

AIR-INDIA

Magic Carpet

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JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1981

AIR-INDIA TURNS THE CORNER

"WITH an overall load factor of 63% Air-India is expected to earn a revenue of approximately Rs 560 crores during the current year."

Speaking at the Institute of Marketing and Management in Bombay on 'Airline Marketing', the Chairman & Managing Director Mr Raghu Raj said that with a proper computerised reservation system and control, it should be possible to improve the load factors by three to five percent points, which means a revenue increase of something like Rs 15 crores to Rs 20 crores a year.

Supersize Air-India Ticket

In recent months Air-India's Manager in Osaka Mr D.N. Lingam has come up with several airline oriented publicity projects. Early this year we received New Year greetings with the exact replica of the Air-India ticket on the frontispiece.

Late last year instead of giving away an Air-India ticket against a publicity transportation contract, Mr Lingam got a large lucky card prepared showing an AI ticket out of foam plastic sheet material. A small function was organised at a youth seminar at Takarazuka and the ticket was officially presented. This new idea had a tremendous visual impact and the publicity value was considerably enhanced. (See photograph below).

Mr Raghu Raj said that air cargo contributed substantially to the Corporation's revenue. "In fact, its contribution grew at a faster rate than that from the passengers. The average rate of cargo growth was about 15 per cent a year. Air-India has played a significant role in promoting air cargo in India and we earn around 23 per cent of our revenue from cargo".

The Chairman said that although 1980 was undoubtedly a bad year in the history of international airlines, "the outlook for this year is somewhat better and the financial picture should improve".

Bemoaning the problems of the industry, Mr Raghu Raj mentioned the continuing crisis on the fuel front. "This has thrown the entire ranks of the airlines' into disarray. Massive and unforeseen fuel bills have resulted in large-scale retrenchment or lay-offs, sale of capital equipment including buildings and aircraft, grounding of aircraft, cancellation of orders for new aeroplanes and so on. The spiralling cost of fuel coupled with inflation and a general recessionary trend will result in an estimated loss of one billion US dollars among the world's airlines this year".

Quoting Air-India's example, he said, the Corporation had budgetted an expenditure of Rs 90 crores on fuel, but it had to spend Rs 131 crores. During the current year, the bill would be Rs 236 crores for the same quantity of fuel, which is about 35 per cent of the Corporation's total expenses as compared to about 20 per cent in the previous year.

Mr Raghu Raj however described himself as an 'incurable optimist' and said that he was confident that growth in air travel was assured.



AIR-INDIA/CAAC SIGN INTERLINE AGREEMENT

Air-India and the Chinese flag carrier, CAAC recently signed an interline traffic agreement which will allow passengers of one carrier to change planes for the onward journey on the other. This agreement was signed in Beijing by Mr S.V.N. Ranga Rao, CM-Sales who led the Air-India delegation and Mr Zhang Nai-Rong, Dy Director, Air Transportation Department, CAAC.

Air-India recently installed slumberette seats on its Boeing 747s for greater comfort of its first class passengers. The new seats, developed and modified by Air-India's Engineering Department, have been provided on its fleet of ten Boeing 747s. The seats recline to an angle of 60°, and with a wide foot rest, provides a near horizontal position to enable passengers to rest in comfort at night and on long flights. In order to permit installation of these special seats, the number of first class seats on Air-India Boeing 747 has been reduced from 24 to 16.

Slumberettes on AI 747s





Mr Ghosal with the President of India, Mr. Sanjiva Reddy, at the Rashtrapati Bhavan.

SERVICE BEFORE SELF

MR SUBROTO GHOSAL of the Air-India Staff College was one of the chief delegates at the Jaycees International Quezon City Conference in Philippines. An active member of the Jaycees Club, he represented India as a delegate to the International Congress at Nice, as Chief Jaycee Delegate in Taiwan and in Amsterdam. He was invited to attend the seminar on Population Control at Auckland and has helped create and set up the Asian Pacific Development Council.

Some time back, he was declared the Best Jaycee Speaker on the Chapter level, was given the Presidential Award for Outstanding PR and an International Award in the field of economic affairs by the Australian Jaycees. The city of Leeds, England, gave him an award for Community Development, while as Chapter President he was awarded the Minneapolis World Award Certificate.

Besides being an active Jaycee, he is currently engaged in compiling an anthology of poems.

DUBAI WINS PUNCTUALITY TROPHY

This year Dubai has been awarded the Annual Punctuality Trophy for the year 1979-80. A small function was held at the airport office in Dubai when the staff were presented with certificates for their commendable work. The Airport Manager, Dubai, Mr G.S. Shamrao,

was the proud recipient of the rolling trophy. Mr F.E. da Gama, Regional Manager-Middle East, Dubai, presided over the function. Photograph shows (L to R) Mr G.V. Chandran, Mr P.N.C. Pillai, Mr Shamrao, Mr P.K. Moidu and Mr N.K. Abubakker.



