Harda twin train derailment

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Harda twin train derailment** | |
| **Details** | |
| **Time** | 4 August 2015, 23:30 [IST](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Standard_Time) |
| **Location** | Near [Kurawan](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Kurawan_railway_station&action=edit&redlink=1" \o "Kurawan railway station (page does not exist)) station, [Harda district](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harda_district" \o "Harda district), [Madhya Pradesh](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Madhya_Pradesh), [India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/India) |
| **Coordinates** | https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/5/55/WMA_button2b.png/17px-WMA_button2b.png[22.22320°N 76.93053°E](https://tools.wmflabs.org/geohack/geohack.php?pagename=Harda_twin_train_derailment&params=22.2232_N_76.93053_E_type:event) |
| **Country** | India |
| **Line** | Khandwa-Itarsi Railway line |
| **Operator** | [Indian Railways](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Railways) |
| **Incident type** | [Derailment](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Derailment) |
| **Cause** | Trackbed washed away |
| **Statistics** | |
| **Trains** | Two |
| **Passengers** | 300+ |
| **Deaths** | 31 |
| **Injuries** | ~100 |
| |  | | --- | | hide | | [Madhya Pradesh district location map Harda.svg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Madhya_Pradesh_district_location_map_Harda.svg) | | |

On 4 August 2015, two passenger trains – [Kamayani Express](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kamayani_Express" \o "Kamayani Express) and [Janata Express](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rajendranagar_Express" \o "Rajendranagar Express) – derailed near Kurawan and bhringi railway station, 20 kilometres (12 mi) southwest of [Harda](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harda" \o "Harda), [Madhya Pradesh](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Madhya_Pradesh).[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harda_twin_train_derailment#cite_note-1)[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harda_twin_train_derailment#cite_note-2) At least 31 people were killed and 100 people were injured.[[*citation needed*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Citation_needed)]

Accident[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Harda_twin_train_derailment&action=edit&section=1" \o "Edit section: Accident)]

The Kamayani Express, which was headed to [Varanasi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Varanasi) on the down line, derailed as flash floods (caused by [Cyclonic Storm Komen](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cyclonic_Storm_Komen)) dislodged a [culvert](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Culvert) near the [Machak river](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Machak_river&action=edit&redlink=1" \o "Machak river (page does not exist)), causing track misalignment. The derailment resulted in some coaches becoming submerged in the river and some coaches blocking the up line. The Janata Express derailed near the same spot soon after. At least 31 people died and 100 people were injured. Several people were reported to be washed away by the river.[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harda_twin_train_derailment#cite_note-3)[[4]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harda_twin_train_derailment#cite_note-4)[[5]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harda_twin_train_derailment#cite_note-:0-5)[[6]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harda_twin_train_derailment#cite_note-6) Six coaches of the Kamayani Express and the engine plus the four coaches of the Janata Express derailed.[[7]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harda_twin_train_derailment#cite_note-ndtv-7)

A train safely crossed the bridge ten minutes before the first derailment. The river level was abnormally high, and flash floods gradually washed away the trackbed, resulting in sinking of the track. The driver of the Janata Express applied the brakes but could not stop the train from derailing.[[7]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harda_twin_train_derailment#cite_note-ndtv-7)[[8]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harda_twin_train_derailment#cite_note-8)

Rescue[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Harda_twin_train_derailment&action=edit&section=2" \o "Edit section: Rescue)]

Rescuers searched through the night for survivors and bodies. Over 300 people were rescued. The adverse weather conditions delayed the arrival of the rescue teams. Local residents were reported to have helped initially.[[9]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harda_twin_train_derailment#cite_note-:1-9) By the morning of 5 August, the derailed trains had been removed and the bodies of the victims had been recovered.[[10]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harda_twin_train_derailment#cite_note-BBC33783060-10) Over 25 trains traveling from [Mumbai](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mumbai), [Punjab](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Punjab,_India), [Uttar Pradesh](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uttar_Pradesh), and Madhya Pradesh were stopped or diverted, mainly into neighboring [Rajasthan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rajasthan).[[9]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harda_twin_train_derailment#cite_note-:1-9)

Investigation[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Harda_twin_train_derailment&action=edit&section=3)]

The Commissioner for Railway Safety in the [Central Railway zone](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Central_Railway_zone) opened an inquiry into the accident.