

LOK SABHA

Tuesday, February 15, 1966/Magha 26,
1887 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

I.A.C. Services

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

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

(a) whether the latest assessment of the increasing air traffic needs of the I.A.C. services has been made;

(b) if so, the steps being taken to meet the demands; and

(c) the present traffic capacity of all the running fleet of the I.A.C.?

The Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism (Shri Sanjiva Reddy): (a) and (b). An assessment of the traffic during the Fourth Five Plan has been made and additional capacity has been planned to meet the traffic demands.

(c) The available Tonne Kilometres produced by the existing fleet in the Corporation in a year is about 180 millions.

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Shri Shree Narayan Das: Has any assessment been made as to the extent to which the requirements would have to be met indigenously or from foreign sources?

Shri Sanjiva Reddy: As regards production of planes, the percentage is very little as stands now. Naturally, we will have to depend on imports to a large extent.

Shri Shree Narayan Das: In this assessment, what are the financial conclusions reached? Are the profits increasing or there will be loss in future also?

Shri Sanjiva Reddy: No, there is no loss even now. There is profit and it is showing an upward trend every year.

श्री मधु लिमये : क्या लापरवाही और बदइतजामी के कारण दुर्घटनाएं बढ़ रही हैं जैसे कि अभी कुछ ही गेज हुए कश्मीर में एक वायुयान दुर्घटनाग्रस्त हो गया और एक कारवेल के यह दुर्घटनाग्रस्त हो जाने की आज सबेरे खबर आई है तो क्या उन का आई० ए० सी० के काम पर कोई प्रभर पड़ रहा है और यात्रियों की संख्या घट रही है ?

Shri Sanjiva Reddy: I am making a statement about accidents which will be comprehensive, after the question hour. Now to give all details about these accidents will be difficult.

Shri P. C. Borooah: Is it a fact that the efficiency of IAC has gone down to such an extent that there is frequent disruption in the service on account of strikes and other methods adopted by various categories of employees and also due to the personal grouse amongst the crew? If so, what steps have been taken to rectify this state of affairs?

Mr. Speaker: Not so many questions.

Shri Sanjiva Reddy: I am myself worried about the position. I would like to study it more closely before making a statement.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: In view of the increasing demands for traffic and revenue, have Government drawn up any plan for acquiring new aircraft? If so, what are the details thereof?

Shri Sanjiva Reddy: Yes, there is a plan. For acquiring planes there is in the Fourth Plan outlay a provision of Rs. 49.5 crores. But before we begin increasing the number of aircraft etc. the efficiency has to be improved and discipline has to be enhanced so that we may be able to give better service. Anyway, as I said I would like to have a little more time to study the matter and see which way it can be bettered.

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : जो वायुयान बाहर से मंगये जा रहे हैं उन के मूल्यों को देखते हुए क्या सरकार ने कभी इस बात पर विचार किया है कि इंडियन एयरलाइंस की आवश्यकताओं को देश में पूरा करने के लिए कोई उपाय किया जाय, यदि हां, तो उस सम्बन्ध में क्या किया गया है ?

Shri Sanjiva Reddy: I do not know whether we can produce Caravelles and Fokker Friendships and all that in India now. It should be a long-term plan. Just at present we are not able to do it.

Shri S. C. Samanta: What sort of aircraft are being kept in reserve for extra services? Will Caravelles also be kept in reserve?

Shri Sanjiva Reddy: All planes are worked now to a tight programme. There is nothing like a reserve. Wherever there are extra planes some new routes are opened. Caravelles and Fokker Friendships are there

now. Dakotas are used for feeder services here and there.

Shri Subodh Hansda: Is the present capacity fully utilised particularly in the field of goods traffic? If so, is the Corporation running at a loss or profit?

Shri Sanjiva Reddy: The capacity is fully utilised. It is not run at a loss. As I said, they are making a profit progressively every year.

श्री क० ना० लिबारी : यह वायुयान क्या इश्योर्ड है, क्या यह फुल्ली इश्योर्ड है या पार्टली इश्योर्ड है और यह किस के साथ इश्योर्ड है ?

Shri Sanjiva Reddy: They are all insured. Whether it will cover the whole of it, I do not know, but they are fairly well insured.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: As a result of the assessment, may I know what conclusions have been reached? What are the new lines which are going to be started?

Shri Sanjiva Reddy: I do not think they have taken a decision about starting any new lines immediately now. It is only after they acquire new planes, they can think of new lines.

Shrimati Sharda Mukerjee: Can the Minister give us any information as to what has happened regarding the manufacture of Avro-748 which was going to be used for civil aviation?

Shri Sanjiva Reddy: I want notice.

Shri Narasimha Reddy: In view of the fact that ever since the present Minister was sworn into office, there has been a continuous chain of disasters overtaking our planes, would the hon. Minister put in a humble memorial to our Prime Minister to relieve him of this office?

Shri Sanjiva Reddy: I will be very grateful if my hon. friend can come and replace me. I will be very happy.

Shri Narasimha Reddy: I will select a suitable candidate.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: As the Minister has stated, the question is of improving the services and giving more comfort. In recent days, there has been great trouble between the pilots and air hostesses. I would like the Minister to look into it personally and to see that no undue advantage is taken by certain pilots against air hostesses.

Shri Sanjiva Reddy: As I said, I am really very unhappy about this indiscipline. I do not know if I am using a strongword. Even before the accidents occurred, from the first day I have been looking at it only from this angle how to bring about discipline, how to avoid quarrels between the pilots and air hostesses. I have discussed it with the Chairman of IAC, who is also the Secretary of the Department. It is a line of approach which we will have to take very carefully, because it may affect the whole service, there may be some strike or something. Anyway, I am giving my thought to it.

Drought and Failure of Rains

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- *2. **Shri Warior:**
Shri Vasudevan Nair:
Shri Indrajit Gupta:
Shri Prabhat Kar:
Shri Daljit Singh:
Shri M. S. Murti:
Shri Sham Lal Saraf:
Shri R. Barua:
Shri Shree Narayan Das:
Shri Prakash Vir Shastri:
Shri Jagdev Singh Siddhanti:
Shri Hukam Chand
Kachhavaia:
Shri Linga Reddy:
Shri Hem Raj:

Will the Minister of Food, Agricul-

ture, Community Development and Co-operation be pleased to state:

(a) whether the overall position arising out of drought, partial failure of rains and floods in some parts of the country regarding Kharif harvest and future prospects of rabi has been received;

(b) if so, the State-wise position in this respect; and

(c) whether any, and if so, what measures have been taken to utilise water resources for growing rabi crops in the various parts of the country?

The Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri C. Subramaniam): (a) and (b). A statement showing the tentative estimates of production of major kharif cereals in 1965-66 and the corresponding final estimates for 1964-65, State-wise is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-5426(i)/66]. As for rabi crops it is too early to give a State-wise estimate of expected production. However, the over-all shortfall in the production of foodgrains as a whole during 1965-66 may be about 12.5 million tonnes as compared to the production during 1964-65.

(c) A number of measures have been taken to utilise water resources for growing rabi crops in the various parts of the country. A statement indicating the important measures taken in this respect is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-5426 (ii)/66].

Shri Warior: May I know whether the Government have thought of giving any tax relief to the cultivators or taking any other measures, so that at least the next crop will be in order, according to the target?

Shri C. Subramaniam: No, Sir. It is for the additional crop that is to be raised during rabi that we are giving various concessions. We are giving pumping water, we are giving conces-