ASSOCIATION FUNCTION

The Air Corporations Scheduled Caste & Scheduled Tribe Employees' Association celebrated its silver jubilee recently at the Master Dinanath Mangeshkar Natyagriha in Bombay. At the function, the Founder-President of the Association, Mr D.L. Gamare, was felicitated by the present members. Mr C.L. Sharma, Air-India's Deputy Managing Director, addressed the

gathering. Maharashtra's Minister of State for Home Affairs, Mr Abhaysingh Raje Bhosale, was also present. Photograph shows (L to R) Mr T.M. Sawant, MP, Mr Abhaysingh Raje Bhosale, Mrs Bhosale, Mr Gamare, Mr Sharma, Mr H.S. Banga, Regional President, Delhi Branch, and Capt B.C. Khadtale, Central President of the Association.



DISTINCTION

Mr A.E. Mathias, Chief Teleprinter Operator in the Communications Department was recently deputed for training at the Civil Defence Staff College. On completion of the Civil Defence Advanced Communications Procedure and Operations Course, Mr V.V. Nagarkar, Director of Civil Defence, presented Mr Mathias with a certificate of distinction.

NEW APPOINTMENTS



S.K. Nanda

Mr S.K. Nanda has taken over as Director of Personnel & Industrial Relations from Mr P.V. Gole who retired on December 31, 1980. Mr S.K. Nanda who was Dy Director of Personnel & Industrial Relations till recently, came to Air-India from Hindustan Machine Tools in 1968.

Director. He joined the Corporation in October 1946 and was posted to Bangkok in 1955 where he served as Manager till 1960. He took over as Manager, Beirut in 1961 and later as Manager, Paris in 1966. He served as Regional Manager-Australasia and South East Asia from 1974 to early 1980. He was appointed Managing Director of HCI in April 1980.



Santosh Kumar Oberoi

Mr Santosh Kumar Oberoi was recently appointed Managing Director of the Hotel Corporation of India, a subsidiary of Air-India. 47-year-old Mr Oberoi is one of the doyens of the hotel profession in India. He is also in charge of HCI's up-coming new projects, the 275-room Centaur Lake-View Hotel which is part of a huge Convention Complex being built by the Kashmir Government, the 350-room Juhu Centaur Hotel in Bombay and a 400-room hotel at Delhi airport.



Malcolm Barretto

Mr Malcolm Barretto was recently appointed Air-India's Commercial

THE VANISHING QUEEN

WHEN 19-year old Surita Mansukhani breezed into our office our male stenographers stopped typing and froze, while our office girls looked like Martians, green with envy. Those of us behind doors knew we had a Beauty Queen on our hands. Winner of the 'Miss India-USA 1980' title Surita won honours in New York last year at a beauty contest sponsored by Air-India and the India Festival Committee. She was visiting Bombay on the winning Air-India ticket.

Chosen beauty queen by a panel of five judges, including the President of Christian Dior, Surita was selected for her beauty and intelligence (percentages were not indicated). Since Surita was declared winner she hit the headlines, appeared on television throughout the United States and in fact was called upon to model in a television programme called Fashion Train.

But Modelling is perhaps the least of Surita's interests. She is an assistant to Magician Craig Dickens and last month the team performed at Las Vegas (Surita's vanishing act brought in audience applause). While in Bombay she has been getting acquainted with the Indian cultural life. She has been travelling round the country and indulging in an orgy of shopping.



Photo Credit : New York Post Photograph by Davis © 1980 New York Post Corporation.

Non-Violent Protest

In the mid-summer of this year, Air-India's Rates & Refunds Supervisor, Ms Theresa Wamcke decided to take on The Long Island Rail Road in a non-violent protest and made it into the three major New York newspapers, The New York Times, New York Post and News-

day. As a regular commuter, upset by poor service, who "just couldn't take it any more", she spent four hours in jail because she refused to show her ticket. Although the Rail Road took her to court, the judge threw the case out in her favour.



The Artist and His Creation

Painter of Dreams

HARIO SAJNANI, from our New York Accounts staff, is holding his fifth one-man painting show in New York, this time located in our Executive Office building at 345 Park Avenue. Sajnani draws his inspiration from the simple life of the rural people of India and admits that the ideas and form of his art have their roots in the spirituality of India. In a review printed in one of the local newspapers the critic said: "In all this,

still there is something very ancient which has been regenerated by the methods of modernization, they appear to have awakened from one hundred dreams. In the works of Sajnani, the human figures are unusual and very attractive, they appear to be interlocked bush-sticks or look like a mosaic, but only that they are not real, they appear to be an illusion painted by paints"

NOSTALGIA

TWENTY years ago I was fortunate in winning a competition on an Adelaide Radio Station. My prize was a trip for two to India and Singapore presented by Air-India. I shared the prize with my mother. We had a marvellous trip to your country, visiting Bombay, New Delhi, Agra and Madras. The flight in the Air-India Constellation was marvellous and the courtesy shown to us by your staff was outstanding. I was in the South Australian Women Police at the time and your company made arrangements for me to visit the forces in Bombay and New Delhi. This was very much appreciated.

