



***AIR-INDIA***

●

# **Chronology**

●

PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICE  
Nariman Point, Bombay - 400 021



# ***AIR-INDIA:***

## **CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS**

### 1932

July

The Aviation Department of Tata Sons Ltd. established.

October 15

Tata Sons Ltd. began first Karachi-Ahmedabad-Bombay-Bellary-Madras mail service to connect with Imperial Airways' London-Karachi services. The First Service carried mail which left London on October 8 and was operated by D.H.Puss Moth VT-ADN flown by Mr. J.R.D. Tata (~~now Chairman of Air India~~) from Karachi to Bombay and by Mr. Nevill Vintcent from Bombay to Madras. The first service arrived at Madras on October 16 and the first west-bound flight left Madras on October 17. This marked the beginning of Commercial Aviation in India.

### 1935

January 4

The Karachi-Bombay-Madras service was rerouted via Hyderabad instead of Bellary. Frequency increased to twice weekly.

February 25

Tata Sons made a trial flight Bombay-Nagpur-Jamshedpur - Calcutta with Fox Moth VT-ADZ (Pilot Mr. Nevill Vintcent).

November 26

Experimental weekly mail service started on route Bombay-Goa-Cannanore-Trivandrum with Miles Merlins. This connected with the Karachi-Bombay-Madras service.

### 1936

December

Survey flight to Colombo.

During the year Tata Sons Ltd. introduced Waco YQC-6 biplanes.

### 1937

April 16

Bhuj introduced as a stop on Bombay-Karachi service.

November 6

Tata Sons began Bombay-Indore-Bhopal-Gwalior-Delhi service with Waco YQC-6 biplanes. The first flight by VT-AIX (Pilots Mr. J.R.D. Tata and Mr. Nevill Vintcent.)

Date of Issue: March 5, 1968

Revision No. : 1



## AIR-INDIA: CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

December 1 W/T facilities were brought into operation on the Karachi - Bombay-Colombo route.

During the year Tata Sons introduced D.H. 89 Dragon Rapides equipped with radio.

### 1938

January 22 Tata Air Lines (successor to airline operation of Tata Sons) extended its Karachi - Bombay - Madras Mail Service to Colombo. Waco YQC - 6 biplanes were used. Passengers and Mail from Colombo were carried from January 29.

February 28 Government contract with Tata Air Lines came into effect for the carriage of first class unsurcharged mail between Karachi - Colombo under the Empire Air Mail Scheme. The route was Karachi-Bhuj-Ahmedabad-Bombay-Hyderabad-Madras-Trichinopoly-Colombo.

March 2 Tata Air Lines extended its Bombay-Trivandrum service to Trichinopoly.

### 1939

Rapides and D.H. 86s requisitioned by the Government.

Secondhand tri-motor Stinsons purchased.

First Booking Office opened at Churchgate.

### 1941

November 1 Tata Air Lines began nonscheduled flight between Karachi and Baghdad via Jiwani, Sharjah, Bahrain and Basra. DC-2s loaned by the Government of India were used.

During the year Tata Air Lines introduced Stinson Model A three-engined monoplanes.

### 1942

February Mr. Nevill Vintcent met with an accidental death when the plane in which he was travelling was shot down over the coast of France.

August Douglas DC-2s on loan from the Government of India introduced on Bombay-Karachi route.

Participation in the evacuation of Baghdad during the Rashid Ali revolt.

Date of Issue: March 5, 1968

Revision No. : 1



## AIR-INDIA: CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

### 1943

During the year Douglas DC-3s and Beechcraft Expeditors received from the Government.

### 1944

March 1 Tata Air Lines introduced DC-3s on twice weekly Bombay-Karachi and on a weekly Bombay-Bangalore-Colombo service.

### 1945

April 16 Tata Air Lines began twice weekly Bombay-Nagpur-Calcutta service with DC-3s.

April 25 Bombay-Bangalore-Coimbatore service started with DC-3s.

June 24 Weekly Bombay-Bangalore-Madras service started with DC-3s.

July 3 The twice weekly Bombay - Nagpur - Calcutta service with DC-3s ceased.

August/  
December Four surplus DC-3s allotted to Tata Air Lines by the United States surplus property authorities. In addition, Tata Air Lines bought and leased a total of about eight DC-3s directly from the U.S. Office of Foreign Liquidation Commissioner.

