

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:647
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2011
STRAY ANIMALS AT NAGPUR AIRPORT
Jeyadural Shri S. R.

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Nagpur Airport including the runway has been vulnerable to stray animals, posing threat to safety of aircraft and passengers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether inquiry has been conducted in this regard;
- (d) if so, the outcome thereof; and
- (e) the remedial measures taken/being taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS & MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) & (b):-Yes Madam, an incident occurred on 21/06/2011 wherein 2 pigs were hit by Air India Flight AI-629 while landing at Nagpur Airport. However, there was no damage to the aircraft and its occupants.

(c) and (d):- Yes Madam, Government of Maharashtra, through the Divisional Commissioner, Nagpur, conducted an inspection and found that it was necessary to clean the grass and wild growth in the disused area of the Airport and the boundary wall needed immediate repair.

(e)
(i) A high power National Bird Control Committee (NBCC) has been set up by Government of India to monitor and adopt policy decision for bird/wildlife strikes prevention; (ii) Airfield Environment Management Committees have been constituted at every airports where scheduled flights operate, to identify sources of stray animals/bird attraction at the airport and take necessary steps for bird/stray animal strike prevention; (iii) Rule 91 of Aircraft rule 1937 has been amended to make disposal of garbage in the open within 10 Kms. of the airport as a cognizable offence; (iv) Rule 90 of Aircraft Rules 1937 (Penalties) has been amended and a fine of Rs. one lakh or imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months or both, has been prescribed on rule violators for offence of leaving any animal object or bird in the movement area of an aerodrome; (v) Runway guards have been deployed by Nagpur Airport on 24/7 basis along the runway; (vi) Combing operations are conducted to eradicate wild animals from the airport area in coordination with Forest Department, and to release them in forest area; (vii) Animals catchers have been deployed on 24/7 basis, besides requisitioning dog squad of Nagpur Municipal Corporation; (viii) Clearing of the entire airport area of plants, grass and wild vegetation is done with the help of heavy machines and specialised manpower and (ix) Repair work of boundary wall has been completed to prevent entry of miscreants and stray animals.