

Title: Need to look into the recurring crashes of MIG-21 aircraft.

SHRI RAJIAH MALYALA (SIDDIPET): The latest MIG-21 tragedy on 5.8.2000 has made the case of MIG-21 mysterious. Since 1997, aircraft have crashed and 22 precious lives of Indian Air Force Pilots have been lost. In the last six months, seven of these aircraft crashed. It is not known whether it is a case of repeated bird hits or the pilots are not fully trained or is it because, the aircraft have become patently unsafe and need technological upgradation.

It is crucial to take a hard look at the operational airworthiness of these aircraft. The death of trained IAF pilots is a great loss to the nation. I hope that the Defence Ministry would take early action to ensure that last tragedy is not repeated in the history of Indian Air Force and airworthiness of the aircraft rechecked.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 3.00 p.m.

1433 hours

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Fifteen of the Clock.
