

RAJYA SABHA

Thursday, the 5th March, 1981/the
14th Phalguna 1902 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the
clock, Mr. Chairman in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Manufacturing of aircraft for feeder lines

*221. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR
SAHU:†
SHRI KRISHNA NAND
JOSHI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be
pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have de-
cided to manufacture aircraft needed
for feeder lines in the country;

(b) if so, whether collaborations by
foreign firms are being negotiated for
this purpose; and

(c) if so, what progress has been
made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
(SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a)
Government are considering the
manufacture of a suitable aircraft
required for feeder lines and other
roles.

(b) and (c) Some foreign manufac-
turers have offered collaboration ar-
rangements. Negotiations will be ini-
tiated after completing the studies
relating to the feasibility and the
viability of the project.

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU:
Sir, as per the report and statement
given by the Tourism and Civil
Aviation Minister, a Committee will
be appointed soon to go into selecting
a better aircraft for the feeder air-
lines. May I know whether the HAL
person who has the expertise on pro-
duction of Avro will be included in
that Committee.

†The Question was actually asked
on the floor of the House by Shri
Santosh Kumar Sahu.

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My second question is this: Because
we are producing Avros and there
was some insistence by the pilots on
the less payload taking factor at the
time of take-off, may I know whether
there can be some alteration and
modification so that the Avros can
be fitted for the short-haul feeder
aircraft?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: As far
as the new aircraft is concerned, we
have not taken any final decision and
it is being evaluated. As far as the
Avro aircraft is concerned, it is a
44-seater and the fuel consumption is
very high. The modifications requir-
ed would be very difficult and it will
not be cost-effective. For all these
reasons, the Avro—it is supposed—
will not be suitable for this purpose.

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU:
May I know what are the countries
which have offered technology for
the small haulage aircraft? Mr.
Lumly, the Canadian Minister, told
the press that they have given some
offer so that they will give a licence
for the manufacture of a small air-
craft in this country...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I thought all this
has been gone into and no decision
has been taken. What is the use of
suggesting? I can suggest twenty
types of aircraft, Otter and others.
How can the Minister have the infor-
mation? He will be examining them.

Mr. Joshi—not here. Yes, Mr.
Krishna.

SHRI M. R. KRISHNA: Sir, one of
the things which we have yet to do is
to assess the requirements of the
transport aircraft for various areas
and to produce the correct aircraft in
the country. We have already wasted
a lot of money in choosing various
aircraft whenever it suited us. I
would like to know whether the De-
fence Ministry has gone into this as-
pect to find out what would be the
requirement for this country and
what type of aircraft would suit us
very much and after that, whether
we are going into collaboration with

the companies with which we are already associated.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question answers itself.

SHRI M. R. KRISHNA: No, Sir, it has not been answered. The first thing is how many types of transport aircraft are being used at the moment.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, we are trying to assess our requirements in different fields for the purpose of taking passengers from one place to the other for the purpose of third line and for other purposes also. It is only after knowing what our requirements are that we would be able to decide whether it would be cost-effective to produce them in our country or not. That study is being done and after coming to a conclusion whether it would be feasible and viable to produce the aircraft in our country, we may start negotiations and evaluation of the aircraft, their technology and other things offered by the companies and factories and the other producers in other countries.

श्री सत्यपाल मलिक : मान्यवर, मैं मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ, एक तो मंत्री जी के जवाब से ही लगता है कि अभी तक सरकार ने इसमें कोई फैसला नहीं किया है कि बनाना बेहतर रहेगा या खरीदना बेहतर रहेगा, समाचार पत्रों में कुछ खबर छपी थी, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या यह सच है कि फीडर एयर लाइन में इस्तेमाल होने वाले छोटे हवाई जहाजों की हिन्दुस्तान में एजेंसी लेने के लिए पिछले दिनों श्री धीरेन्द्र ब्रह्मचारी जी ने यूरोप के कुछ मुल्कों का दौरा किया था, यदि हाँ, तो क्या उनको, सरकार किन-किन जहाजों को खरीद रही है, इसकी जानकारी थी क्योंकि सरकार की तरफ से कोई इसका खंडन नहीं हुआ है। तो क्या धीरेन्द्र ब्रह्मचारी जी ने आपके इशारे की जानकारी के बाद दौरा किया था क्या ... (व्यवधान) उनको एजेंसी मिलेगी

यदि हाँ, तो क्या सरकार ... (व्यवधान)
उनको कहां से यह जानकारी मिली ?

