

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.292
ANSWERED ON 21.07.2023

REPORT OF COMMISSION OF RAILWAY SAFETY ON BALASORE ACCIDENT

292 DR. PRASHANTA NANDA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Commission of Railway Safety (CRS) report regarding rail accident in Balasore;
- (b) the major suggestions recommended by CRS to strengthen safety of passengers;
- (c) whether it is a fact that according to CRS the accident occurred due to human error on the part of on-duty officials in the Signalling and Telecom Department as well as the Traffic Department; and
- (d) if so, the action taken by Railways in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) & (b): The Commissioner of Railway Safety has submitted its Inquiry Report and cause of the accident has been established as:

The rear-collision was due to the lapses in the signalling- circuit-alteration carried out at the North Signal Goomty (of the station) in the past, and during the execution of the signalling work related to replacement of Electric Lifting Barrier for level crossing gate no. 94 at the Station. These lapses resulted in wrong signalling to the Train No. 12841 wherein the UP Home Signal indicated Green aspect for run-through movement on the UP main line of the station, but the crossover connecting the UP main line to the UP loop line (crossover 17 A/B) was set to the UP loop line; the wrong signalling resulted in the Train No. 12841 traversing on the UP loop line, and eventual rear-collision with the Goods train (No. N/DDIP) standing there.

The recommendation given by CRS are being implemented.

(c): Yes, Sir.

(d): Seven (07) Railway officials have been suspended and D&AR proceedings have been initiated against these officials.
