2018 Kolkata bridge collapse

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| **2018 Kolkata bridge collapse** | |
| [Majerhat Bridge is located in Kolkata](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Location_map_India_Kolkata_EN.svg)  Majerhat Bridge  **Majerhat Bridge**  **Majerhat Bridge** (Kolkata)  Location of bridge collapse | |
| **Date** | 4 September 2018 |
| **Location** | [Alipore](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alipore), [Kolkata](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kolkata), [India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/India) |
| [**Coordinates**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geographic_coordinate_system) | https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/5/55/WMA_button2b.png/17px-WMA_button2b.png[22.518°N 88.323°W](https://tools.wmflabs.org/geohack/geohack.php?pagename=2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse&params=22.518_N_88.323_W_)[Coordinates](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geographic_coordinate_system): https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/5/55/WMA_button2b.png/17px-WMA_button2b.png[22.518°N 88.323°W](https://tools.wmflabs.org/geohack/geohack.php?pagename=2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse&params=22.518_N_88.323_W_) |
| **Deaths** | 3[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-04-TOI-1) |
| **Non-fatal injuries** | 25[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-04-TOI-1) |

The **2018 Kolkata bridge collapse** refers to the collapse of *Majerhat Bridge*, in the city of [Kolkata](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kolkata), [India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/India), on 4 September 2018.[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-04-uk-express-2)[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-04-ie-3) The bridge collapsed at around 4:45 PM ([IST](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Standard_Time)), resulting in the death of 3 people while injuring at least 25 others.[[4]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-04-HT-4)[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-04-TOI-1)[[5]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-04-ie-live-5)[[6]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-06-hindu-6)

Majerhat Bridge[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse&action=edit&section=1" \o "Edit section: Majerhat Bridge)]

Majerhat Bridge is located in the [Alipore](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alipore" \o "Alipore), neighbourhood of Kolkata.[[7]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-05-TOI-search-7) It was a major arterial road in the area connecting the [southern suburbs](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_24_Parganas_district) to other parts of the city via [Behala](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Behala" \o "Behala).[[7]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-05-TOI-search-7)[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-04-TOI-1)[[4]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-04-HT-4) It is also part of [NH-12](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Highway_12_(India)) and Diamond Harbour Road.[[7]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-05-TOI-search-7)

[Majerhat Railway Station](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Majerhat_Railway_Station) is located beside the bridge. There is also nearby construction for [Kolkata Metro Line 3](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kolkata_Metro_Line_3); a planned station for Majerhat. The bridge crosses the [Indian Railways](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Railways) [Sealdah South](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sealdah_South_Lines" \o "Sealdah South Lines) local rail network from Sealdah to Budge Budge as well as the [Kolkata Circular Railway](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kolkata_Circular_Railway) lines.

Background[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse&action=edit&section=2" \o "Edit section: Background)]

There has been concern around the time of the accident that in Kolkata, and in wider India, proper road maintenance was not being undertaken.[[8]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-05-TOI-whats-wrong-8) This incident was the third bridge collapse in Kolkata in 6 years.[[7]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-05-TOI-search-7) In 4 March 2013, part of a flyover in [Ultadanga](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ultadanga" \o "Ultadanga) had also collapsed.[[7]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-05-TOI-search-7) On 31 March 2016, part of an under-construction flyover [had collapsed](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kolkata_flyover_collapse) in central Kolkata's busy [Girish Park](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Girish_Park" \o "Girish Park) area.[[9]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-04-NDTV-9)[[7]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-05-TOI-search-7) 27 people had died in the tragedy, leaving 80 people gravely injured.[[10]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2016-04-02-CNNIBN-10)

There had been reported concerns about Majerhat Bridge itself. At the time of the collapse the bridge was apparently over 50 years old.[[7]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-05-TOI-search-7) In 2010, the Majerhat Bridge had undergone repairs for subsidence.[[11]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2010-06-28-TOI-11) An audit in 2016 flagged the bridge as unsafe.[[12]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-05-TOI-TNN-red-flags-12) Concerns had been raised in 2018 by police, commuters and nearby residents stemming from visible cracks appearing in the structure.[[12]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-05-TOI-TNN-red-flags-12)

Incident[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse&action=edit&section=3" \o "Edit section: Incident)]

The bridge caved in around 4.45 PM. Videos from the locality showed a portion of the bridge resting on the street below including at least nine vehicles, including a minibus, stuck on it.[[9]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-04-NDTV-9)

