Government of India Ministry of Railways (Railway Board)

No. 2009/Safety(A&R)/19/11

New Delhi, dated 17.02.2010

Chief Operations Manager, North Central Railway, Allahabad.

Sub: Rear-end collision between 2556 Gorakhdham Express and 2418 Prayagraj Express between Bhaupur and Panki station on Tundla-Kanpur section of Allahabad Division of North Central Railway on 02.01.2010.

Ref: NCR letter No. T/GEN/RBD/INST/02/05 dated 20.01.1010.

CRS/North Eastern Circle under Para 5.0 of their **immediate recommendation** in the Preliminary Report on the subject matter has recommended as under:-

"Para 5.0. Trains should not be sent, one after the other into an automatic block section when visibility is poor (i.e. less than 150 metres) due to fog or any other reason. Only one train should be allowed between two stations in Automatic territory as provisions of rule 9.02/5 (a) are not being complied with, in poor visibility conditions. NE Railway has already made similar provisions in their rules. This will not only improve safety but also result in faster throughput in foggy weather."

The above recommendation has been considered by Board (MT). The same has not been agreed to as this recommendation is not considered to be practicable for implementation due to reason that NCR has very busy sections with trains one after another at short intervals. The ASM has to be much more alert here on this Railway, than say on other Railways, like NER, etc. Here introducing Absolute Block System in Automatic Block Territory would be fraught with danger since the Authority to proceed would be based on exchange of private numbers without any protection of block instruments. It would be similar to working on Paper Line Clear Ticket which relies upon human dependence. A small mistake in this system of working by ASM can be catastrophic.

(J.S. Bindra)
Joint Director/Safety
Railway Board

Copy together with the copy of the NCR's letter under reference, to all COMs except NCR – for information and necessary action. and konkan Railway

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