I made a comprehensive scrap book of my trip and on my return addressed many meetings including, Rotary, Apex, Soroptimists etc.

My mother now has an Indian lady as her family doctor and I know they have talked about India on many occasions. My mother, who is now 71, still vividly remembers the happy times we shared with your staff.

I think perhaps the most precious thing for me is the friendship I developed with the Indian guide who took us on a trip to the Elephanta Caves.

Some of the Air-India staff were so very kind to us and we were fortunate in being able to attend the reception to celebrate the inaugural flight of Air-India from Delhi to Tokyo on May 16, 1960.

I am now married with two children, aged 11½ and 9. My husband is a Primary School Principal. We are leaving at the end of this month for a teaching exchange appointment in Toronto, Canada and will be away from Adelaide for 12 months. However, I thought you may be interested to learn that I have not forgotten the wonderful generosity of your company so many years ago. I dearly hope that my family can visit India one day.

Through a competition on a radio station and the Air-India company my life has been the richer.

Thank you.

Ms Joy Ding
17 Ramsay Street NETLEY
South Australia 5037.



In the beginning of the year, Air-India acquired a new Boeing 747 "Samudragupta". The aircraft was earlier handed over to Mr S.R. Shenai, Air-India's Deputy Director of Engineering, in Seattle. On the first leg of its journey from Seattle to Frankfurt, Capt M.C. Dasgupta, Operations Manager (Training) was in command of the aircraft, which was taken over on the second leg from Frankfurt to Bombay by Capt Raj Bhatia, Operations Manager (Central Division).



In New Delhi, the Prime Minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi, saw the Air-India-sponsored "Ocean to the Sky" expedition on film. Air-India's Deputy Managing Director, Mr C.L. Sharma, accompanied by his wife, Rama, presented to the Prime Minister a book on the expedition written by Sir Edmund Hillary.



Geneva Airport Manager, Marc Raverdy, was presented the Punctuality Trophy for 1980. He reported that Geneva had 283 departures in the previous year and there was not a single traffic delay. Photograph shows Mr Raverdy receiving the Trophy from Mr A.C. Mahajan, Regional Director-Continental Europe, while some of the staff look on.

1980-TH THAT

Around the end of the year, Air-India's traffic started picking up and the Corporation gradually began to get over its loss situation. A number of cost-saving measures were introduced by the Chairman which helped in maintaining a profitable balance.



Prime Minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi, flew to Salisbury on Air-India's Boeing 707 'Annapurna' to participate in the Independence Day celebrations of Zimbabwe. She thrilled newsmen by addressing a press conference on board the aircraft.



Air-India had the distinction of flying Muhammad Ali into India. He travelled around the country with his wife, Veronica, and wherever he went, he was mobbed by enthusiastic fans.

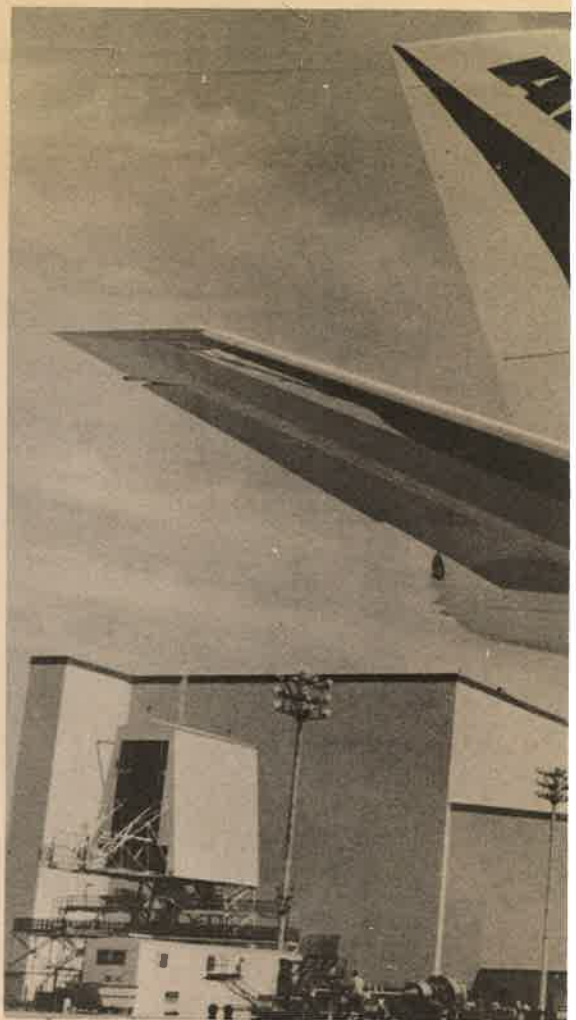
In early April, Air-India started its 747 operations through Osaka and, at the same time, launched its 'Go India' tour series in Australia. This was a 22-day package tour to various Indian destinations.

