

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2570
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2003
TRAIN ACCIDENT AT GAISAL
SURESH KODIKUNNIL

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the ghastly accident at Gaisal in which more than 600 people died was found to have been caused by human error;
- (b) if so, the punitive action taken against the concerned staff found responsible for the accident; and
- (c) the present status in regard to settlement of claims to the victims of said accident?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA)

(a): Yes, Sir. The accident caused deaths of 286 persons and injuries to other 359 persons. G.N.Ray Commission, which inquired into the accident, concluded that the head-on collision that took place at Gaisal on 02.08.1999 between Dn Dibrugarh-Delhi Brahmaputra Mail and 5610 Up Awadh Assam Express occurred due to `failure of Railway staff`.

(b): G.N.Ray Commission constituted for the purpose, fixed responsibility on 35 Railway officials. In addition, Ministry of Railway held 15 more officials `blameworthy` on review of the report. Disciplinary Action has been taken against those held responsible based on the gravity of the negligence.

(c): 609 claims were filed and 603 of them have been settled. Rs.10.53 crores have been paid as compensation. An amount of Rs.46.94 lakhs was paid as ex-gratia.