### 1946

January 1 Indian Civil Aviation restored to commercial status.

July 29 Tata Airlines converted into a public company and renamed Air-India Limited.

Genell Moots of TWA came from Kansas City to train India's first air hostesses.

### 1947

April 13 Air-India received the first of its fleet of Vickers-Armstrongs Vikings. This was VT-CIY.

August 3 Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Pandit, First Indian Ambassador to the U.S.S.R., left India for Moscow in the Air-India DC-3 VT-ATI (Capt. A.C. Gazder). The DC-3 flew the Indian flag for the first time.

### 1948

March 8 Air-India International incorporated.

Date of Issue: March 5, 1968

Revision No.: 1



## AIR-INDIA: CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

- March 16 First L-749 Constellation VT- CQS - Mugul Princess arrived.
- April 11 Proving flight to London.
- June 8 Inauguration of a weekly Bombay - London service via Cairo and Geneva with Constellation VT-CQP- Malabar Princess.
- Special Commemorative stamp issued by the Government of India.
- September 24 Frequency increased to three flights a fortnight to London.
- November 1 Frequency increased to twice weekly.

### 1949

- January 1 The year opened with an aircraft fleet of three Constellations with a twice weekly service to London via Cairo and Geneva.
- September 4 Frequency increased to five flights a fortnight on India - U.K. route.
- October 16 Frequency on India-U.K. route increased to thrice weekly.
- October 31 Arrival of L-749A Constellation Maratha Princess VT-DAR.
- November 14 Survey flight to Nairobi.

### 1950

- January 21 Inauguration of once a fortnight Bombay-Nairobi service via Aden.
- March 12 Rome introduced as a halt on the U.K. route.
- June 15 Bombay-Nairobi frequency increased to once a week.
- July 26 Karachi included as a halt on the Bombay-Nairobi service.
- October 15 Frequency on U.K. route increased to four flights a week.
- October 17 Introduction of twice a week Bombay-Calcutta extension to India - U.K. route.

### 1951

- April 7 Paris introduced as a halt on the U.K. Route.
- November 15 Two services a week through Paris, Geneva and Rome in each direction.

Date of Issue: March 5, 1968

Revision No. : 1



## AIR-INDIA: CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

### 1952

- May 22 Curtailment of frequencies on India-U. K. route from 4 to 3 times a week due to fuel shortage.
- June 17 Frequency restored to 4 times a week.
- December 1 Introduction of once weekly Bombay-Delhi extension.
- December 7 Introduction of an All-Tourist Class service on Nairobi route on every alternate Sunday with DC-4 aircraft leased from Air - India Ltd.

### 1953

- February 21 Dusseldorf introduced as a halt on U. K. route.
- March Parliament passed the Air-Corporations Act. (No. 27 of 1953).
- May 28 Air Corporations Act, 1953, ratified by the President of India.
- June 1 Frequency of Bombay-Delhi extension increased to twice weekly.
- June 15 Two Corporations - Air-India International and Indian Airlines came into formal existence.
- August 1 Nationalisation of Air-India International Limited.
- October 3 Introduction of the mixed class (First Class-cum-Tourist Class) Services to London and Nairobi.
- Frequency on Nairobi route increased to 2 flights a week.

### 1954

- June 6 Arrival of the first 1049-C Super Constellation, Rani of Jhansi (VT-DGL).
- June 19 Inaugural Flight of Super Constellation to U. K.
- July 4 Proving Flight to Singapore with L-749A Constellation.
- July 16 Inaugural Flight to Singapore via Madras with L-749A Constellation VT-DAS on once a week basis.
- July 25 Proving Flight to Tokyo with L-749A Constellation.

Date of Issue: March 5, 1968  
Revision No. : 1



## AIR-INDIA: CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

August 14 Inaugural Flight to Hong Kong via Calcutta and Bangkok with L-749A Constellation VT-DAS on once a week basis.

November 16 A DC-3 Freighter (VT-CGP) purchased from I. A. C.

### 1955

March 8 Bombay-Delhi frequency increased to thrice weekly.

March 20 Arrival of first 1049E Super Constellation Rani of Chittor (VT-DHN).

May 7 Hong Kong service extended to Tokyo.

May 11 Frequency on U. K. route increased to 5 services a week.

May 29 Two services a week through Dusseldorf.

July 1 Frequency on U. K. Route increased to 6 services a week.