श्री जे०के०जैन : धीरेन्द्र ब्रह्मचारी का क्या मतलब है ?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I do not know who is more irrelevant, Mr. Malik or you.

SHRI J. K. JAIN: You can decide that.

श्री शिवराज वी० पाटिल : छोटे एयरक्राफ्ट के बारे में हमारी जरूरत है मगर वे जो धीरेन्द्र ब्रह्मचारी की बात कर रहे हैं इसका कोई संबंध यहाँ नहीं है। यह गलत है गवर्नमेंट पहले भी (व्यवधान) काम करने के लिए काफी मजबूत है, कर सकती है और यह जो कह रहे हैं यह दुस्त नहीं है और यह बात जो है गलत है।

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is well-known that HAL, i.e. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited of Bangalore, has spare manufacturing capacity today. I am also aware of the fact that the basic bottleneck in our aeronautics programme has been the lack of development of designing capacity. Now we have this new demand for a small aircraft. I would like to have an assurance from the hon. Minister that while deciding about the aircraft the first parameter that he would take into consideration would be that the aircraft would be available to us immediately for assembly in India leading to progressive manufacture in accordance with the design modified according to our requirements. The outright or straight purchase of foreign aircraft should be completely ruled out from the very beginning. These are the two points I would like to ask.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: There are two things involved in it. He has asked whether we are purchasing them from outside or whether we are going to manufacture them here. These two questions can be answered

only after knowing what number of aircraft we would be requiring. If the number of aircraft is small, then we have to see whether it would be profitable to manufacture them here. If the number of the aircraft is going to be large, then it would be necessary for us to manufacture them here. In that case we have to decide whether we are going to get simple technology or complete technology or whether they have certain other things available with them. After considering all these aspects, we can decide whether to manufacture them here or if the need is very urgent, we may buy them also. It is only after assessing the situation and considering all the point that we can take a proper decision.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mrs. Monika Das. And then yours will be the last question.

SHRI NAGESHWAR PRASAD SHAHI: Mine.

श्री सभापति : आपको आगे चांस दिया जायेगा, आपका तो हर एक पर ही सवाल रहेगा ।

SHRIMATI MONIKA DAS: I would like to know from the Defence Minister whether the Government have received any proposal from the Government of Karnataka or the Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Karnataka about the 3rd level service. Based on an evaluation of all the outstanding aircraft, the twin-engined Otter of de Havilland Aircraft Company of Canada is the most suited aircraft for the third level requirements of Karnataka people. So, I want to know from the Defence Minister when they are going to start that one because, Sir, we the Karnataka people are finding it very difficult. Sir, I am from Hubli. We are finding it very difficult to go from here to Hubli. If that comes, Hubli also will be connected. So, I want to know from the hon. Minister when they are going to decide the third-level aircraft. (Interruptions). It is

not Civil Aviation. It is the Defence Ministry.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You don't converse there. What is your question?

SHRIMATI MONIKA DAS: I want to know whether the Government of Karnataka received any proposal recently from the Federation of Chambers of Commerce and whether they have written to the Defence Minister or not, and whether you have received it or not.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, probably, the hon. Member wants to know whether any Federation has written any letter to the Government of Karnataka. Well, it will not be possible for me to say whether they have written any letter to the Government of Karnataka. But, at least, as far as my knowledge goes, I have not received any letter from the Government of Karnataka. I shall have to check it. But as far as my knowledge goes, we have not received any letter.

