

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3505
ANSWERED ON 31.03.2023

CAPACITY OF RAILWAY TRACKS UTILIZED

3505 SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) percentage of the Railway tracks which are operating at more than 100 per cent capacity, the reasons therefor;
- (b) the implications on tracks for being over-burdened; and
- (c) plan of the Ministry to tackle these issues, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

- (a) As per National Rail Plan, 26% of Railway sections are operating at more than 100% line capacity. Due to continuous economic growth and demand for rail transportation in both the passenger and freight sector, the line capacity utilization of sections is increasing.
- (b) The line capacity utilization more than a certain limit may result in congestion and detention of trains thereby reduced speed and increased transit time of cargo.
- (c) Railways have prepared a plan namely "National Rail Plan" (NRP) to create a 'future ready' Railway system for India. It aims to formulate strategies based on both operational capacities and commercial policy initiatives to reduce congestion, increase speed, reduce transit time, reduce cost for railways as well as customer. As part of the National Rail Plan, certain critical and important projects such as 100% electrification, multi-tracking of congested routes, upgradation of speed to 160 kmph on Delhi-Howrah and Delhi-Mumbai routes, upgradation of speed to 130 kmph on all other Golden Quadrilateral-Golden Diagonal (GQ/GD) routes and elimination of all Level Crossings on all GQ/GD route etc. have been taken up on priority.
