

rest of the approved tourist hotel rooms in this country, which are about 38,000, are mostly 1 to 4 star hotels and naturally people have to select the type of hotels where they want to stay. It depends upon their pocket and on their budget. But there has been no such complaint that India has been providing only 5 star hotels and no other hotels. In fact in certain places there has been a demand for construction of more 5-star hotels. For instance, in Bombay there is a persistent demand for more 5-star hotels but we are trying to encourage 4 and 3 star and 2 star hotels.

MR SPEAKER : Shri Nityananda Misra...

Shri Chandra Bhal Mani Tewari..

Prof. Madhu Dandavate.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :

Question No. 462.

SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN : To-day you will not give me any respite.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : You sit down, I will reply.

SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN : That I used to do when you were Railway Minister.

#### Inadequate Number of Aircraft Available With Indian Airlines

\*462. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the existing strength of the aircrafts available with the Indian Airlines is inadequate for the close circuit air traffic ?

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that even if one or two aircrafts develop some mechanical defects, lot of air traffic is disrupted ; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to remove these constraints on the air traffic ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) : (a) to (c) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

(a) The existing fleet of Indian Airlines is adequate to meet its operational requirements at present. Some spare capacity has been provided at Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras to provide relief in case of emergencies.

(b) Since Indian Airlines operates more than one service with the same aircraft, the grounding of an aircraft does lead to disruption of some services.

(c) Indian Airlines proposes to increase its aircraft capacity by acquiring 12 Boeing 757 aircraft during the period 1985-87.

PROF MADHU DANDAVATE : In part (a) of the reply the hon. Minister says :

"The existing fleet of Indian Airlines is adequate to meet its operational requirements at present."

This is only a qualitative answer. I would like to know from him whether he would be able to quantify the capacity and tell us what exactly are the capacity need so as to cover punctually all the flights of the Indian

Airlines to various airports and after having stated what exactly is the requirement and the capacity, I would also like to know what is the capacity available in terms of the number of aircraft and whether there is any gap between the two.

**SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN :** To-day we have 54 aircraft of various types—Airbuses, Boeings 747, HS 748 and F 27...

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :** Why don't you start from the first what are the capacity needs ?

**SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN :** At the moment the aircraft we have are actually meeting the requirements. But the problem arises only when any aircraft is grounded. No doubt our aircraft are utilised at least for 2-3 trips in various routes. But when an aircraft is grounded or when there is a primary delay, then the consequential delays take place. This is the problem. These days often we get a telephone call at the airport that a bomb has been placed and in such cases, it is mandatory for us to offload the passengers as also the luggage and search the aircraft and then only let the aircraft go. This takes 3-4 hours in case of airbuses and about 2-3 hours in case of Boeing 737. I know in view of the expanding demand which is about 10% per annum, we need additional aircrafts and therefore, the Indian Airlines has already taken a decision to add 12 more aircraft—Boeing 757 to its fleet.

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :** Without casting any aspersion on the Minister, you will admit that since he says that 12 additional aircraft are necessary, the present capacity is not adequate at all...

**MR. SPEAKER :** He has also mentioned a 10% increase in the demand.

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :** He should keep in mind the growth in demand when he gives the capacity requirements.

My second supplementary is : if you feel that by and large the present capacity is fairly adequate, as you have stated earlier, in that case, why is it that we are going in for a third airline in which we are allowing certain private airline companies to run flights from certain airports to certain other airports. Why it is allowed? At least you are planning that now. That is one aspect. Secondly—I hope you will take it in a light vein—have you come across a very interesting cartoon by Laxman in the *Times of India* in which he has stated :

'The Indian Airlines regrets to announce a slight delay in the departure of Flight No. 186 and, therefore, all passengers are requested to go back to the Lounge. They will be served the breakfast at 8-30 A.M, Lunch at 10' clock and Dinner at 8 P.M.

Does it represent the reality ?

**SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN :** Sir, I know Mr. Laxman. He is a very good cartoonist. I have also seen some very good cartoon of his when a railway accident took place some time back when you were the Railway Minister and when you were on this side.

This expansion will take care of the replacement and addition. And, as I said, the growth rate upto now is 10% in the domestic airline. Therefore, keeping this in view, we have decided to acquire these aircraft for expansion and for replacement in the next five years. (Interruptions) To the best of my knowledge—I will have to check up this—no private airline was operating—I do not think so. There was one private person operating from Bombay to Sharjah. You will be glad to know

that first when I took over charge, I cancelled his licence.

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :** From Bombay to Ratnagiri there was an airliner. Have you heard the name of Ratnagiri, my constituency ?

**SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN :** I have heard the name of Ratnagiri. I have also heard the name of Prof. Dandavate. But, I have not heard if there was anything going on about the private airline operation.