In January, we congratulated Hong Kong for winning the Annual Punctuality Trophy and reported setting up of a trans-receiver in our Maharajah Lounge at London Airport, which, with the touch of a button, gave passengers latest headlines to world events.

In April last year, we welcomed a new Chairman and Managing Director, Mr Raghu Raj, as well as Air-India's last scheduled Boeing 747 "Harsha Vardhana". With the addition of the new 747, Air-India's aircraft acquisition plans came to an end.



In February, we reported our first 747 operation commander, with the crew members and other. Advertising and Visual Publicity gave an award to



In February, Air-India added a ninth Boeing 747, Manager, Mr Om Sawhny, at Seattle.



THE YEAR WAS



...s through Hong Kong. Photograph shows Air-India's Director of Operations, Capt D. Bose, the Hong Kong staff inside the upper lounge of the aircraft. In the same month, the Directorate of ... Air-India for its wildlife calendar.



"Mahendra Varman" to its fleet. It was accepted on behalf of Air-India by the airline's Technical

Other Teresa surprised our staff one afternoon walking into the Booking Office to make a personal reservation. There was a flurry of excitement all around, as our boys and girls lined up with each other in having a word with her or getting their autograph books signed.

A number of screen celebrities, including Trevor Howard and Celia Johnson, flew with us to make an Indo-British production. Ms M.M.Kaye, author of 'The Far Pavilions' visited India to promote tours jointly arranged by Air-India and Penguin Books.



On July 18, Air-India and the State Bank of India signed a loan agreement for US \$ 12.694 million. The agreement was signed in Air-India's headquarters at Nariman Point by Air-India's Chairman and Managing Director, Mr Raghu Raj, and the Chairman of the State Bank of India, Mr P.C.D. Nambiar. The loan was intended to cover the cost of a modification programme to Air-India's fleet of 747 aircraft.



The Himalayan Car Rally, primarily sponsored by Air-India, went through an undulating phase. Thirty-three-year-old Uganda born Shekhar Mehta won the Rally with a minimum number of penalty points. In New Delhi, the Prime Minister welcomed the rallyists and presented Shekhar Mehta with the Air-India Trophy.

In keeping with Air-India's wide-bodied concept, the Boeing 707 was completely withdrawn from the skies of Western Europe and the Far East. Air-India pressed all ten 747 aircraft on all the services to the West. Similarly, all flights to Japan via Bangkok and Hong Kong started operating 747s. In a major expansion in its route network, Air-India added four new stations; one in Bangladesh, one in Australia and two on the African continent.

The Rally coincided with the Ganga-Yamuna Hovercraft Expedition which, again, was an Air-India-sponsored programme. The Expedition concluded successfully in early November.

Generally, the year ended on a happy note. Air-India's new inflight publication, 'Namaskaar', hit the aerial stands on the eve of the New Year, giving passengers a fresh perspective to Air-India as India's flag carrier.



A new international airport was inaugurated in Bombay with a number of novel features. At about the same time, bhoomi pooja was performed for the Centaur Juhu Hotel with a plan for 350 rooms.

I MET GOD

A True Story
narrated by Sabita Shirodkar
from Reservations.



Sabita with her husband

SOME years back, during a planned trip to London, I pleaded with my husband to stop at Beirut, where I wished to visit a place called Harissa and bow down to the statue of Our Lady. I had visited Harissa earlier, had wished for the birth of a baby girl (a wish that had come true), and felt very strongly that I should revisit this place and offer my gratitude. Grudgingly, my husband agreed.

On board the aircraft, we made friends with an Indian lady who was on her maiden flight to Beirut to rejoin her husband after three years. After a pleasant flight we touched down at Beirut ready to be received by the people we knew there, who were, of course, going to take care of our stay as well. To our dismay, we discovered that no one had come to receive us at the airport. I called them up and discovered that the entire family had left for Geneva. I checked about the next Air-India flight out to London and was relieved to hear that there was a flight that night.