**Deaths**[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse&action=edit&section=4" \o "Edit section: Deaths)]

* Prabir Kumar Dey, a resident of Murshidabad, and a worker on the [Kolkata Metro Line 3](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kolkata_Metro_Line_3) project.[[13]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-05-telegraph-metro-worker-13)[[6]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-06-hindu-6)
* Soumen Bag, a resident of [Behala](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Behala" \o "Behala)'s Silpara.[[6]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-06-hindu-6)
* Gautam Mondal, a cook employed in the nearby [metro construction project](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kolkata_Metro_Line_3).[[14]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-06-telegraph-cook-14)[[6]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-06-hindu-6)

Rescue efforts[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse&action=edit&section=5" \o "Edit section: Rescue efforts)]

The rescue effort was started by the [Kolkata Police](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kolkata_Police), an [Indian Army](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Army) unit from [Fort William](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fort_William,_India) and five special disaster management teams of the [NDRF](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Disaster_Response_Force)[[15]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-05-hindustan-times-15) after the mishap.[[16]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-04-NDTV-2-16) Injured people were sent to nearby SSKM, CMRI and Vidyasagar hospitals for treatment.[[17]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-05-TOI-tales-17)

Aftermath[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse&action=edit&section=6" \o "Edit section: Aftermath)]

After the collapse, [Eastern Railways](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eastern_Railways) suspended train services via [Majerhat railway station](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Majerhat_railway_station" \o "Majerhat railway station) on the [Kolkata Circular Railway](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kolkata_Circular_Railway) and [Sealdah-Budge Budge lines](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sealdah_South_lines" \o "Sealdah South lines).[[18]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-04-TOI-railways-18) Widespread road traffic disruption ensued as the bridge was a major route for vehicles moving between north and south Kolkata.[[18]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-04-TOI-railways-18)[[19]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-07-toi-road-diversion-19)

The Chief Minister, Mamata Banerjee asked [Chief Secretary](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chief_secretary_(India)) Moloy Kumar De to head an investigation committee into the collapse.[[6]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-06-hindu-6) She had noted that 20 bridges in the city were at risk of collapse.[[6]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-06-hindu-6)[[20]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-07-toi-repair-20) A Times of India article on 7 September 2018 noted that the Public Works Department has admitted that urgent repairs had not been carried out properly, it was noted that patchwork repairs were carried out on the bridge, adding layers of bitumen, and therefore weight, rather than a thorough repair.[[20]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-07-toi-repair-20) The collapse led to a rising distrust among the public regarding the safety of bridges in India.[[8]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-05-TOI-whats-wrong-8)

The safety of bridges in [West Bengal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/West_Bengal) has further come under scrutiny, as there have been 3 bridge collapses in September 2018 alone.[[21]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-24-toi-21)

Preliminary results of investigations suggest that pollution and poor maintenance contributed to the bridge collapse.[[22]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-11-toi-22)[[23]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-16-telegraph-23) Accusations that Metro construction had led to bridge collapse were felt to be unfounded.[[22]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-11-toi-22)[[23]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-16-telegraph-23) There have been reports that repairs were hastily completed with claims that "a month's work was done in one night".[[24]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-04-quint-24)

Reactions[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse&action=edit&section=7" \o "Edit section: Reactions)]

* [Mamata Banerjee](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mamata_Banerjee), [Chief Minister of West Bengal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chief_Minister_of_West_Bengal) - said after the accident that the priorities are relief and rescue with the investigation commencing later. She also announced a compensation of ₹5 lakh (US$7,200) to the family of each deceased, and ₹50,000 each to the injured.[[25]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-04-yahoo-compensation-25)[[26]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-04-fp-26)
* [Narendra Modi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Narendra_Modi), [Prime Minister of India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prime_Minister_of_India) - tweeted that the loss of lives in the collapse is deeply unfortunate.[[15]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-05-hindustan-times-15)
* [Rajnath Singh](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rajnath_Singh), [Union Home Minister](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Union_Home_Minister) - stated that the bridge collapse incident in Kolkata is extremely tragic.[[27]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Kolkata_bridge_collapse#cite_note-2018-09-04-hindu-27)
* The [Rail Vikas Nigam Limited](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rail_Vikas_Nigam_Limited) project manager for the nearby [Kolkata Metro Line 3](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kolkata_Metro_Line_3) construction works, has denied the metro construction led to the bridge collapse.