Hiring of Aircrafts by Air India

*611. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: DR. A.K. PATEL:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Air India hired a Boeing 747 from Middle East Airlines and a smaller plan from Cargolux;
- (b) if so, the rate of hiring of each aircraft and the amount including foreign exchange paid; and
- (c) the reasons for incurring this expenditure in view of the clear instructions for urgent need to curtail expenditure on non-essential items?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI MOTILAL VORA): (a) Air India wet leased on B747 aircraft from Middle East Airlines in October, 1987, No aircraft was hired from Cargolux.

(b) The west lease charges were US \$ 5000/- per flying hour. The hiring charges included full complement of Cockpit and cabin Crew, Hull and War insurance and full maintenance of the aircraft.

The lease charges amounted to US \$ 14, 75, 417 equivalent to Indian Rupees 191.50 lakhs. Apart from the lease changes, a further amount of US \$ 17,785 equivalent to Indian Rupees 2.31 lakhs was paid to Middle East Airlines towards fuel.

(c) Air India had heavy booked loads on their services between UK/Europe and India. Other airlines were not able o accommodate these loads, in case Air India did not operate the flights. Therefore, in order to avoid inconvenience to passengers and to keep the cancellations to the minimum number possible, wet leasing of the aircraft was unavoidable.

[Translation]]

Ad-Hoc Appointments at Airports.

- * 612 SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be please to state:
- (a) the number of employees appointed on temporary basis at the various airports in the country during the last two years and the posts against which they were appointed;
- (b) the basic rules governing such appointments; and
- (c) the additional appointments proposed to be made during the year 1988?

THE M!NISTER OF HEALTH & FAM-ILY WELFARE AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI MOTILAL VORA): (a) to (c). Organisations under this Ministry sometimes appoint persons on purely temporary basis to meet urgent operational requirements. These organisations appointed 757 persons during the last two years in vacancies such as, Drivers, Traffic Assistants, Catering Assistants, Traffic Warden etc.

For filing up posts on a temporary basis, the basic qualifications are the same as those for regular appointments.

It is not possible to estimate the number of such appointment s to be made in 1988 as temporary appointments are made in exceptional circumstances. The endeavour is to keep such appointments to the barest minimum possible.