

**Acquisition of Jumbo Jets by India**

**662. SHRI BISHWANATH JHUNJHUNWALA**

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Will the MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (PARYATAN AUR NAGAR VIMANAN MANTRI) be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that India has acquired one Jumbo Jet and three more are under contractual order for supply before long ,

(b) whether it is also a fact that international airlines, owning Jumbos like, the Trans-World Airways and the Pan American have so far incurred losses of dollars 70 million and dollars 62 million respectively ,

(c) whether according to experts the existing slump in the growth of passenger traffic is likely to continue for another three years ,

(d) whether the international flights of the Air India do not carry optimum passenger loads at present and if so, the percentage of vacant seats carried , and

(e) whether Government would place on the table of the House a Statement explaining fully the economics of working of the Jumbo Jets and the justification for acquiring four Jets when the above factors do not justify such acquisition ?

**THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (PARYATAN AUR NAGAR VIMANAN MANTRI) (DR KARAN SINGH)** (a) Air-India have already acquired two Boeing 747s (Jumbo Jets) Two more are expected to be received in March/April, 1972.

(b) Several international airlines have lately experienced adverse financial results

which can be attributed to several unfavourable factors such as, economic recession, rapid increase in industry cost levels, etc.

(c) According to current forecasts the relatively lower rate of growth of international air traffic is a temporary phenomenon and there is every likelihood of a reversal of the current situation

(d) Air-India had an overall load factor of 54.2% during 1970-71 and anticipate an overall load factor of 51.8% in 1971-72 inclusive of operation of four Boeing 747 services per week between India and U K , three of which will be extended to U S A

(e) The decision to purchase Boeing 747 aircraft was taken after careful study of all relevant factors pertaining to the economics of air transport consistent with the Corporation's policy of timely acquisition of modern and competitive equipment and its proper deployment through a careful selection of routes and markets

**Exchange of Currency brought by Refugees from Bangla Desh**

**663. SHRI BISHWANATH JHUNJHUNWALA**

**SHRI BIREN DUTTA**

Will the MINISTER OF FINANCE (VITTA MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) whether the evacuees from Bangla Desh are being harassed by money exchangers on the Indian border ;

(b) whether Government of Tripura have asked the Government of India to license new foreign exchange dealers to save the evacuees from such exploitation ;

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard ; and