July 2 Introduction of an all-first class express service Flying Ranee Bombay-Cairo-London.

July 4 Introduction of halts at Beirut and Zurich on U. K. route.

July 6 Introduction of a once weekly Round Robin Bombay-Calcutta-Delhi and Bombay-Delhi-Calcutta service as extensions to the U. K. - India route.

July 27 Discontinuance of the Round Robin.

October 1 Operation of all the six flights to U.K. with L-1049 Super Constellations.

November 2 Re-introduction of once weekly Round Robin Bombay - Calcutta - Delhi-Bombay service.

November 15 Introduction of Slumberettes on L-1049 Super Constellations in First Class on India-U. K. Route.

### 1956

January 5 Frequency on Tokyo route increased to twice a week.

January 6 Introduction of L-1049 Super Constellation once a week on Nairobi route.

April 1 Introduction of Slumberettes on L-749 Super Constellations in First Class on Bombay-Tokyo and Bombay-Nairobi routes.

Bombay-Delhi frequency increased to four times a week.

Date of Issue: March 5, 1968

Revision No. : 1



# AIR-INDIA: CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

<u>April 3</u>	Damascus introduced as a halt on U.K. Route.
<u>April 4</u>	Prague introduced as a halt on the U.K. Route.
<u>April 6</u>	Introduction of L-1049 Super Constellations on Singapore Route.
<u>April 7</u>	Once a week halt at Karachi introduced on U.K. route only in East-bound direction.
<u>June 11</u>	Arrival of first L-1049G Super Constellation Rani of Nilgiris (VT-DHL).
<u>September 2</u>	Proving flight to Sydney.
<u>October 5</u>	Extension of the Bombay-Singapore service to Sydney via Darwin.
<u>November 1</u>	Discontinuance of Round Robin Bombay-Calcutta-Delhi-Bombay - Service.  Delhi frequency reduced to 3 times a week. Calcutta frequency reduced to once a week.  Halt at Karachi omitted from London-Bombay service.
<u>November 4</u>	Due to Suez crisis all flights to U.K. diverted via Basra instead of via Damascus, Beirut and Cairo.
<u>November 10</u>	All flights to U.K. diverted via Abadan and Istanbul instead of via Basra.
<u>December 25</u>	Beirut reintroduced on all the six flights omitting Abadan and Istanbul.
<u>December 27</u>	Damascus reintroduced on two flights a week.

## 1957

<u>January 10</u>	Super Constellations introduced on Tokyo route (Flights diverted via Okinawa in the East-bound direction for technical reasons).
<u>April 3</u>	Resumed once weekly operations through Cairo.
<u>April 5</u>	Seventh frequency to U.K. Three East-bound flight via Paris. Second frequency through Prague.
<u>May 4</u>	Karachi omitted as a stop on one Nairobi flight only in East-bound direction.
<u>May 11</u>	Frequency through Cairo increased to twice weekly  Frequency through Beirut and Damascus reduced to 5 and one flight a week respectively.

Date of Issue: March 5, 1968  
Revision No. : 1



## AIR-INDIA: CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

September 1      Frequency on Nairobi route increased to thrice weekly; one via Karachi and Aden and two via Aden.

October 6        Frequency through Cairo increased to thrice weekly and through Beirut reduced to 4 times a week.

### 1958

January 1        Frequency of Nairobi service reduced to twice weekly.

January 4        Jakarta introduced as a regular halt between Singapore and Darwin on Sydney Route.

January 15      Frequency of domestic extension Bombay-Delhi, reduced to once a week.

Once a week halt at Delhi introduced on U.K. route between Bombay and Damascus.

Withdrawal of L-749 Constellations from regular operation due to their sale to Aeronaves de Mexico.

March 5        Opening of new Terminal Building at Santa Cruz.

August 4        Proving flight to Moscow.

August 15      Inaugural flight from Delhi to Moscow via Tashkent on once a week basis.

Commencement of Pool between Air-India and Aeroflot for traffic between Delhi and Moscow.

September 7    Three flights a week through Dusseldorf.

October 7        Frequency to Tokyo increased to thrice weekly.

October 11      Introduction of once weekly Bombay-Jakarta terminator service via Madras and Singapore.

November 15    Introduction of once a week DC-4 freighter service, INDIA/U.K. / INDIA chartered from Messrs. Seaboard & Western Airlines.

