

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:359

ANSWERED ON:19.02.2009

BIRD HIT INCIDENTS AT AIRPORTS

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji; Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba; Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy; Nikhil Kumar Shri ; Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Delhi Airport is more prone to bird hit than any other airports in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of such incidents occurred during the last three years and the losses incurred to the airlines thereto;
- (c) whether the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has recently decided to revive the National Committee on prevention of bird menace at various airports in view of increase in number of bird hit incidents;
- (d) if so, whether DGCA has recently issued directions to all airports operators to immediately take some steps to ensure that environs around airports are clean and cease to attract birds; and
- (e) if so, the details of the other concrete steps Government proposes to take to ensure that planes are not affected by bird hits?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a) and (b):- Yes, Sir. Numbers of Bird strike cases during 2006, 2007 and 2008 at Delhi Airport are 25, 30 and 67 respectively. Government does not maintain the records of losses incurred by the private airlines.

(c):-Yes, Sir. A National Bird Control Committee (NBCC) under the chairmanship of Secretary, Civil Aviation is planned to adopt measures to prevent bird hazard at aerodrome and their vicinity and monitor the implementation of a bird control programme by the aerodrome operator to evaluate its effectiveness and suggest measures for improvement.

(d) and (e):- Yes, Sir. Airfield Environment Management Committees have been constituted at all airports having scheduled flights operations to identify sources of bird attraction and take the necessary steps for prevention of bird strikes. The major steps taken to reduce bird hits are as under:-

- (i) Grass cutting and checking water logging inside the airport.
- (ii) Scaring and shooting of birds.
- (iii) Wire meshing of hangars.
- (iv) Garbage dumping in covered bins and early removal thereof.
- (v) Regular joint inspection of areas around airport.
- (vi) Establishment of modern abattoirs.