

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3947
ANSWERED ON 04.04.2025

LOSS OF LIVES IN STAMPEDES AT RAILWAY STATIONS

3947 DR. V. SIVADASAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of people who have lost their lives due to stampedes in Railway Stations since 2020, year-wise;
- (b) the number of people injured in the stampedes at Railway Stations since 2020, year-wise;
- (c) the amount of compensation paid to the victims of stampedes at Railway stations since 2020, year-wise; and
- (d) the measures taken by Railways to control stampedes?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (d): Only one incident has been reported since 2020. The incident in New Delhi Railway Station happened on 15.02.2025 in which 18 people died and 15 were injured.

In the instant case an ex-gratia amount of Rs. 10 lakhs to Next of Kin of each deceased, amount of Rs. 2.5 lakhs each to the grievously injured and Rs. 1 lakh each to the simple injured persons have been paid. Accordingly, a total amount of Rs. 2.01 Crores have been paid to 33 victims and their family members.

Railways pays compensation for death/injury of railway passengers in train accidents and Untoward Incidents as defined under Section 124 and Section 124-A (read with Section 123) of the Railways Act, 1989, which is decided by Railway Claims Tribunal (RCT) on the basis of a claim application

filed by the victims/their dependents before RCT and it disposes of the cases after following the due judicial process. Railway Administration pays compensation when a decree is awarded by Hon'ble RCT in favor of the claimant and Railways decide to implement the decree.

Further, to handle heavy rush of passengers at stations, following decisions have been taken by railways -

1. Permanent holding areas at 60 stations:
 - i. During the festival season of 2024, holding areas were created outside stations. These waiting areas were able to hold large crowds at Surat, Udhna, Patna and New Delhi. Passengers were allowed only when the train came to the platform.
 - ii. Similar arrangements were made during Mahakumbh at nine stations of Prayag area.
 - iii. Based on the experience of these stations, it has been decided to create permanent waiting areas outside stations at 60 stations across the country which periodically face heavy crowds.
 - iv. Pilot projects have started at New Delhi, Anand Vihar, Varanasi, Ayodhya, and Ghaziabad stations.
 - v. With this concept, the sudden crowd will be contained within the waiting area. Passengers will be allowed to go to platforms only when the trains arrive at the platform. This will decongest the stations.
2. Access control:
 - i. Complete access control will be initiated at the 60 stations.
 - ii. Passengers with confirmed reserve tickets will be given direct access to the platforms.
 - iii. Passengers without a ticket or with a waiting list ticket will wait in the outside waiting area.
 - iv. All unauthorised entry points will be sealed.
3. Wider foot-over-bridges (FOB):
 - i. Two new designs of 12 metre wide (40 feet) and 6 metre wide (20 feet) standard FOB have been developed. These wide FOBs with ramps were very effective in crowd management during Mahakumbh. These new standard wide FOBs will be installed in all the stations.
4. Cameras:
 - i. Cameras helped crowd management in a big way during Mahakumbh. A large number of cameras will be installed in all stations and adjoining areas for close monitoring.

5. War rooms:
 - i. War rooms at large stations will be developed. Officers of all departments will work in the war room during crowd situations.
6. New generation communication equipment:
 - i. Latest design digital communication equipment like walkie-talkies, announcement systems, calling systems will be installed on all heavy crowd stations.
7. New design ID card:
 - i. All staff and service persons will be given a new design ID card so that only authorised persons can enter the station.
8. New design uniform for staff:
 - i. All staff members will be given new design uniforms so that they can be easily identified during a crisis situation.
9. Upgradation of station director post:
 - i. All major stations will have a senior officer as station director. All other departments will report to the station director.
 - ii. Station director will get financial empowerment so that he can take on-the-spot decisions for improving the station.
10. Sale of tickets as per capacity:
 - i. Station Director will be empowered to control the sale of tickets as per capacity of the station and the available trains.