### 1959

August 11        Frequency through Prague reduced from two to one.

September 1    Commencement of Pool between Air-India and C.S.A. for traffic to and from Czechoslovakia.

October 4        Damascus discontinued to be an on-line station.

Frequency through Cairo increased to four times a week.



**AIR-INDIA: CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS**

1960

- February 21      Arrival of first Boeing 707-437 (VT-DJJ-Annapurna) in Bombay, after a record-breaking non-stop flight from London to Bombay in 8 hours and 5 minutes.
- March 7          Arrival of second Boeing 707-437 (VT-DJI-Nanda Devi) in Bombay.
- March 14        Proving Flight of Boeing 707 (VT-DJI) to London.
- March 25        Arrival of 3rd Boeing 707-437 (VT-DJK - Everest) in Bombay.
- April 1          Proving Flight of Boeing 707 (VT-DJI) to New York.
- Commencement of Tripartite Pool reached between Air-India, B.O.A.C. and Qantas.
- April 10        Frankfurt introduced as a halt on the U. K. Route.
- April 19        Inauguration of Bombay-London service with Boeing 707 (VT-DJJ-Annapurna) on a twice weekly frequency.
- Super Constellation frequency reduced to 5 times a week on U. K. Route.
- April 29        Dusseldorf discontinued as a halt on India/U. K. Route.
- May 1            3rd frequency with Boeing 707s on U. K. Route.
- Frequency with L-1049 Super Constellation reduced to three times a week.
- May 4            First 1049G Super Constellation (VT-DJW - Rani of Bijapur ) sent to Ontario for conversion into a freighter.
- May 13        4th frequency with Boeing 707s on U. K. Route.
- Frequency with L-1049 Super Constellations reduced to twice a week on UK route.
- May 14        Inaugural flights to New York via London with Boeing 707 on once a week frequency.
- May 16        Delhi introduced as a scheduled halt between Bombay and Calcutta on the Tokyo Route on once a week frequency in east-bound direction only.
- May 20        2nd U. K. service extended to New York.
- June 8          Delhi introduced as a scheduled halt on the Tokyo Route in both directions.
- June 9          One New York service extended to Calcutta.

Date of Issue: March 5, 1968

Revision No. : 1



#### AIR-INDIA: CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

- June 11 5th frequency with Boeing 707 on U.K. route with 3 extensions to New York.
- Frequency with L-1049 Super Constellations on U.K. Route reduced to once a week.
- June 13 One London service extended to Calcutta.
- June 29 Super Constellations withdrawn from India-U.K. route.
- Introduction of once a week Prague terminator service with 1049 Super Constellations.
- July 22 Second 1049G Super Constellation (VT-DJX - Rani of Madurai) sent to Ontario for conversion into a freighter.
- October 4 Introduction of once a week Bombay-Kuwait service via Karachi and Bahrain with L-1049 Super Constellations.
- November 1 One extension to Calcutta operated with L-1049 Super Constellations and one with 707s.
- November 5 Proving flight to Tokyo with Boeing 707.
- November 14 Introduction of our own once a week Cargo Service The Flying Sherpa to London with L-1049 Super Constellation aircraft.
- Termination of contract with Seaboard & Western Airlines.
- 1961
- January 16 Boeing inaugural flight from Tokyo to Bombay.
- Once a week L-1049 Super Constellation extension to Calcutta suspended.
- January 25 Introduction of once a week service to Tokyo with Boeing 707s.
- Frequency of L-1049 Super Constellation flights to Tokyo reduced from three to once a week.
- April 22 Arrival of 4th Boeing 707-437 (VT-DMN - Kanchenjunga) in Bombay.
- April 26 Proving flight to Nairobi with a Boeing 707.
- May 2 Frequency of Bombay-Tokyo Boeing service increased to twice a week.
- Discontinuance of L-1049 Super Constellation on the Tokyo Route. Halt at Delhi between Bombay and Calcutta also discontinued on the route.

