

THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(Part I—Questions and Answers)
OFFICIAL REPORT

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HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Monday, 22nd February, 1954

The House met at Two of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

AIR INDIA INTERNATIONAL

*190. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether the traffic by Air India International between India and Europe has been on the increase during the last twelve months as compared to the previous year; and

(b) if so, by how much?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) There has been an overall increase in the traffic carried by the Air India International Corporation during the period January—November 1953 as compared with that carried during the corresponding period in 1952.

(b) The passenger traffic increased by 7.66 per cent. during the period mentioned above while the cargo and mail traffic increased by 6.87 per cent. The increase in the overall traffic was 7.4 per cent.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Has there been any increase in the frequency of the services on old routes, or have any

new routes been opened during this period?

Shri Raj Bahadur: We contemplate an increase in frequency or at least the provision of more accommodation from the point of view of the number of seats, after we get our new planes of the type 149C.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Has the increase in working expenses on account of these services been much more than what we could have expected?

Shri Raj Bahadur: No. It is not much more. It works out to Rs. 27.25 lakhs.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Is it a fact that the monthly loss in working these lines is much greater than the subsidy that the Government used to pay to the old companies?

Shri Raj Bahadur: There is no loss in the operation of the Air India International.

Shri N. Somana: Is there any basis for the newspaper reports that the loss is about Rs 40 lakhs?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The question under reply pertains to the Air India International. The hon. Member's question which is about the Indian Airlines Corporation is a different one.

ABOLITION OF FIRST CLASS ON
RAILWAYS

*191. **Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the expenditure incurred in the change over from Class I to II in the Indian Railways since 1st October, 1953?