श्री हरि सिंह नलवा : चेयरमैन साहब, क्या मैं मंत्री साहब से यह पूछ सकता हूँ कि एयरक्राफ्ट मैनुफैक्चर करने के बारे में— किमी किस्म का भी एयरक्राफ्ट, लेटेस्ट वन-कोलैबोरेशन की बात सरकार क्यों सोचती है, जबकि हमारे देश के अंदर काफी ऐसे इंजीनियर्स हैं कि वर्ल्ड के अंदर उनका मुकाबला किसी भी कंपनी का इंजीनियर नहीं कर सकता ।

तो क्या मंत्री जी यह फर्मायेंगे कि डिफाल्ट कहाँ पर है, गवर्नमेंट की मशीनरी में कोई डिफाल्ट है, जिसकी वजह से इंजीनियर यहाँ मैनुफैक्चर नहीं कर सकते, या प्लेनिंग का डिफैक्ट है या कोई आपाजीशन पार्टी ऐसी गड़बड़ी कर देते हैं जिनसे काम नहीं हो पाता ?
... (व्यवधान)

श्री शिवराज बी. पाटिल : माननीय सदस्य ज्ञानना चाहते हैं कि क्यों हमारे इंजीनियर और जो एक्सपर्ट्स हैं, उनकी मदद से यहाँ पर हवाई-जहाज क्यों नहीं बनाते ।

में इसके संबंध में कहना चाहें कि यहाँ हमारे पास जो भी जान मौजूद है, उनका हम जरूर उपयोग करना चाहेंगे। मगर आज दुनिया के अंदर हमारी जहाज के संबंध में इतने कुछ लाया आगे बढ़ गये हैं कि अगर उनका हम फायदा न लें और उनके ऊपर जो हम कर सकते हैं, वह न करें तो शायद दुनिया के साथ करना बिना कर चलना मुश्किल हो जाएगा। जो बाहर मालुम है, उनको भी हम लेना चाहते हैं। हमारे साथ जो है, उनके साथ बिना लें चाहते हैं और उनके साथ हम एक नया हमारी-जहाज बनाना चाहते हैं। जो बहुत दिनों तक हमारे काम में आ सके। जो हमारे पास मौजूद है, उसके हम जरूर उपयोग करेंगे। ... (बयाना)

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is nothing in this and everybody wants to put a question. Now, question No. 222.

*222. [The Questioners (Shri Swami Dinesh Chandra and N. K. P. Salve) were absent. For answer vide col. 31-32 infra.]

*223. [The questioners (Shri Syed Ahmed Hashmi and Shri Ng. Tompok Singh) were absent. For answer vide col. 32 infra.]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 224—Shri Khobragade.

Recommendations of the Minorities Commission

*224. SHRI B. D. KHOBRAGADE:†
SHRI F. M. KHAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received the recommendations of the Minorities Commission;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

†The Question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri B. D. Khobragade.

(c) whether Government have accepted the recommendations, if so, by when these are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA):

(a) to (c) The Minorities Commission have so far submitted two Annual Reports for the year ending 31st December, 1978 and 31st December, 1979 respectively. Both these Reports along with the Action-Taken-Memoranda were placed on the Table of the House on the 9th July, 1980 and 22nd December, 1980, respectively.

SHRI B. D. KHOBRAGADE: Sir, I am not putting the supplementary but my first objection is that I had asked the question about the 1980 report because it was supposed to be presented to the Government very recently and my question referred to that. My question was whether the 1980 report has been submitted to the Government or not? There is no reply to that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has said that the Report along with the Action-Taken-Memoranda has been placed on the Table of the House. What remains?

SHRI B. D. KHOBRAGADE: Sir, I am talking about the 1980 report.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I do not think you have seen what has been laid on the Table of the House.

SHRI B. D. KHOBRAGADE: Sir, my question is whether the Chairman of the Commission has submitted the report for 1980 and, if so, what are the recommendations thereof, and, if not, when it will be submitted?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The answer is there that it has been laid on the Table of the House.

SHRI B. D. KHOBRAGADE: Sir, 1978 and 1979 reports have been placed on the Table of the House. My question is whether the report for 1980 has been submitted by the Com-