

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3370  
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2003  
RAIL ACCIDENT AT PALGHAT NEW MUMBAI  
DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA

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

- (a) whether enquiry and investigation of the recent Rail accident at Palghat New Mumbai on Western Railway completed;
- (b) if so, the prima facie reasons therefor;
- (c) the loss and problems caused to the commuters;
- (d) the number of days for Western Railway traffic was disrupted;
- (e) the steps taken against the erring staff of Railways; and
- (f) the further corrective action Railways propose to take in the matter?

**Answer**

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

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3370 ASKED BY SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 13.03.2003 REGARDING RAIL ACCIDENT AT PALGHAT NEW MUMBAI

(a) & (b): The Commissioner of Railway Safety, Western Circle has conducted the inquiry into the derailment of 117 Dn Bandra Terminus-Dahanu Road Shuttle between Palgarh and Boisar stations on Virar – Dahanu Road Section of Mumbai Division of Western Railway on 31.01.2003. As per provisional findings in the Preliminary Report, this accident occurred due to `rail fracture`.

(c) & (d): Due to disruption of through traffic for about 42 hours services of 28 mail/express trains and 19 passenger trains were cancelled, partially cancelled or rescheduled and another 10 Mail trains had to be diverted.

(e): Action can be taken on receipt of the final report only.

(f): Following necessary action on the recommendations of Commissioner of Railway Safety is being taken :-

(i) Visual examination of rails from Mumbai Central to Vadodara to identify rails with severe local corrosion and hair line cracks and replacement of defective rails.

(ii) Ensuring that Section Engineer (P.Way) accompanies the USFD PWI during rail testing.

(iii) Inspection of fittings including guard rail fittings of all major bridges to ensure that complement of fitting is complete and in good state of maintenance.