

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 918
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.12.2017**

ELPHINSTONE STAMPEDE

**918. SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIYA:
SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV:
KUNWAR HARIBANSH SINGH:
SHRI HARIOM SINGH RATHORE:
SHRI MUTHAMSETTI SRINIVASA RAO (AVANTHI):
SHRI T. RADHAKRISHNAN:
SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA:
SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:
SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR:
SHRI ASHOK SHANKARRAO CHAVAN:
SHRI S.R. VIJAYAKUMAR:
SHRIMATI KOTHAPALLI GEETHA:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the facts that have come to light regarding the recent stampede on the narrow foot over bridge joining Elphinstone road and Parel sub-urban stations;**
- (b) whether punitive action has been taken against the persons responsible for the stampede;**
- (c) if so, whether any survey has been/ is being conducted to identify such narrow and accident-prone foot over bridges in the country;**
- (d) if so, the number of such foot over bridges identified in Maharashtra particularly in Vidarbha and Marathwada regions; and**
- (e) the concrete measures being undertaken to carry-out the required maintenance works thereon?**

**ANSWER
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)**

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 918 BY SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIYA, SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV, KUNWAR HARIBANSH SINGH, SHRI HARIOM SINGH RATHORE, SHRI MUTHAMSETTI SRINIVASA RAO (AVANTHI), SHRI T. RADHAKRISHNAN, SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA, SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO, SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR, SHRI ASHOK SHANKARRAO CHAVAN, SHRI S.R. VIJAYAKUMAR AND SHRIMATI KOTHAPALLI GEETHA TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 20.12.2017 REGARDING ELPHINSTONE STAMPEDE

(a): The unfortunate incident of stampede happened on 29.09.2017 at Foot Over Bridge/ Elphinstone Road Railway Station. A Joint Inter-departmental Enquiry headed by Chief Safety Officer/Western Railway was ordered into the incident of stampede. As per the findings of the enquiry, the tragedy was possibly triggered due to sudden downpour of heavy rains and accumulation of commuters on the Foot Over Bridge and staircase. The situation got further aggravated when one bundle of flower of a vendor dropped followed by someone shouting that “Majha phool padla” and some commuter mistook the word “phool” for “pull”. This may have possibly triggered panic and led to stampede.

(b): As per the departmental enquiry headed by Chief Safety Officer/Western Railway, no Railway official(s) have been found responsible for the incident.

(c) to (e): Instructions already exist that all new Foot Over Bridges at ‘A-1’ category, ‘A’ category and ‘C’ category (suburban) railway stations shall be 6 meter wide, wherever feasible. Foot Over Bridges have been included in the safety items by Railways and a large number of Foot Over Bridges have been processed for inclusion in Works Programme 2018-19.
