

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1779

ANSWERED ON:07.03.2013

LATHICHARGE AT KUMBH MELA

Joshi Dr. Murli Manohar;Singh Shri Radha Mohan;Singh Shri Rajiv Ranjan (Lalan)

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether lathicharge by the police on platform No. 6 at the Allahabad railway station on 10 February, 2013 had caused a stampede leading to on-the-spot death of 20 people;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether a number of injured persons died on-the-spot because they could not get any medical assistance for three-four hours;
- (d) if so, whether the Railways have ordered investigation into the allegations regarding the carelessness of police personnel for the said tragedy; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI KOTLA JAYA SURYA PRAKASH REDDY)

(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. 1779 BY DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI, SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH AND SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 07.03.2013 REGARDING LATHICHARGE AT KUMBH MELA.

(a) and (b): No, Madam. On 10.02.2013, at about 18.30 hrs, a heavy crowd of pilgrims descended on Allahabad Railway Station after performing 'Shahi Snan' during the on going Kumbh Mela. The sudden surge of huge crowd within a short time between 18.30 hrs to 19.00 hrs on the stair case connecting Platform No. 4/6 with Foot Over Bridge No. 01, which was already chock-a-block with passengers, resulted in a stampede. Government Railway Police, Railway Protection Force and Railway Officials present at the Railway Station immediately started rescue operations and shifted the injured persons to Railway Hospital and Swaroop Rani Hospital, Allahabad for treatment.

(c): No injured person died on the spot due to non availability of Medical aid as doctors reached the site in sufficient strength within the shortest possible time.

(d) and (e): Ministry of Railways have constituted an apex level committee to look into the cause leading to the stampede, inadequacies in preparedness on the part of North Central Railway, if any, extraneous causes leading up to the tragedy and preventive measures required in the future to avert such incidents.