

Accidents to aircraft due to bird hits

911. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of bird-hit accidents which occurred at various Aircrafts in the country during the last three years;

(b) what is the number of aircraft damaged on this account and how many of them could be repaired; and

(c) what has been the financial loss due to these accidents during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) to (c) 221 bird hits have occurred in last three years (1986, 87 & 88). These aircraft were repaired at a cost of Rs. 5.46 crores.

Attitude of US Government to Indian Doctors

912. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to reports that the US Government has shut the doors for Indian Doctors seeking employment in that country; and

(b) if so, what is our Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) and (b) The Government of India has seen reports to this effect which are inaccurate. There are no separate laws for Indian medical graduates in the USA. All foreign medical graduates however, have to qualify in a separate examination before they are allowed to practice in the country.

Report of Amnesty International against India

913. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the recent report of Amnesty International levelling accusations against India; and

(b) what is the response of Government and the steps taken to check distortions and anti-India trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) and (b) In a May 1989 Report of Amnesty International titled "Sri Lanka: Continuing human rights violations" certain allegations were made against the IPKF. In a statement on 23 May 1989 the official spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs rebutted these allegations in detail.

Offer of U.S. Weapons to Pakistan

914. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the U.S. has offered a fresh package of sophisticated weapons to Pakistan during the recent visit of Prime Minister of Pakistan to that country; and

(b) what is the possible fall out of the stock piling of weapons by Pakistan on the security environment in the region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) U.S. Administration has proposed security assistance to Pakistan amounting to US\$ 241 million for FY 1990. This package is included in the Aid Bill, which is still under consideration of the U.S. Congress. U.S. Administration has additionally notified Congress of the proposed sale of 60 F-16 aircraft to Pakistan.

(b) The Government of India has on a number of occasions expressed to the United States Government its concern that U.S. supplies of sophisticated armaments to Pakistan, more than that country's legitimate defence requirements, leads to an arms race in the Sub-continent, which in turn results in diversion of scarce resources away from development.

Setting up of Directorate of Passengers' Amenities

915. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to have a Directorate of passengers' Amenities in place of one Man Passenger Committees; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) A Directorate of Passenger Amenities has already been set up and is functioning in Board's Office since March, 1988 in addition to One Man Passenger Amenities Committee set up in April, 1986.

Release of US Military and Economic Assistance to Pakistan

916. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether on a public assertion by Pak Prime Minister during her visit to USA in June this year, to the effect that Pakistan does not possess a nuclear weapon USA has released the promised US military and security related economic assistance;

(b) if so, whether in this context Government took the opportunity to draw the US Administration's atten-

tion to the statement of Pak-Ambassador to the US, Mr. Jamshed K.A. Marker, in February 1989 that Pakistan was on the "Threshold" of developing nuclear weapons, and if so, what was the US Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) how much US aid has been or is being released to Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) The US administration's proposal for security assistance to Pakistan for FY 1989-90 is still under consideration of the US Congress.

(b) From time to time, Government of India has expressed its serious concern regarding Pakistan's nuclear weapons programme. Since Ambassador Marker's statements were made in a television interview in the US which received wide publicity, GOI presume that the US Government is aware of these statements. GOI is not aware of any official reaction of the US Government to Mr. Marker's interview.

(c) For FY 1989-90, the US administration has proposed a security assistance package to Pakistan amounting to US\$ 241 million. The Aid Bill is under consideration of Congress.

Facilities to Sports persons going abroad

917. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state what are the facilities given by the Government to sports persons during the international meets abroad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI-MATY MARGARET ALVA): For events like the Olympics, Common-