

LOK SABHA

Tuesday, March 1, 1966/Phalgunā 10,
1887 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair].

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

I.A.C. Fleet

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- *267. **Shri P. C. Borooah:**
Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shrimati Savitri Nigam:
Shri Madhu Limaye:
Shri P. R. Chakraverti:
Shri K. N. Tiwary:

Will the Minister of **Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines Corporation has proposed to augment its fleet of aircraft;

(b) if so, the number and type of aircrafts proposed to be added to the fleet; and

(c) whether Government have approved the proposal?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of **Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism (Shri C. M. Poonacha):** (a) and (b). The Indian Airlines Corporation have planned to acquire 6 Caravelles/Caravells type aircraft, 7 aircraft at replace Viscounts and Sky-masters, 15 Avro-748 Series II/F.27 type aircraft and 15 smaller aircraft for feeder routes during the Fourth Five Year Plan.

(c) Although the draft Fourth Plan of the I.A.C. has been approved by the Government, the Corporation are required to obtain Government's approval as and when aircraft are to be acquired.

Shri P. C. Borooah: Assam is perennially suffering from transport difficulties, and to remove these difficulties the Tarlok Singh Committee recently recommended establishment of a network of air services within the region with smaller aircraft. May I know how many aircraft and of what type are going to be procured for this purpose?

Shri C. M. Poonacha: I have already stated in reply to the main question that we are going to acquire 15 smaller type aircraft to operate on feeder routes.

Mr. Speaker: The question is whether those routes in the Assam region would be served by them.

Shri C. M. Poonacha: Yes; that is also kept in view.

Shri P. C. Borooah: Russian Ilyushin 18 has been found suitable for operating on our trunk routes. May I know whether Government has any proposal to go in for Russian Ilyushin 18?

Shri C. M. Poonacha: The question of acquisition of Russian Ilyushin 18 by I.A.C. is under consideration at the moment. We have not yet come to any final decision in the matter.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: We are interested in knowing whether Government has got any plan to augment its fleet in the near future? Fourth Five-Year Plan means five years. We

would like to know how Government propose to rearrange the schedule in view of the fact that already we have lost quite a good number in accidents.

Shri C. M. Poonacha: We have already got plans to replace Viscounts by 1967-68 and the Avros which have now been decided to be acquired are to be delivered in this order: five in 1966, six in 1967 and four in 1968.

श्री म० ल० टिब्रेडी: मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इन विभिन्न प्रकार के जहाजों के क्रय करने में कुल कितनी धनराशि व्यय होगी और जो माननीय मंत्री ने उत्तर दिया है उसमें कैरेविल का नाम नहीं है तो कैरेविल की खरीद क्या दुर्घटनाओं के कारण बंद की जा रही है या ऐसा और किसी कारण से किया जा रहा है ?

Shri C. M. Poonacha: So far as Caravelles are concerned, we are going to replace the present Caravelles by either Caravelles or some other Caravelle type plane which is equivalent to Caravelle both in performance as well as in seating capacity.

Mr. Speaker: What will be the whole amount that will be spent?

Shri C. M. Poonacha: Tentatively the Plan target for the Fourth Five-Year Plan is Rs. 44 crores in this regard.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Is it not a fact that there are surplus Dakotas and may I know whether they are going to be disposed of?

Shri C. M. Poonacha: Dakotas have outlived their life. So we would like to replace them.

Mr. Speaker: Shrimati Savitri Nigam.

Shri Madhu Limaye.

श्री मधु लिमये : श्री मंत्री महोदय ने बताया कि 44 करोड़ की योजना है खर्च

करने की तो मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि सरकारी क्षेत्र में बंगलोर में हवाई जहाज बनाने का जो कारखाना है क्या उस के साथ कोई बातचीत हो रही है कि इंडियन एयर लाइंस कारपोरेशन के लिए कोई उपयुक्त जहाज वह बनाये जिससे कि विदेशी मुद्रा का बचत हो सकेगी और हमारे उद्योग को भी बढ़ावा मिलेगा ?

