

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:464

ANSWERED ON:25.07.2001

AEROPLANES CRASH .

A. VENKATESH NAIK;CHANDRA NATH SINGH;MALYALA RAJAJIAH;NEDURUMALLI JANARDHANA REDDY;NITISH SENGUPTA;RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH;SHYAMA SINGH;THAAWAR CHAND GEHLOT;UTTAMRAO DEORAO PATIL

**Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:**

- (a) the number of Fighter Planes, Helicopters and Transport Aircraft crashed during each of the last three years, category-wise;
- (b) the details of the origin of these Aircraft and Helicopters;
- (c) whether the Government have taken up the matter with the manufacturers of these aeroplanes and helicopters;
- (d) if so, the outcome thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) the value of public/private property lost and the number of pilots killed in these accidents and compensation paid in each case;
- (f) the outcome of each of the inquiry conducted and action taken thereon during the said period; and
- (g) the steps taken to check abnormal rise in accidents particularly involving MIG fighters and to upgrade and manufacture these planes indigenously?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH)

- (a) The details of Fighter Aircraft, Helicopters and Transport Aircraft that crashed, during the last three years, are as under

Fighter Aircraft

MIG-21	-	35	
MIG-23	-	09	
MIG-27	-	07	
MIG-29	-	01	
Jaguar	-		04

Total: 56

Helicopters

Cheetah	-	04	
MI-8	-	03	
MI-17	-		02
MI-25	-		01

Total: 10

Transport Aircraft

(b) The fighter aircraft are from Russia and Britain. The transport aircraft are Russian and helicopters are from Russia and Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), India.

(c) & (d): The Original Equipment Manufacturers in Russia, Britain and other countries have been approached to provide support to overcome technical defects. Constant interaction with HAL is also being maintained to discuss serious flight safety issues. A number of remedial measures, especially checks/modifications on the HAL manufactured/overhauled aircraft, have been initiated.

(e) The value of public/private property lost and the compensation paid to civilians, year-wise, is annexed. Compensation was paid to the 34 pilots killed in these accidents, as per the service rules.

(f) & (g): The Courts of Inquiry have identified human error(aircrew), bird hit and technical defect as the main causes of these accidents. Remedial measures are instituted after each Court of Inquiry, based on the recommendations of the Court of Inquiry.

Measures to enhance the quality of training to improve skill levels, ability to exercise sound judgement and improve situational awareness are constantly being reviewed and implemented. Renewed thrust on acquiring simulators and training aircraft is a step towards improving the quality of the man behind the machine. Besides, a total of 125 MIG-21 BISvariant aircraft have been planned for up-gradation. Out of these, two have already been upgraded in Russia during the design and development phase, which has been completed recently. It has been planned that the remaining aircraft will be upgraded at HAL, Nasik.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN THE REPLY GIVEN IN PART (e) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 464 FC 25.7.2001.

Financial Year	Financial loss in crore)	(Rs. Compensation paid to Civilians (in Rs.)
1998-1999	197.12	20,89,725.00
1999-2000	375.69	10,61,765.00
2000-2001	104.89	4,05,720.00
(19 aircraft Court of Inquiry finalised till date)		