We were preparing ourselves for a long wait at the airport. Our lady friend asked us why we were waiting. We explained the situation and she and her husband took us home for a meal. In the evening, they drove us to the airport and left. We were about to check-in when we were told that the flight had been cancelled and the next one was two days later. Left with practically no finances, all kinds of thoughts flashed in my mind, while my husband continued to stare at me menacingly.

Dusk had settled on the city of Beirut. My husband, while ambling around got acquainted to a kind gentleman called Mr Clive who was the Duty Officer at the airport. He agreed to let us sit in his room and called for a cup of coffee. After completing his duties, he sat with us for a chat and, in the course of our conversation, we told him of our predicament. I told him of my devotion and urge to visit Harissa and bow down to Our Lady. Suddenly, he popped the question, "How would you like to go there? I have nothing to do 'till morning." I wasn't sure I heard the right sentences, but my heart was palpitating with joy. Clive added, "It is about a three-hour drive from here. I have a car and we can drive back and forth."

We piled into his car and drove on. As we passed through the roads of Beirut, we noticed soldiers brandishing machine guns and Clive took the extra precaution of avoiding guerilla attacks. I was scared, but it was too late to call off Operation Harissa.

We drove through the city for about 15 minutes and then left the limits. Clive stopped by at a small hotel and treated us to Falafila, a local sandwich. It was like eating a full meal. The second part of our journey was through wilderness and the entire atmosphere looked spooky. All kinds of thoughts came in my mind: What if the car fails, the petrol gets over; and as we drove on uphill, genuine fear ran down my spine. The three-hour drive seemed to be like 30 till we saw a single light high up on the hill — the light emanating from the Statue of Our Lady.

The approach to the statue was yet another steep climb and then a walk up the spiral staircase to reach the sancto sanctorum of the Lady. We stopped, parked the car and were about to walk up the hill when Clive told us that he was not accompanying us — he was an atheist! He told us he would wait for us till we returned. My husband and I quickly walked up the steps and I made a beeline for the spot where I had written down my wish on my first visit. I frantically searched for that small piece of paper, but could not find it. I was, however, content with the fact that Our Lady had granted my wish. Tears streaming down my eyes, I bowed down in gratitude. It was a moment of ecstasy.

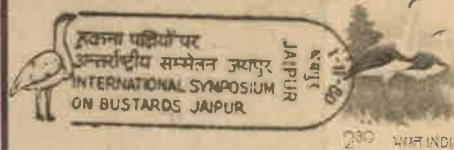
While walking down the steps, I casually asked my husband what he thought of Clive as a person. My husband shrugged saying, "He is okay, come on." We apologised to Clive for keeping him waiting, and scrambled into our respective places in the car.

The very next moment, it seemed that my fears came true, for the car would not respond to the starter. Clive pressed on the starter for long spells, but the car would just not budge. My husband and I thought of all kinds of things, suspecting Clive of being a guerilla, and wishing we knew a spot of karate. However, keeping a stiff upper lip, we both suggested that we push the car, but with all our efforts, the car would just not move.

While Clive continued to coax and cajole the starter, and we continued to heave the car, suddenly out of nowhere, we saw a figure approaching us. At first the outline was blurred, but soon it seemed to emerge from the night and form the figure of a man. He was wearing a cassock and looked like a priest. In the middle of the night, his words sounded stentorian. "Having trouble?" We all said, 'yes' in unison.

My husband was the first to answer him. "Father, do you mind giving a push to the car?" "Sure," he replied. My husband and I went to the rear to give the car a push, but he told us to go and take our places in the car. Clive put the car in gear with the ignition on and the old man gave a slight push. The engine fired and the car began to move. We went a short distance and stopped to thank our benefactor, but when we looked around, there was no one. We waited for a while to see whether he was climbing the spiral staircase, but there was no sign of human life miles around.

Clive took us back to the airport where he advised us to spend the few hours before daybreak in the car. He asked us to keep our doors locked and our windows rolled up and to ensure that no one could unlock the car from the outside. Early next morning, we were woken up by a knock on the window by an Air-India staff, Mr Krishnan. He was dismayed by our plight and put us up in a hotel where he made us comfortable. During our short stay at the hotel, we both asked each other who that man was at Harissa. Both of us came up with all kinds of ideas, but one idea came through strongly: at Harissa, we had met God!



THE BUSTARD HONoured

AN international symposium on the Great Indian Bustard was held recently in Jaipur. Mr R.R. Puranik of Commercial Cargo Complex, who has been an active exponent for the preservation of wild life, represented Air-India at the symposium.

Early last year, Puranik was appointed Regional Representative of Wildlife Wanderers and organised youth squads for the promotion of wild life in Maharashtra. When the Maharashtra State Khadi and Village Industries put up an exhibition in Bombay recently, Puranik set up his own unit where he explained to the visitors the importance of preserving wildlife in Maharashtra.