Shri C. M. Poonacha: This point is kept in view. We have actually entered into a sort of arrangement with the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited for the supply of Avro-748 planes at a cost of Rs. 10.82 crores.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. P. R. Chakraverti.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam rose—

Mr. Speaker: I called her, but she did not stand. The hon. Members bear testimony to this. I called her name and also waited. (Interruptions).

Shri P. R. Chakraverti.

श्री मधु लिमये : श्रीमती का राज्य है मौका दिया जाये ।

Shri P. R. Chakraverti: While taking steps to augment this air fleet, may I know whether Government have also taken into account the difficulties experienced by the employees thereby making the passengers' life miserable and insecure?

Shri C. M. Poonacha: I could not follow the question.

Mr. Speaker: Nor could I follow the question. Could the hon. Member repeat it?

Shri P. R. Chakraverti: Difficulties are created by ladies on my right.

While taking steps to augment the air fleet, may I know whether Government have also taken into account the difficulties experienced by the employees concerned in running the

fleet, thereby making the passengers' life insecure?

Shri C. M. Poonacha: This point is no doubt taken into account.

Shri K. N. Tiwary: May I know the total number required to cover all the lines?

Shri C. M. Poonacha: We are having about 50 to 56 planes in service. According to the present programme, the number would be slightly less, but the seating capacity in most of these planes would be much higher than what we presently have.

Shri Vasudevan Nair: The hon. Minister himself has just now stated that the Dakota planes are outmoded planes. In that case may I know why of late, during the last week, they have introduced the Dakota plane in the South from Madras to Cochin?

Shri C. M. Poonacha: At the moment, they are in our service....

Shri Vasudevan Nair: They were not in service before.....

Shri C. M. Poonacha: They are air-worthy after due inspection and careful maintenance.

Shri Shinkre: It is obvious that this question has assumed added importance as a result of some very fatal accidents that we had recently. In this connection, it was in the press a few days back, about a week back I think, that one very important daily from West Germany called Frankfurt *Allgemeine*, has castigated all the international airlines plus the respective Governments for trying to hush up the fact that more or less at the same time when this Indian airliner crashed, an Italian jet fighter also has been missing in the same area, the insinuation being that the Italian jet fighter might have hit the airliner and caused the crash. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether he is aware of this fact, and if so, what steps he has taken to ascertain the truth, and if not what he is going to do to ascertain the truth and re-establish the prestige

and reputation of our pilots and our airlines.

Shri C. M. Poonacha: The matter is under investigation by a court of inquiry. I do not wish to prejudge the findings of that body now.

Shri Shinkre: Is the hon. Minister aware of that report?

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Shri C. M. Poonacha: I have seen some reports in the....

Mr. Speaker: I have not allowed that question. I am going to the next question.

पाकिस्तान को नीवहन सेवा

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- * 268. श्री श्रींकार लाल बेरवा :
 श्री हुकम जन्द कछवाय :
 श्री यशपाल सिंह :
 श्री प्र० रं० चक्रवर्ती :
 श्री क० ना० तिवारी :
 श्री भागवत मा ब्राह्मद :
 श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी :
 श्री स० चं० रामगुप्त :
 श्री सुबोध हंसदा :
 श्रीमती शशित्री निगम :
 श्री प्र० चं० बहशा :
 श्रीमती मंजूना सुल्तान :

क्या परिवहन, डकुपन, नीवहन तथा पर्यटन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार ने गुटों से असम्बद्ध देशों के जहाजों को भारतीय पत्तनों पर माल लादने के पश्चात् पाकिस्तान जाने की अनुमति दे दी है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस सम्बन्ध में क्या शर्तें लगाई गई हैं; और

(ग) किस प्रकार का माल ले जाने की अनुमति दी गई है ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport, Aviation, Shipping