Date of Issue: March 5, 1968

Revision No. : 1



**AIR-INDIA: CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS**

- May 3 Once a week extension to Delhi now operated with Boeing instead of with L-1049 Super Constellations.
- Bombay-London Boeing frequency increased to six times a week with five extensions to New York.
- Suspension of a weekly Super Constellation Prague terminator. A weekly halt at Prague introduced on India/U.K. route with Boeing 707s.
- Zurich discontinued as a scheduled halt on U.K. Route.
- May 4 Once a week Boeing service to Nairobi inaugurated via Aden.
- Discontinuance of 1049 Super Constellations on the Route and halt at Karachi omitted.
- May 13 Second extension to Delhi introduced, once a week with Boeing 707 and once a week L-1049 Super Constellations.
- October 1 Frequency of Nairobi Service increased to twice a week.
- October 30 Delivery of first Super Constellation (VT-DHM - Rani of Ellora) to Indian Air Force in accordance with the agreement regarding the sale of L-1049 fleet.
- November 15 Operation of regular Contract Service for I.A.C. on Bombay-Calcutta Route with L-1049s on a twice weekly frequency.
- 1962
- January 8 India-U.K. L-1049 Super Constellation Cargo Service The Flying Sherpa discontinued.
- March 11 Arrival of 5th Boeing 707-437 (VT-DNY - Dhaulagiri ) in Bombay.
- March 31 Dakota freighter VT-CGP sold to I. A. F.
- April 1 Extension to Delhi with Super Constellations suspended.
- Operation of Bombay-Calcutta Contract Service for I.A.C. suspended.
- April 5 Inauguration of a weekly Madras-Singapore-Madras service with Comet 4 aircraft chartered from B.O.A.C. with Air-India flight numbers.
- April 6 Introduction of Boeing 707s on Moscow Route with once a week frequency. Halt at Tashkent omitted.
- April 7 Suspension of services on Jakarta and Kuwait routes with Super Constellations and introduction of Comet 4s on these routes chartered from B.O.A.C. with Air-India flight numbers.

Date of Issue: March 5, 1968

Revision No. : 1



## AIR-INDIA: CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

- April 14      Arrival of 6th Boeing 707-437 (VT-DNZ - Nanga Parbat ) in Bombay.
- May 2      Frequency to U.S.A. increased to seven times a week with all flights operating via London. Discontinuance of London Terminators.
- Bahrain introduced as a scheduled halt on the India/U.S.A. service on once a week basis.
- May 6      Introduction of once a week extension to Calcutta with Boeings.
- May 7      Introduction of Boeing 707s on the Sydney Route with the service operating via Bangkok instead of via Madras.
- Withdrawal of Super-Constellations from scheduled operations.
- June 8      Name of Air-India International abbreviated to Air-India by an amendment to the Air Corporation's Act.
- June 11     The last of the nine Super Constellations (VT - DHL Rani of Ajanta ) handed over to I.A.F.
- Air-India becomes an all-jet carrier.
- October 1    Introduction of Perth on Bombay/Sydney route as a scheduled halt instead of Darwin which was a technical halt.
- Resumption of a daily Contract Service for I.A.C. on Bombay - Delhi route with Boeing 707s instead of Bombay-Calcutta.
- October 15   Mr. J.R.D. Tata, Chairman, Air-India, re-enacted in a Leopard Moth the first scheduled flight in India which he had flown 30 years ago. The route flown was Karachi-Ahmedabad-Bombay.

### 1963

- January 12    Jet Engine Overhaul Plant at Santa Cruz inaugurated by Mr. J.R. D. Tata.
- April 1      Frequency on Bombay/Tokyo route increased from 2 to 3 per week (1 via Delhi and 2 via Calcutta).
- July 1      Frequency through Frankfurt stepped up to four times a week.
- July 3      Routing of Sydney service via Madras instead of via Bangkok after the completion of new runway at Madras for operation of Intercontinental Jets.

Date of Issue: March 5, 1968

Revision No. : 1



## AIR-INDIA: CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

- July 7 Boeing 707s introduced on Bombay-Jakarta route via Madras and Singapore. B.O.A.C.'s Comet 4 charter operation ceased.
- September 1 Commencement of Pool between Air-India and East African Airways Corporation (E.A.A.C.) for traffic between Bombay-Nairobi and Bombay-Aden.