In the course of an interview with *Magic Carpet*, Puranik explained that the bustard has been in existence for nearly 50 million years, but because of ruthless killings, the bird is on the brink of extinction.

The bustard is about four feet tall and weighs 40 lbs. It is a ground bird similar to the ostrich and India has three species. Although seen in many parts of India, Puranik explained, in Maharashtra, the bustard known as 'Muldhok' is of the most perfect kind. Brownish in colour it has streaks on black-tipped feathers. The lower part is white with a black band across the lower breast. Black spots on the tip of its feathers add beauty to its plumage. It has a long neck and the head has a conspicuous black-crested crown.

The Indian bustard prefers slightly undulated hill terrain and is extremely shy. In the early years, it trusted human beings, but indiscriminate massacre of the birds changed its attitude towards human presence. Although it is capable of running at considerable speed, it prefers to squat and freeze behind a bush rather than run or fly away.

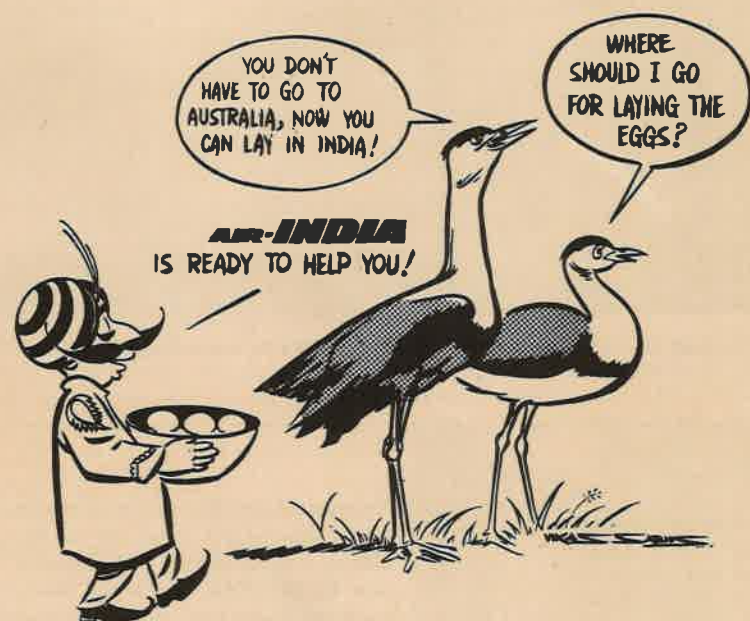
The bustard eats both vegetarian and non-vegetarian food and usually relishes a meal of lizards, small reptiles, centipedes and snakes. It breeds normally a few days prior to the onset of the monsoon and it is during this period that it struts around revealing its conspicuous feathers and emitting a sound either while walking around on the ground or flying up in the air. This, Puranik reveals, is to ward off the rival male and attract the female birds. He adds, during courtship, the bustards unfailingly sing songs (obviously, heroes of Hindi films are not an exception). They lay eggs from April to October and nest in a shallow depression in the ground. Bustards are a polygamous species and each cock has four to five hens.

Puranik bemoans the fact that these majestic birds have been pushed to the edge of extinction and, while a few decades back, this beautiful bird inhabited most of the States of India, today one has to search for them in the hilly districts of Maharashtra and Karnataka.

Puranik recently asked Mid-Day Cartoonist Vikas Sabnis to draw a cartoon on the subject of the bustards showing Air-India's patronage. The drawing was distributed to all the wildlife centres throughout the world as well as at the international symposium. The Government of India, on the occasion of the symposium, released a first-day cover and a stamp as well.



Puranik, with camera and binoculars, takes notes during his forays into the wilds of India.



Great Indian bustard —On the brink of extinction...



Parameswaran pitted against Keene of England.

CHESS CHAMP

26-year old T.N. Parameswaran from our Madras office is a Chess prodigy. He started playing chess at the age of 12 and two years later played against the Argentine Chess Grand Master Najdorf and, in fact, surprised him by drawing the match.

In 1975 Parameswaran won the National Junior Championship at Calcutta and a year later represented India in the Asian Zonal Chess

Championship at Tehran. In 1979 he was the winner of the Silver King International Rating Chess Tournament at Dacca and the same year won the Sri Lanka Open Invitation Championship at Colombo.

Last year he represented India in the Asian Grandmasters' Chess Circuit at Manila and drew against Russian Grandmasters Gipslis and Georgadze.



Panthaky waits for his opponent to make the move.

EXCITING MOVES

K.N. Panthaky of Transport recently won the Air-India chess championship of the Bombay Region with a total tally of 8 points out of nine. B.E. Buchia of Commercial finished runner-up with 7½ points (7 wins, 1 draw, 1 loss) followed by V.S. Rajpurkar of Management Services and S.Y. Karnik of Accounts with 7 points each. The annual event which attracted 42 entries was conducted under the Swiss System with 9 rounds.

