

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

purchase of non-stock items, with particular reference to reasonableness of quantities and rates.

7. Curbs on expenditure on items like advertisement, entertainment etc.

In the matter of maximising the earnings and raising additional resources, the following areas have been identified for attention on priority:

1. Better marketing efforts.
2. Plugging of leakages in earnings.
3. Increasing revenue from railway land by commercial exploitation and removal/prevention of encroachments.
4. Stepping-up of commercial publicity; and
5. Realising the full potential for revenue from private catering units and stalls at railway stations.

(b) The policy is to consider closure of only those uneconomic branch lines where adequate means of transport exist and whose continuance is not required to meet the transport needs of the area. However, at present there is no such proposal.

(c) Does not arise.

Operation of Air Taxis

207. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE:
SHRIP. R. KUMARAMANGALAM:
SHRIMULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of entrepreneurs operating air taxis on different routes in the country;

(b) whether a large number of entrepreneurs have sought the clearance of Government to operate air taxis on different domestic routes; and

(c) if so, the details of the proposals received by Government from different entrepreneurs?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Air Taxi Operators permits have been issued to the following parties:

- 1) M/s. India International Airways Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.
- 2) M/s. Delhi Gulf Airways Services Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.
- 3) M/s. Maneckji Aviation Pvt. Ltd., Bombay.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. Eighteen other applicants have been given No Objection in principle as per the Statement given below.

STATEMENT

details of applicants given no objection in principle applicants intending to use available aircraft in India

- 1) M/s. Tata Iron & Steel company Ltd., New Delhi.
- 2) M/s. Indamar Company Pvt. Ltd., Bombay.
- 3) M/s. Indian metal & Ferro Alloys Ltd., New Delhi.