

**PURCHASE OF PLANES BY DEFENCE
MINISTRY FROM A.I.I.**

*585. SHRI A. D. MANI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry have purchased nine Super-Constellation planes from the Air India International's fleet; and

(b) If so, for what purpose these planes are going to be utilised?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA) : (a) and (b) It is proposed to negotiate with the Air India International the purchase of some surplus Super-Constellations to meet certain requirements of the Air Force.

SHRI A. D. MANI: Is the Government aware that the 2,000 mile range of Super-Constellations is not required for logistic purposes by the Indian Air Force?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: The Government of India knows exactly what it wants and I should like to inform the hon. Member that there are certain uses of an aircraft of this performance and that is why we are considering to negotiate.

SHRI A. D. MANI: May I enquire from Government whether any other State so far as they know, uses Super-Constellations for military transport?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: Yes, Sir, There are quite a few States that use Super-Constellations for their transport requirements.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA.: May I know if it is not a fact that the Air India took it up with the Indian Airlines Corporation whether they would like to buy some of these planes and it was found inadvisable to buy them and may I know whether the Defence Department was approached

after the Indian Airlines Corporation had rejected that suggestion? And for what purpose actually would the planes be used? As far as we can understand . . .

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No. argument.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I want to know for what purpose they will be-used.

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: As regards the first part of the question I do not know when the Ministry of Communications was approached. As regards the second part of the question, I would like to say that maritime reconnaissance is one of the jobs for which these planes are suitable and also for courier and communications work.

THEFTS IN THE HOUSES OF MINISTERS

*586. SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of thefts that took place from the residences of Ministers in Delhi during the last three years and upto now; and

(b) how many of these were detected and culprits apprehended?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI B. N. DATAR) : (a) One such case was reported in each of the years 1958, 1959, 1960 and 1961 (uptil 31st August).

(b) None.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: May I know when these thefts took place, during day time or night time?

SHRI B. N. DATAR: I have not got that particular information.