

**Losses to Indian Airlines due to bird Hits Incidents**

205. SHRI M. V. CHANDRA SHEKARA MURTHY:  
SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:  
SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJ:  
SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHA RAJA WADIYAR:  
SHRI R. N. RAKESH:  
SHRI BABANRAO DHAKNE:  
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state.

(a) whether the Indian Airlines has suffered heavy losses due to incidents of bird hits during the last two years.

(b) if so, the number of such incidents year-wise and the reasons for the increase therein;

(c) the details of loss suffered on this account, year-wise.

(d) the steps taken to avoid damage to aircraft due to bird hits?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). In the year 1988, there were 169 cases of bird hits resulting in loss of Rs. 1.73 crores (towards repairs etc.) while in 1989 also there were 169 cases of bird hits resulting in loss of Rs. 5.91 crores towards repairs etc. There was no increase in bird hit incidents.

(d) The Airfield Environment Management Committees at all the airports take action to keep the environment within 10

Kms. around the airports free from the sources of bird activities in collaboration with local authorities.

**Economy in Railway Expenditure**

206. SHRI M. V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the measures contemplated to reduce expenditure and increase earnings in Railways;

(b) whether Government propose to close the uneconomic branch lines on which the Railways are suffering losses every year; and

(c) if so, the facts and details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) It is a constant endeavour on the Railways to reduce expenditure and increase earnings. Some of the specific measures being adopted for containing expenditure are listed below:

1. Review of working of uneconomic branch lines in order to make them viable.
2. closure of steam sheds and other sub-optimal activities, with plans for re-deployment of staff rendered surplus.
3. Economy in energy consumption-coal, diesel, electricity.
4. Curbs on fuel consumption of road vehicles.
5. Review of purchase of general purpose stores items.
6. Checks on local purchases and