

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2804
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2001
ENQUIRY REPORT OF KURLA-HOWRAH EXPRESS DERAILMENT CASE
Y.G. MAHAJAN

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the enquiry committee set up to inquire into the causes of derailment of Kurla-Howrah Express on December 3, 1998 on Bhusawal Division has submitted its report;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

(a) to (c): A Statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2804 BY SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 15.03.2001 REGARDING ENQUIRY REPORT OF KURLA-HOWRAH EXPRESS DERAILMENT CASE.

(a) to (c): Yes, Sir. The cause of this accident was inquired into by the Commissioner of Railway Safety/Central Circle, Mumbai. As per his findings the accident occurred due to sudden failure of a fatigued Alumino-thermic (AT) weld of the Continuously Welded Rail (CWR).

The detection of cracks in rails or welds is done by Ultrasonic Flaw Detection System, the efficacy of which is under study of a Technical Development Group consisting of Dr. Baldev Raj of Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research, Kalpakkam and other officers. Action has also been initiated for development of gadgets for detection and thereafter removal of defective wheels of wagons that enhance the impact on the rail, causing this failure. Action to detect weld and rail cracks by patrolling of railway tracks during vulnerable temperature conditions has also been taken.