

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:157  
ANSWERED ON:15.07.2004  
CRASH OF AIRCRAFT  
Meghwal Shri Kailash

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

- (a) the number of defence aircraft crashed during last one year till date, category-wise and place-wise;
- (b) the outcome of the enquiries conducted in each accident and the action taken in pursuance thereof;
- (c) the loss of life and property suffered as a result thereof, accident-wise; and
- (d) the steps taken to minimise the rate of accidents?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 157 FOR 15.7.2004

A list of accidents that occurred during the years 2003-2004 and 2004-2005 (upto 11th July 2004) in which the aircraft were totally damaged, category-wise, place-wise along with loss of life and property and the reasons for such accidents are given in the Annexure.

After every aircraft accident, a Court of Inquiry (COI) is set up to find out the cause of the accident and to recommend remedial measures. Major causes of fighter aircraft accident are Human Error (HE), Technical Defect (TD) and Bird Hit (BH).

A continuous and multi-faceted effort is always afoot by defence services to enhance and upgrade flight safety. Measures to enhance the quality of training to improve the skill levels, ability to exercise sound judgement and situational awareness of pilots are being pursued. Constant interaction with Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) and Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) of concerned countries is also maintained to overcome the technical defects of aircraft.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN THE REPLY GIVEN IN THE STATEMENT IN PART (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 157 FOR 15.7.2004

The details of aircraft accidents that occurred during the years 2003-2004 and 2004-2005 (upto 11th July 2004) in which the aircraft were totally damaged category-wise, place-wise along with loss of life and property and the reasons for such accidents are as follows:-

Sl.No.	Date of accident	Service aircraft	Place of accident	Cause	No.of pilots killed	No.of civilians Killed	Injured	Loss of property
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1.	4.4.2003	Air Force	MiG-23 BN Halwara	LFA# TD	07	05	houses	damaged
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2.	7.4.2003	-do-	MiG-21 Bison Ambala	TD	05		Damage to property of 09 civilians and building of the VITA factory residential complex	
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3.	4.6.2003	-do-	MiG-21 Bis 54 km from Uttarlai	HE(A)	01			
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4. 18.6.2003 -do- HPT-32 7 km from TD Death of one buffalo  
Tambaram
5. 7-7-2003 -do- MiG-23 BN Over SK Range TD Damaged electric pole  
and wiring of Punjab  
State Electricity Board
6. 14.7.2003 -do- MIG 21 T 69B Srinagar Runway HE(A) 02
7. 22.7.2003 -do- Jaguar Ambala HE(A)
8. 31.7.2003 -do- Chetak 6 km from TD 02  
Hakimpet
9. 24.8.2003 Navy Sea Harrier Off Goa Coast HE(A)
10. 6.11.2003 Air Kiran Mk II Hakimpet LFA# UR 02  
Force
11. 28.11.2003 -do- MiG-21 Bis 50 km from Nal HE(A)
12. 4.12.2003 -do- MiG-29 Adampur LFA# TD Minor damage to standing  
crops
13. 7.2.2004 -do- MiG-23 BN Pokhran Range UI 01
14. 20.2.2004 -do- MiG-21 M Sarmat Range TD 05 17 08 buildings damaged
15. 26.2.2004 -do- Jaguar Pokhran Range UI 01
16. 4.3.2004 -do- MI-17 Dirang, North HE(A)  
of Tezpur
17. 2.4.2004 -do- Jaguar Near Sonamarg UI 02
18. 22.4.2004 -do- Cheetah Near BAAZ UI 01  
Helipad
19. 28.4.2004 -do- MiG-27 ML Jodhpur UI 01  
airfield
20. 7.5.2004 -do- Jaguar 20 km from UI  
Ambala
21. 19.5.2004 -do- MiG-27 ML Bagdogra LFA# UI 01

LFA# - Local Flying Area  
HE(A) - Human Error (Aircrew)  
TD - Technical Defect  
UR - Unresolved  
UI - Under Investigation