

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.395
TO BE ANSWERED ON 30.03.2022**

ACCUMULATION OF WATER IN RUBs

***395. SHRI MADDILA GURUMOORTHY:**

Will the Minister of Railway be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any inquiry into the instance of death due to submersion of vehicle in the stagnated rainwater in Rail Under Bridge (RUB), Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the steps have been taken to check the accumulation of water in RUBs during incidents of heavy rainfall or flooding;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;**
- (e) the total number of deaths recorded in such incidents in the country during the last ten years, State-wise;**
- (f) whether the Municipal Commissioner was held accountable for such incidents in urban, rural and remote areas; and**
- (g) if so, the details of the action taken in this regard?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (g) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 395 BY SHRI MADDILA GURUMOORTHY TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 30.03.2022 REGARDING ACCUMULATION OF WATER IN RUBs

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. An enquiry has been conducted into the incident happened at Road Under Bridge (RUB) No. 150 at Km. 103/4-5 between Tirupati and Tirupati West Station, Andhra Pradesh on 22/23.10.2021. A waterway bridge of span 1x6.10 meter was rebuilt as 2x9.79 meter (RUB) on deposit term at the behest of State Government during Gauge Conversion in 2003.

As per the arrangement of execution, the drainage for the RUB was responsibility of Road Authorities. All the works connected with drainage arrangements were carried out by Road authorities (Tirupathi Municipal Corporation) at their own cost and they were accountable and responsible for post construction maintenance of this RUB. Necessary pumping arrangements are also to be provided, operated and maintained by road authorities to make the road usable in all seasons.

This was the undertaking accepted by the State Govt. and a note was incorporated in GAD (General Arrangement Drawing) for the above bridge. As such as per approved GAD, all the works connected with drainage arrangements shall be carried out by Tirupathi Municipal Corporation including its post construction maintenance, pumping arrangements and maintained to make the road usable in all seasons.

There was heavy downpour and flash flood for about one and half hour time in surrounding area of RUB between 23.00 hrs of 22-10-2021 and 00.30 hrs of 23-10-2021. Due to heavy and intense rainfall of more than 100 mm, there was a sudden rise in the water level at RUB as the

drainage arrangement provided could not cater to the sudden and excessive runoff coming from surrounding areas like Agricultural University, Tirupathi West Railway colony, S.V. University, VC Bungalow & SV High School due to unexpected blockage of drain by debris washed / flown from surrounding areas.

It was reported that, a SUV coming from Raichur (Karnataka) with 7 passengers tried to pass through the RUB in the midnight at 00:50 hrs. Despite warning to the driver by the co-passengers not to pass through the RUB, the driver ventured and made an attempt to wade through. As it was raining heavily and heavy accumulation/flow of water the vehicle got stuck up and partially submerged in the water on the approaches to RUB. All seven passengers were rescued from the water. One of the lady passenger died on the way to hospital. This unfortunate incident happened due to gross negligence of the vehicle driver.

The flood water at RUB location was pumped out and drained out completely by clearing the debris / drain and opened to traffic immediately by municipal authorities.

(c) & (d): Yes, Sir. Several remedial measures have been taken to minimise the problem of water logging. Adequate drainage arrangement has been made integral part of planning of new Road Under Bridge (RUB)/Subways. In existing RUB/subways feasible remedial measures like water flow diversion to nearest bridge & nallahs, provision of covered shed on approach roads, provision of hump at entry to Road under Bridge (RUB), provision of cross drains, sealing of joints etc. have been made as per site suitability. In addition, pumping arrangement has also been made in identified RUBs,

to drain out water expeditiously in case of emergency. The responsibility of provision, operation and maintenance of pumps is also decided in advance.

Steps like clearing of debris and silt removal in the drains are taken at RUBs before onset of monsoon. Monsoon patrolling is also being done in rainy season in identified areas. Keymen/Patrolman are advised to keep close watch on RUBs during flooding/monsoons.

(e): Number of deaths recorded in such incidents in the country for the last ten years, State-wise:

State	No. of Deaths
Andhra Pradesh	1
Tamil Nadu	1
Total	2

(f) & (g): Yes, Sir. In case of Andhra Pradesh incident, Tirupati Municipality was responsible. Action is to be taken by State Government.