The only game Panthaky lost was against Rajpurkar who scored an equal

number of points. Rajpurkar opened with king's pawn to which Panthaky replied with a French defence and sacrificed a pawn without sufficient compensation in the early stages. Rajpurkar, however, failed to capitalise on the advantage, but before long turned the tables on Panthaky when he grabbed a pawn in a hurry. The chess games were played very professionally and whipped up considerable excitement among the players and onlookers.

SORRY, MR KRISHNAN

In my reply to a Letter to the Editor in the July/August 1980 issue of Magic Carpet, I made a remark which, though entirely in jest, appears to have offended the susceptibilities of Mr Govind Krishnan. Magic Carpet has never

intentionally hurt anyone's feelings. So, to Mr Krishnan I say: "Sorry, no offence meant." But I still maintain that, especially in these days of crisis, the revenue passenger must always take precedence.

— Editor.

VERSATILE BEVERLEY

Beverley Baptista, 13-year old daughter of Norris Baptista of Central Space Control once again shot into prominence when she won the Individual Championship for girls under 14 years at the School Annual Athletic Meet where she claimed 5 Gold medals and 3 Silver.

She performed a treble victory by claiming the gold medals in the 100 metres sprint held in the State recently. At the Konkan Cultural Athletic meet she bettered the long jump meet record as well as the Maharashtra State record. An active athlete, Beverley excels in Indian dancing as well. Despite her western cultural upbringing, Beverley recently gave a stimulating Bharat Natyam Aringetram recital at the St. Stanislaus High School Auditorium in Bombay.



GOLF IN NAIROBI

Over 110 players participated in the Air-India sponsored Maharajah Trophy Golf Tournament held at the Royal Nairobi Golf Club recently. Photograph shows Air-India's Regional Director-Africa, Mr K.L. Ramchander, presenting

the first prize to the overall winner Hafiz Cockar, who brought in a nett score of 136. Looking on is Royal Nairobi Golf Club Captain, Mr Daljit Bhavra.



ATHLETIC MEET

Air-India's New Delhi Athletic Team participated in the YMCA Open Athletic Meet held at the National Stadium, New Delhi recently. Mr R. Kumar of Civil Works & Properties Department, Delhi Airport, won a bronze medal in the 200 M. race. In the 400 M. race the Air-India team was in the fourth position. Photograph shows the team (L to R)

First row: Mr G.C. Sharma, GSD; Mr S.D. Rishi, GSD; Mr Rajesh Kumar, CWPD; Mr B.S. Thakur, Admn; Mr K.K. Sharma, CWPD; Mr Makhauli Ram, GSD; Second row: Mr J.S. Kambo, GSD; Mr Kailash Grover, Cargo Warehouse, Mr A.K. Gupta, GSD; Mr Sunder Singh, GSD; Mr G.S. Muthu, GSD.

