Sub: Preventive measures for hot axles: Derailment at Balamau/NR

During the recent case of derailment at Balamau/NR, the prima facie evidence has indicated that the hot axle of one BOXNHL wagon is suspected as cause of derailment. Further investigation has revealed that in the instant case that culprit wheel set was involved in a previous case of excessive wheel skidding and flat. This wheel set having beyond limit wheel flat was re-profiled at the ROH depot and used for fitting in the culprit wagon involved.

It is understood that wheels having flats whenever detected during examination or otherwise are being used for fitment in other wagons after re-profiling. Since beyond limited wheel flats are cause of abnormal forces on the CTRB also, such wheel flats are potentially expected to cause excessive stresses on the CTRBs components, which may eventually lead to failure of such components. Conditions in which CTRBs are to be overhauled has been defined in Para 7.4 of G-81.

Accordingly, it is advised that the following actions should be taken in all cases of wheels being withdrawn from wagons on account of wheel flats detected during examination yard, ROH or otherwise, other than those referred above.

a) Wheel sets having wheel flats are to be necessarily turned to proper wheel profile as per extant instructions before being re-used.
b) In all cases, the CTRB of such wheels have to be sent for overhauling to the nominated CTRBs overhauling shop.
c) Preferably, the complete wheel assembly along with CTRB should be sent to the nominated shops. Wherever the open line depots/sick lines have facility for CTRB change, only CTRB can be sent for overhauling to shop and wheel sets can be used after re-profiling and change of CTRBs.

It is requested that all ROH depots, sick lines and examination yards be advised to implement the instructions with immediate effect.

(AAY NANDAN)
Exec. Director Mech. Engg. (Fr)
Railway Board

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For suitable review of G-81 and wagon maintenance manual also.