### 1964

- April 1 Commencement of Triangular Pool between Air-India, Aden Airways and E.A.A.C. for traffic between Aden and Nairobi.
- May 29 Arrival of 1st Boeing 707-337B aircraft (VT-DPM-Makalu) in Bombay.
- July 1 Proving flight to Nadi (Fiji) from Sydney.
- August 1 Frequency to U.K. increased to 8 times a week.
- August 3 Sydney Service extended to Nadi.
- October 1 Commencement of Pool between Air-India and Middle East Airlines for passenger traffic to and from Beirut.
- October 2 Extension of Bombay-Moscow service to London concurrently with the increase in frequency to twice a week, thus providing ten flights a week between Bombay and London, eight via Middle East and two via Moscow.
- December 16 Curtailment of services for operational reasons.
- Services to Tokyo reduced to twice a week, one via Calcutta and one via Delhi. Eighth frequency to U.K. (i.e. terminator) also withdrawn. Frequency to U.K. thus reduced to 9 times a week with seven flights via Middle East and two via Moscow.

### 1965

- March 14 Arrival of 2nd Boeing 707-337B aircraft (VT-DSI - Lhotse) in Bombay.
- April 1 Operation of a daily Contract Service for I.A.C. on Bombay-Calcutta route with Boeing 707s instead of Bombay-Delhi route.
- April 5 Introduction of VC-10s chartered from B.O.A.C. on a weekly service to Kuwait in place of Comet 4s. Halt at Karachi discontinued. Karachi now becomes an Off-line station.
- July 19 Construction work started on New Administrative Building.
- July 22 Pool Agreement signed with Japan Air Lines covering Bombay-Tokyo route, effective October 1, 1965.

Date of Issue: March 5, 1968

Revision No. : 1



## AIR-INDIA: CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

September 10 Jakarta service terminated at Singapore.

October 1 Curtailed services restored.

Services to Tokyo increased to thrice a week, two via Calcutta and one via Delhi. Seven services a week to New York via London. Eighth frequency to U.K. (i.e. terminator) restored. Frequency to U.K. thus increased to 10 services a week with 8 flights via Middle East and 2 via Moscow.

October 3 Zurich introduced on India/U.K./U.S.A. route.

### 1966

February 11 Bombay-Calcutta-Bombay IAC Contract Service suspended.

March 18 Normal operations suspended.

April 8 Normal operations resumed.

October 14 Arrival of third Boeing 707-337B Aircraft VT-DVA (Annapoorna) in Bombay.

October 25 Frequency of Nairobi service increased to thrice weekly, one direct and two via Aden.

December 1 Frequency on Bombay-London route increased to 11 flights a week, 9 via West Asia and 2 via Moscow.

Bombay-Singapore service extended to Sydney via Perth thereby increasing the frequency of Sydney service to two.

Frequency through Cairo increased to five times a week in each direction with a technical halt on flights AI-111 and AI-112.

Frequency through Zurich increased to twice a week in westbound direction only.

Frequency through Prague increased to twice a week in both the directions without traffic rights between New York-Prague-New York on flights AI-116 and AI-103.

### 1967

February 1 Reintroduction of Bombay - Calcutta - Bombay daily contract service for I. A. C.

February 14 Arrival of First Boeing 707-337C aircraft (VT-DVB - Kamet) in Bombay.

This non-stop flight covered 4,931 statute miles between London-Bombay in 7 hours and 54 minutes, setting a new speed record for any Boeing.

Date of Issue: March 5, 1968

Revision No. : 1



## AIR-INDIA: CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

- April 1 Commencement of Australia/Asia Pool between Air-India; B.O.A.C.; Qantas; Malaysia Singapore Airlines and Air New Zealand on Singapore/Sydney/Singapore and Singapore/Jakarta/Singapore sectors.
- Teheran introduced as an online station.
- Frequency on Bombay/London route increased to 12 flights a week, 4 via Cairo; 4 via Beirut; 2 via Teheran and 2 via Moscow.
- Frequency to Delhi 6 times a week in both the directions.
- Frequency to Frankfurt increased to 5 times a week.
- April 2 Reintroduction of once a week Bombay/Jakarta service. Frequency to Madras and Singapore increased to 3 times a week.
- April 5 Introduction of Brussels on India/U.K. route with once a week frequency. With introduction of Brussels, Teheran and Jakarta, Air-India have 29 online stations on its Magic Carpet route covering five continents.
- July 19 Proving Flight to Mauritius.
- July 20 Frequency through Aden reduced from two to one service a week.
- August 15 Fortnightly service to Mauritius inaugurated.
- August 18 Once a week halt introduced at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; on east-bound Sydney terminator service and the westbound Jakarta service.
- November 1 Operations through Bangkok suspended.
- November 2 Weekly chartered service to Kuwait via Bahrain suspended.
- Boeing 707 service introduced through Kuwait.

