

- ii. Neither the inquiry proceedings nor the covering letter forwarding them, nor remarks on inquiry proceedings shall contain any reference to the disciplinary action to be taken against the staff held responsible. While forwarding the inquiry proceedings, the Divisional Railway Manager besides indicating whether he agrees with the cause of the accident or not, should also mention if in his opinion there is *prima-facie* cause for instituting disciplinary proceedings against staff, if any, held responsible. Only on receipt of the orders of the Chief Safety Officer regarding the finding in the inquiry proceedings, shall disciplinary action be taken by the appropriate authorities in accordance with Discipline and Appeal Rules. The actual punishment imposed on the staff shall be communicated to the Chief Safety Officer within the stipulated time.
- iii. In all cases where inquiries are conducted under the Railways (Notices of and Inquiries into accidents) Rules, 1973 and where, there is *prima-facie* suspicion of sabotage having been committed, the Security Commissioner of the Division should invariably be associated with such inquiries and the findings in such cases invariably be routed through the Chief Security Commissioner and vetted jointly by Chief Security Commissioner and Chief Safety Officer.
- iv. If the Magistracy or the Railway Police or the Local Police require a copy of the Inquiry Proceedings or the findings, they have to apply to the Chief Safety Officer. Neither the Inquiry Committee nor any other official is authorised to comply with such requests.

929 Acceptance of Findings: The findings of Inquiries into accident cases should be accepted by DRM / GM

- a) If the findings are not accepted by the DRM / GM, a fresh inquiry shall be ordered.
- b) If the findings of Sr. Supervisors of inquiry Committee are not accepted, an inquiry at Officers level should be ordered by the DRM.
- c) In the case of a joint inquiry, if findings are not accepted, the matter may be referred to the same committee or a new committee may be constituted.
- (d) Accident Inquiry Reports with staff of foreign railway responsibility should be put to AGM directly being the Accepting Authority in such cases. If the post of AGM is not available, SDGM may be nominated as the Accepting Authority. In the absence of SDGM post also, the Chief Safety Officer will act as the Accepting Authority for such accident inquiry reports, wherein staff of foreign Railway is held responsible.

930 Reports of inquiries to Commissioner of Railway Safety :

- a) Whenever any , not of the nature specified in section 113 of the Act, such as averted collisions, breach of block rules or other technical accidents, occur in the course of working a railway, the Railway Administration concerned may cause an inquiry either Jointly or Departmentally to be held into the accident.
- b) Where an inquiry is held as provided above, the Head of the Railway Administration concerned shall forward a copy of the report of the inquiry to the Commissioner of Railway Safety.

931 Submission of Inquiry Reports:

- a) Submission of Inquiry report to DRM by President of the inquiry committee: The President of the Inquiry Committee shall be responsible for the timely preparation and submission of the inquiry report. The inquiry report shall be submitted to the DRM through Sr.DSO / DSO within 7 days from the date of accident. The Sr.DSO / DSO will put up the inquiry report with his observations to the DRM for acceptance.