Disaster Management · GS - III

Crowd management and disaster preparedness are essential for preventing stampedes during mass gatherings. Discuss the challenges and suggest measures to improve crowd safety in India.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 19/10/2026	GS - III	Disaster Management

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Crowd management, disaster preparedness, early warning systems, police coordination, emergency medical services, evacuation routes, public awareness, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), accountability.

Model Answer

Introduction

Stampedes during mass gatherings can cause significant loss of life due to overcrowding, panic and inadequate emergency arrangements. Such incidents highlight the need for effective crowd management and disaster preparedness.

Main Body

Major challenges

1. Overcrowding: Large gatherings can exceed the safe capacity of venues and surrounding roads.

2. Poor coordination: Lack of coordination among police, medical teams, organisers and local authorities can delay emergency response.
3. Inadequate infrastructure: Narrow exits, blocked evacuation routes and insufficient medical facilities increase risks.
4. Limited monitoring: Inadequate crowd surveillance and delayed communication can prevent authorities from identifying danger early.

Measures to improve safety

1. Scientific planning: Assess venue capacity, regulate entry and exit, and establish separate movement routes.
2. Technology: Use CCTV cameras, real-time crowd monitoring and public announcement systems.
3. Emergency preparedness: Deploy trained police personnel, ambulances, doctors and first-aid teams.
4. Clear accountability: Establish standard operating procedures, conduct safety audits and fix responsibility for negligence.
5. Public awareness: Communicate safety instructions and emergency evacuation plans clearly.

Conclusion

The Kolkata stampede highlights the importance of preparedness and coordinated emergency response. A combination of scientific crowd planning, trained personnel, technology and accountable administration can reduce stampede risks and protect public safety.

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