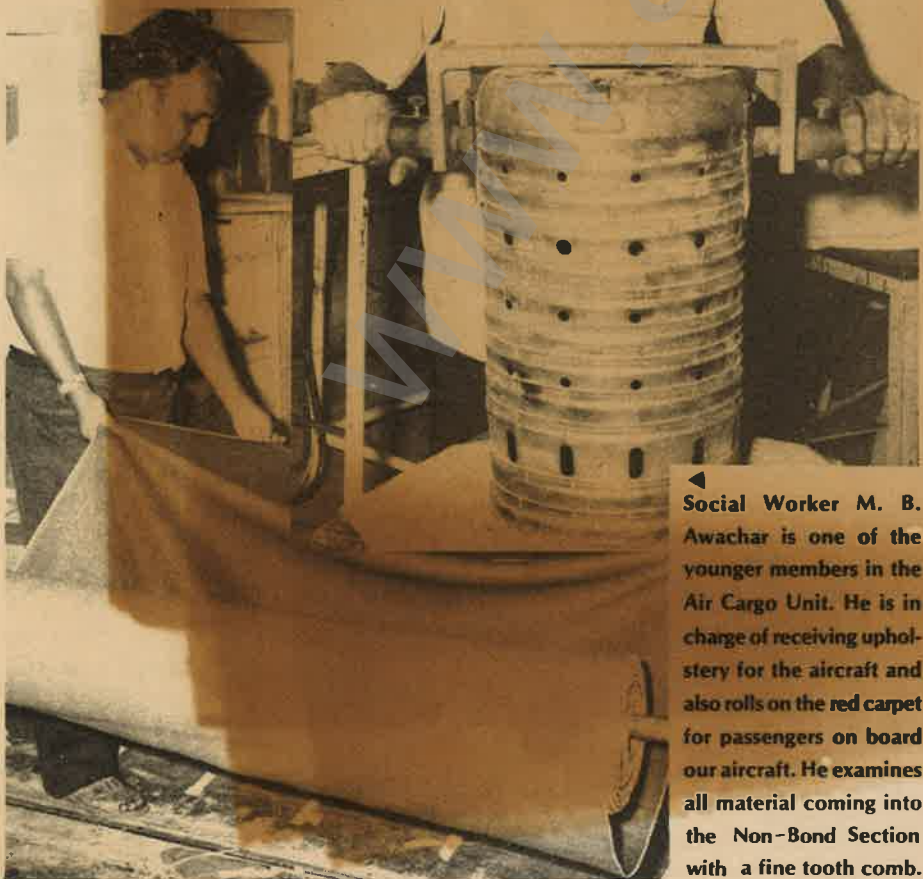
AT WORK

AIR-INDIANS



Thirty-one year old V.S. Karkera works in the Stationery and Publicity Stores and is fond of outdoor games particularly volley-ball. You can give him stationery or an elephant, he can pack every item with rare ingenuity. ▲

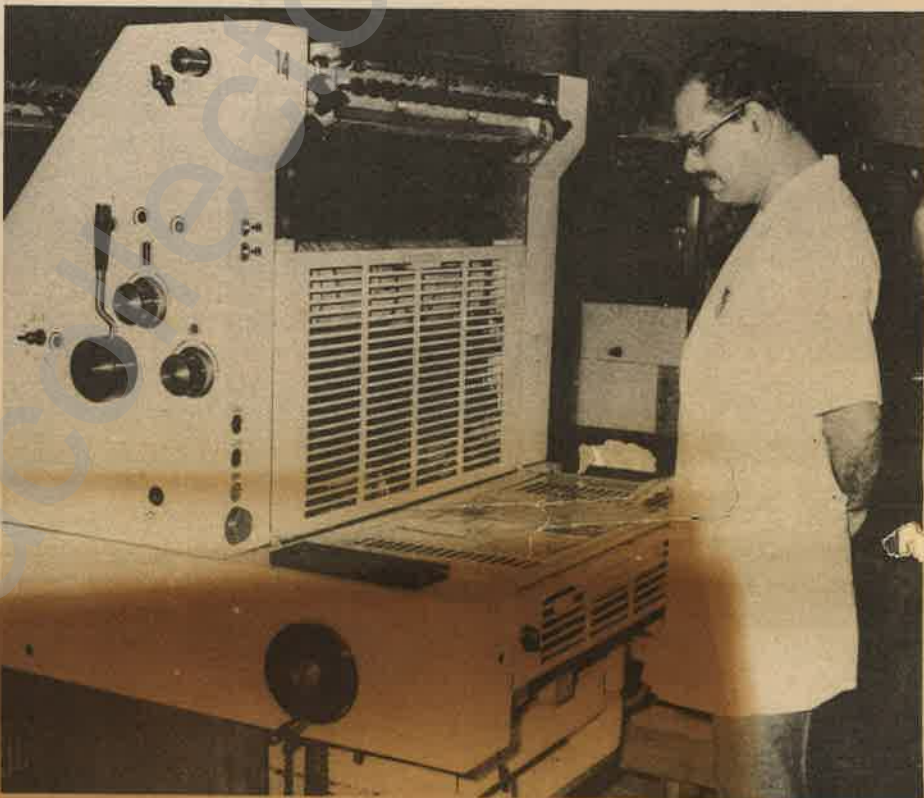
Senior Aircraft Technician K. Nanu's work in the Jet Centre may be drab routine, but when he goes home he gets lost in the world of music. He has served Air-India for over twenty years and continues to do so. He looks forward to his retirement when he can devote himself full time to his love for music. ▶



◀ Social Worker M. B. Awachar is one of the younger members in the Air Cargo Unit. He is in charge of receiving upholstery for the aircraft and also rolls on the red carpet for passengers on board our aircraft. He examines all material coming into the Non-Bond Section with a fine tooth comb.



Ms Farida Rettigani mans the Travel Documentation counter in the Booking Office. Eight years with Air-India, Farida has had varied experience in handling Travel Documents, particularly passports. ▲



C. J. Tamhane is the Progress Supervisor in the Air-India Press and looks at every piece of printing as personal achievement. Fastidious and over-sensitive, he is overly concerned with his printing results. He particularly enjoys printing the Magic Carpet since it gives him tremendous scope of trying out new printing techniques. ▲



N.B. Raut in the Plant Shop's Tool Department joined Air-India when most of us young ones were toddlers. He is known for his innovation and adaptability to different machines. His colleagues tell us that he can fit a round peg in a square hole. ▲