### 1968

- April 1 Frequency on Bombay/London route increased to 13 flights a week.
- April 19 Operations through Bangkok resumed.
- August 22 Arrival of Second Boeing 707-337C aircraft (VT-DXT-Trishul) in Bombay.
- September 7 Frequency to Tokyo increased to 4 times a week.



## AIR-INDIA : CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

- October 27 Addis Ababa introduced as online station.
- Introduction of a weekly Gulf Terminator Service to Kuwait via Bahrain.
- Frequency on Bombay/London route increased to 14 flights a week.
- October 31 Entebbe introduced as an online station.

### 1969

- January 28 Weekly service to Mauritius inaugurated.
- April 1 Frequency on Bombay/London route increased to 15 flights a week.
- April 2 Amsterdam introduced as an online station.
- July 2 Dubai introduced as an online station.
- December 2 Second Gulf Terminator Service introduced between Bombay and Kuwait via Dubai.

### 1970

- April 1 Frequency on Bombay/Tokyo route increased to 5 flights a week.
- June 20 Introduction of a Madras terminator Service.
- September 4 One service to Sydney withdrawn with the flight terminating at Singapore.
- Flight Kitchen formally opened at Delhi Airport. This Flight Kitchen is the second of the two planned in India by the CHEFAIR Division of Air-India. The First Flight Kitchen of Air-India went into operation at Bombay Airport on October 15, 1969.
- October 1 Abu Dhabi introduced as a halt on one of Air-India's Gulf Service.
- Third Gulf Terminator Service introduced on the route Bombay-Dubai-Bahrain.
- November 3 Dhahran introduced as an online station.



## AIR-INDIA: CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

1971

- February 1 : Operations through Brussels suspended.  
Frequency on Bombay/London route reduced to 14 flights a week.
- April 18 : Arrival of First Boeing 747-237B aircraft (VT-EBD-Emperor Ashoka) in Bombay.
- May 4 : First proving flight to New York with Boeing 747-237B "Emperor Ashoka".  
Arrival of Second Boeing 747-237B aircraft (VT-EBE-Emperor Shahjehan) in Bombay.
- May 12 : Second proving flight to New York with Boeing 747-237B "Emperor Shahjehan".
- May 21 : Flight-129 to London operated with Emperor Ashoka on ad hoc basis, making it the first 747 commercial flight.
- May 24 : Inaugural flight to London with 747.
- May 25 : Third service via Moscow introduced.
- May 26 : First flight to New York with 747.
- July 8 : Formation of the Hotel Corporation of India Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Air-India.
- July 17 : Two UK terminators - AI-135/132 effective July 17 and AI-125/124 effective July 21, 1971 - withdrawn.  
Operations through Dhahran, Zurich, Prague and Amsterdam withdrawn.
- September 9 : Formation of Air-India Charters Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Air-India.
- December 8 : AI-121/124 UK 747 terminator service suspended.

1972

- January 1 : Introduction of the first flight of the Charter Company ACL-131 to London. This flight suspended from the normal operation for this Charter flight.
- January 4 : Introduction of the second flight of the Charter Company ACL-503 to Ostend. This flight suspended from the normal operation for this Charter flight.

Date of Issue: January 4, 1972

Revision No. 5



## AIR-INDIA: CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

1972

January 15 : Introduction of daily services to Bombay/Bangalore/Bombay, Bombay/Madras/Bombay and Bombay/Calcutta/Bombay for Indian Airlines.

Bombay/Madras/Bombay extension of AI-110/101 withdrawn.

February 4 : Dacca introduced as an online station with the operation of AI-606/611 on Delhi/Dacca/Delhi/Bombay sector. The east-bound AI-506 via Paris and Moscow terminated at Delhi to operate the above sector.

Acceptance papers for the 747 simulator installed in Bombay signed by Air Marshal M.S. Chaturvedi and Mr. R.W. Cooke, President, CAE Electronics Limited, in the new Simulator building at Santa Cruz.

February 14 : Dr. Sarojini Mahishi, Union Minister of State for Tourism and Civil Aviation, performed the Foundation Stone Laying Ceremony of Air-India's first hotel "CENTAUR" at Bombay Airport.

