft encroachment) in the shape of jhuggies, jhopries and squatters are removed in consultation and with 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 Unauthorised 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.**