

Absorption of ex-employees of Indian Airlines in third level airlines

*30. SHRI ARABINDA GHOSH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state the steps taken by Government for absorption of the ex-employees of the Indian Airlines in the third level airlines?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): There is no proposal to absorb the ex-employees of Indian Airlines in the third level airlines. However, in exceptional cases, services of ex-personnel of Indian Airlines are obtained.

Gold seized by Customs B.S.F. and other agencies

*31. SHRI P. N. SUKUL;
DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA
HEPTULLA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the quantum of gold seized by the Customs, B.S.F. and other agencies in the year 1980-81; and

(b) whether the seized gold has been deposited in Government treasuries in the States or with a department of the Government of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA): (a) The question presumably refers to seizure of smuggled gold.

The total quantity of smuggled gold seized by the Customs authorities, the Border Security Force and other Enforcement agencies during the years 1980 and 1981 (upto October) is given below:—

Year	Approximate quantity of smuggled gold seized (in Kgs.)
1980	82
1981* (upto October)	115

*(Figures praisiowal)

(b) Seized gold is normally kept in a special safe in the Customs House Treasury or in a locker in the Reserve Bank of India or State Bank of India obtained exclusively for this purpose. On being finally confiscated to Government under the Customs Act, 1962 the gold becomes ripe for disposal, and is deposited in the India Government Mints.

5 billion dollar loan from I.M.F.

*32. SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM:
SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD
MATHUR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the IMF has granted a loan of 5 billion dollars including extended facility loan asked for by India;

(a) if so, what are the terms and conditions thereof;

(c) what are the rates of interest of the loan;

(d) by when the disbursement of the loan will commence and in what manner India will be able to draw the full amount;

(e) how the loan amount is proposed to be utilised and what are the justifications for seeking such a huge amount of loan from IMF;

(f) whether India was pressurised to accept certain fiscal and socio-economic policies detrimental to India's interest in order to get the loan; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(g) whether Government propose to place a copy of the loan agreement on the Table of the House; if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE
(SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): (a)

to (e) and (g) A statement has been made in the House on 23rd November, 1981.

(f) No, Sir.

Bird menace to Indian Airlines Planes

*33. SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI:

SHRI RAMANAND YADAV:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the bird menace to the Indian Airlines planes this year has assumed alarming proportions;

(b) whether many planes were hit by birds and grounded for a long time due to which Indian Airlines has incurred huge losses;

(c) if the answers to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, what is the number of Indian Airlines planes which were immobilised during 1980 and 1981 so far due to bird hits and what is the number of such occasions and what are the names of the aerodromes where the bird hit has occurred in large numbers and the reasons therefor and what steps have been taken by the Airport Authority of India to free the airports from bird menace; and

(d) what is the total loss suffered by the Indian Airlines during the last three years and so far in 1981 as a result of birds hits to the Indian Airlines planes?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) I lay a statement on the Table of the Sabha giving the requisite information.

(d) The cost of repairs in 1978-79, 1979-80 and 1980-81 (upto October, 1980) is respectively Rs. 1.52 crores, 0.24 crores and 0.15 crores. Information relating to loss of revenue due to grounding of the aircraft for repairs as well as cost of repairs from November, 1980 till October, 1981 will be collected and placed on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

There were 134 and 110 planes belonging to Indian Airlines which were immobilised during the years 1980 and 1981 (upto 31st October, 1981) respectively. The bird hit incidents in large number have occurred at Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Hyderabad and Cochin airports. The reasons are: insect population/dead insect at the airports, presence of shrubbery where birds normally nest, presence of garbage and other food items, etc.

To reduce bird menace the following steps are implemented:—

(i) Regular spraying of insecticides to reduce insect population which act as food for birds;

(ii) Regular sweeping of all areas used by aircraft to remove any dead insects;

(iii) Removal of shrubbery where birds normally nest;

(iv) Removal of garbage and other food items that attract birds;

(v) Usage of coloured ribbons on the shoulder strips of runways to scare birds;

(vi) Use of fire crackers and shooting to disperse the bird concentration; and

(vii) Bird fright cartridges are being imported.

R.B.I.'s revised policy for licencing urban cooperative banks

*34. SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI:

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has recently announced a revised policy for licencing urban cooperative banks and if so, what are the salient features thereof;

(b) what is the total number of urban cooperative banks, State-wise, and the deposits collected by them during the last three years; and