

(c) the criteria to induct new aircrafts in place of those which have completed their operation period; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to induct new A-300 and A-320 aircrafts to replace the worn-out aircrafts for air safety and augmenting the capacity well in time?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a)

	Number of aircraft	
	A-300	A-320
Air India	3	
Indian Airlines	10	30

(b) and (c). No life span is specified for the aircraft. The operation may continue subject to the Airworthiness of the aircraft as per regulations of Directorate General of Civil Aviation.

(d) There is no proposal at present to acquire new aircraft of A-300 or A-320 type by Air India or Indian Airlines for replacement or capacity augmentation.

[Translation]

Loss to Air India and Indian Airlines

38. SHRI SOHAN BEER
KUMARI UMA BHARATI :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the loss suffered by Indian Airlines and Air India during each of the last three years and the current year, so far;

(b) the reasons therefor and the routes on which loss is being incurred;

(c) the concrete steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to meet the loss and make them profitable;

(d) whether the Government also propose to merge IA and AI for the development of Civil Aviation; and

(e) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a)

Year	Net Profit/(Loss)	
	Air India	Indian Airlines
		(Rs. in crores)
1993-94	201.90	(258.46)
1994-95	40.80	(188.73)
1995-96	(244.00) *	(134.25) *
1996-97	(93.80) *	(25.00) *
(Upto May, 1996)		

* Provisional

(b) Air India incurred losses during 1995-96 due to increase in expenditure on account of interest and depreciation on new aircraft, reduction in yield due to increased competition, increased landing, handling and navigational charges, agitation by engineers, depreciation of rupee value etc. Air India has been incurring loss on its operations to the continent, Canada, UK, Africa and freighter operations to USA and Singapore.

Indian Airlines has been incurring losses due to grounding of A320 fleet, entry of private airlines on trunk routes, exodus of pilots, unfavourable exchange fluctuations etc. Indian Airlines has been incurring losses on routes connecting stations in North East region, Jammu and Kashmir and Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

(c) Air India and Indian Airlines are taking steps to improve their product, image and on time performance to attract more passengers and to increase revenue.

(d) and (e). The Government recognises the need for increasingly integrated functioning of Air India and Indian Airlines in order to enable them to draw upon the strengths of each other.

TV Transmitters on Border Areas

39. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH BHATI :
SHRI JAGATVIR SINGH DRONA :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the border districts of Rajasthan and other states are affected by propaganda by the neighbouring countries through their high power transmission centres;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to set up high power T.V. transmitters at border areas to counter the propaganda; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (c). With a view to counter the propaganda being beamed from across the border by the neighbouring countries, the Government has undertaken a scheme to strengthen Doodarshan service in such areas, including those in Rajasthan. The scheme, inter-alia, envisages setting up of four 10 KW and one 1 KW HPTs, and 35 VLPTs in the border areas across the country as per the details given in the attached statement. While all the LPTs and VLPTs have already been commissioned, three HPTs, one each at Rameshwaram (10 KW), Bhuj (10 KW with restricted tower height) and Gangtok (1 KW) have also been

made operational. The HPTs at Jaisalmer (10 KW) and Barmer (1 KW interim set up) are technically

ready and commissioning of the same would depend upon availability of staff sanctions.

STATEMENT

List of Locations where TV Transmitters were/are Envisaged to be set up under "Border Areas Television Coverage Scheme"

S.No.	State/ Union Territory	10KW	1 KW	100 W	2x10 W
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-	Anini Along Bomdila Changlang Daporizo Khonsa Namsai Roing Seppa Tawang Ziro
2.	Bihar	-	-	Forbesganj Madhubani Motihari Sitamarhi	
3.	Mizoram	-	-	-	Salha
4.	Gujarat	Bhuj	-	-	-
5.	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	Bilaspur Dharamsala Mandi	Chamba Hamirpur Kalpa Keylong Una
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	-	-	-	Bhadarwa Doda Khalatse Kupwara Kishtwar Pahalgam Ramban Udhampur
7.	Manipur	-	-	-	Chandel Senapati Tamenglong
8.	Meghalaya	-	-	Jowai	Nongstoin
9.	Nagaland	-	-	-	Mon Wokha Zunheboto
10.	Rajasthan	Barmer Jaisalmer	-	-	-
11.	Sikkim	-	Gangtok	-	Gyalshing Mangan Namchi
12.	Tamilnadu	Rameshwaram	-	-	-
Total		4	1	8	35