

904.4 Police Inquiry: The Railway Police may make an investigation into the causes which led to the accident occurring in the course of working a railway. Whenever any such accident is attended with loss of human life or with grievous hurt or with serious damage to railway property of the value exceeding Rs.2 Crore or has *prima facie* been due to any criminal act or omission. This can be parallel, if required, to any other enquiry.

904.5 Joint inquiry: Whenever an accident, such as mentioned in section 113 of the Act, has occurred in the course of working a railway, the Head of the Railway Administration concerned shall order an inquiry to be promptly made by a Committee of Railway Officers, to be called as ‘Joint Inquiry’, for the thorough investigation of the cause which led to the accident.

In specific cases, where considered necessary, Inter-departmental Inquiries will be ordered by the General Manager. In such cases, the General Manager will specify the Officers or Senior subordinates who shall constitute the Inquiry Committees and also, where necessary, fix the date.

904.6 Inter Departmental Inquiry: For accidents not falling under the purview of CRS, the DRM shall order an enquiry by a committee of officers from the departments concerned. In case GM considers it is necessary to hold an inquiry by the HODs/PHODs in to such accidents, the same can be ordered. In such cases, there is no need for DRM to order an inquiry.

904.7 Departmental Inquiries: If the cause of the accident is attributable beyond doubt to a particular department in Railways and the Head of the Department accepts the responsibility, the inquiry by the inter-departmental committee can be dispensed with. In such cases the inquiry can held by an officer/officers of the department concerned so as to determine the responsibility of staff, if any and to suggest measures to prevent such accidents in future.

905. Ordering of Inquiries: Normally DRM shall order all departmental and inter-departmental inquiries into accidents. The GM or on his behalf, the CSO may order a joint inquiry into serious accidents, as deemed fit.

- a) Whenever a Joint Inquiry is to be made, the Head of the Railway Administration concerned shall issue notice about the date, time and place at which the Inquiry will be conducted to the following Officers, namely—
 - i. the District Magistrate of the district in which the accident occurred or such other officer as the State Government may appoint in this behalf, and the Superintendent of the Railway Police and District Superintendent of Police;
 - ii. the Commissioner of Railway Safety.
 - iii. the Head of the Railway Police having jurisdiction at the place where the accident occurred or, if there are no Railway Police, the Officer in-charge of the police station having jurisdiction at such place.
- b) The date and time at which the Inquiry will commence shall be fixed so as to give the Officers mentioned, above sufficient time to reach the place where the Inquiry is to be held.
- c) Where a Joint Inquiry is held into an accident on receipt of information about the inability of the Commissioner of Railway Safety to hold an inquiry under Sub-rule(5) of rule 228 (Statutory Investigation into Railway Accidents Rules 1973), the Head of the Railway Administration concerned shall also issue a press note in this behalf inviting the public to tender evidence at the inquiry or to send information relating to the accident to the Joint Inquiry Committee at an address specified in the press

906 906 Minimum Level of Inquiry :