**MR. SPEAKER :** I also take cognisance of this. Mr. Thevar.

**SHRI K. MAYATHEVAR :** May I know from the hon. Minister what is the reason for the delay in the arrival and departure of various aircraft throughout the country? Sir, on the 20th of last Monday, one Airbus No. IC440 left Madras and arrived at the Hyderabad Airport at 7 A.M. The time for its stay was only for 40 minutes. But, we were forced to stay inside the aircraft upto 8-45 AM. May be, because of VIP.

*(Interruptions)*

**MR. SPEAKER :** You are not serious about the question.

**SHRI K. MAYATHEVAR :** Will the hon. Minister tell me what is the reason for the delay ?

**MR. SPEAKER :** Mr. Halder. Mr. Thevar, please be relevant. You will please sit down. Disallowed.

*(Interruptions)\*\**

Not allowed.

Shri Halder.

*(Interruptions)*

**MR. SPEAKER :** Are you an hon. Member of this House of something

else ? I have already said it is irrelevant. Please sit down. Mr. Mayathevar, will you please sit down ? Will you listen to me ? I have not allowed your question. I am worried about you and your health.

**SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN :** Sir, I have not listened to the question. Will the hon. Member repeat it ?

*(Interruptions)*

**SHRI K. MAYATHEVAR :** What is the reason for the delay of the aircraft ? Was it to prevent the national leaders from attending the national conference ?

*(Interruptions)*

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE :** Sir, the hon. Minister wanted the question to be repeated although it was not necessary. Although the question has been repeated yet the reply has not been coming.

**श्री राम बिलास पासवान :** डिले के कारण क्या थे, यह बतला दीजिए । साथ महम न बताइए ।

*(शुद्धी)*

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** अब आखरी दिनों में क्यों यह मेरे से करवाते हो जैसे कि कहते हैं :

सारी उम्र तो कटी इसके बूतों में गालिव  
अब आखरी दिन में क्या खाक फुसलमा  
होंगे ।।

**श्री राम बिलास पासवान :** आज तक सरकार ने कभी नहीं बतलाया कि डिले क्यों किया ?

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** बतला दिया था ।

*(शुद्धी)*

SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN : Sir, I have already mentioned that when we get a telephone call about the bomb scare then it is mandatory for us to off-load the passengers and also off-load the luggage. The aircraft is checked and only when we are sure about the safety of the passengers we allow it to fly again.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Mayathevar, you are supposed to be an honourable Member of the Parliament of India.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDEAR : Sir, the hon. Minister has stated in his statement that the existing fleet of the Indian Airlines is adequate to meet its operational requirements at present. But the hon. colleague Prof. Madhu Dandavate has proved that the fleet is inadequate. The time-schedule for the different air-route is also important for the air passengers. Calcutta is a gateway for the Eastern and North-Eastern regions from the tourist point of view. The number of passengers travelling by air from Delhi to Calcutta and vice versa have also increased now. The Airbus timing is also required to be rescheduled. If it starts at 8.30AM from Delhi instead of 9.30 AM and at 7.0 PM, instead of 5-15 PM at Calcutta, then the passenger traffic will be more and the utilisation capacity will also be more. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he would consider re-scheduling of the Airbus timing both at Calcutta and at Delhi so that the air traffic is more convenient to the passengers.

SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN : Sir, it is a suggestion for our consideration.

SHRI HARIKESH BAHADUR : The hon. Minister has said that he is going to increase the number of aircrafts in the fleet. I would like to know

from the hon. Minister whether he would provide a direct aircraft to go to Kathmandu via Gorakhpur so that the problems of air passengers from Gorakhpur may be solved.

MR. SPEAKER : It is a good suggestion.

SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN : It is a suggestion for consideration.

जयपुर-कोटा उड़ान को भीलवाड़ा  
चित्तौड़गढ़ तक बढ़ाना

\*463. प्रो. निर्मला कुमारी शक्तावत : क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का विचार चित्तौड़गढ़ क्षेत्र के लोगों के अनुरोध पर जयपुर-कोटा उड़ान को जो सप्ताह में तीन बार चलती है राजस्थान में पर्यटकों की सुविधा के लिए चित्तौड़गढ़ तक बढ़ाने का है;

(ख) क्या राज्य सरकार ने राजस्थान में भीलवाड़ा और चित्तौड़गढ़ के बीच "सोनियाणा" गांव के पास एक हवाई पट्टी का निर्माण किया है; और

(ग) यदि हाँ, तो क्या सरकार का विचार इस स्थान को एयरपोर्ट में बदल कर और दिल्ली-जयपुर-कोटा उड़ान को भीलवाड़ा-चित्तौड़गढ़ तक बढ़ाने का है ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) : (a) No, Sir; Chittorgarh is in close proximity of