February 16 : Second service to Dacca, introduced with sector Bombay/Dacca/Delhi/Bombay.

April 1 : The Bahrain terminator AI-803/802 extended to Kuwait.

Arrival of Third Boeing 747-237B aircraft (VT-EBN-Emperor Rajendra Chola) in Bombay, on a scheduled flight. The aircraft was delivered to Air-India on March 28, 1972. It was flown Seattle-London on March 29, 1972, and arrived at London on March 30, 1972. It was operated on a scheduled flight AI-107 on London-New York sector and AI-108 New York-Bombay sector.

Introduction of the third flight of the Charter Company ACL-001 to Amsterdam.

Charter Flights ACL-131 to London and ACL-503 to Ostend have been renumbered as ACL-005 and ACL-003 respectively, from April 1, 1972.

Air-India, BOAC, QANTAS terminated their pooling arrangements on London/Sydney and London/Hong Kong route.

Air-India's association with MSA (as part of its pool with BOAC and Qantas) on London/Singapore/Sydney route also terminated.

Date of Issue: April 28, 1972

Revision No. 3



## AIR-INDIA: CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

1972

- April 1 : Bipartite pooling arrangement signed between Air-India and MSA. The above agreement will apply for a period of 3 years and will be assigned to Singapore Airlines Limited, the successor airline of MSA for Singapore from October 1, 1972.
- April 27 : Dhahran re-introduced as an online station.
- Fourth Gulf Terminator service introduced between Bombay and Dhahran.
- May 1 : Bombay Booking office shifted to Air-India Building. The building was first occupied by the Headquarters on April 20, 1970.
- June 4 : Arrival of Fourth Boeing 747-237B aircraft (VT-EBO-Emperor Vikramaditya) in Bombay.
- June 11 : Introduction of daily 747 service to New York via London. London is also served with two 707 services via Middle East and Europe.
- Introduction of twice weekly Moscow Terminator services via Teheran. With this, services to London via Moscow discontinued.
- Four Gulf Terminator services rescheduled - two flights Bombay/Kuwait/Bombay, one flight Bombay/Bahrain/Bombay and one flight Bombay/Dhahran/Bombay..
- August 1 : AI-803 Bombay/Bahrain Gulf Service routed via Dubai.
- October 29 : Eastbound UK service AI-126 terminated at Calcutta instead of Bombay, and Westbound UK service AI-131 to originate from Calcutta.
- Frequency to Japan increased to six flights a week.
- November 2 : Osaka introduced as an online station with a twice weekly service.
- Bangkok omitted from Eastbound Osaka services.
- November 4 : Second weekly service to Mauritius introduced.

Date of Issue: November 4, 1972

Revision No.4



## AIR-INDIA: CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

1973

- January 1 : ACL Flight 003 suspended.
- January 12 : Nairobi/Entebbe/Nairobi sector suspended on ad hoc basis.
- January 19 : Nairobi/Entebbe/Nairobi sector suspended until further notice.
- March 7 : Mr. K.K. Unni, Air-India's Managing Director keyed in the first message from Air-India's Bond Street Office, London, to the BOADICEA Computer System of BOAC in London to inaugurate the computerised reservations facility for Air-India in Europe and USA.
- April 1 : Both Mauritius services operated under joint Air-India/Air Mauritius flight numbers.
- May 1 : ACL Flight 005 suspended.
- June 2 : Third London terminator service introduced. While the two London terminator services will continue to operate with 707 aircraft, the third London terminator service will operate with a 747 aircraft.
- June 8 : To mark Air-India's 25 years of overseas operations the Indian Posts & Telegraphs Department released a first day cover and a multi-coloured stamp.
- July 10 : New 747 Hangar at Engineering base opened for partial operation.
- September 5 : New 747 Engine Test Facility inaugurated by Managing Director Mr. K.K. Unni.
- October 28 : Four Gulf Terminator services rescheduled with two flights to Kuwait via Dubai and Bahrain, one flight to Doha via Abu Dhabi and one flight to Bahrain via Dubai.
- Dhahran put on 707 U.K. terminator service, AI-127 Westbound and AI-122 Eastbound.
- November 1 : Doha introduced as an online station on one of the four Gulf Terminator services.

Date of Issue: November 1, 1973

Revision No. 7



1974

- February 12 : Muscat introduced as an online station.
- Fifth Gulf Terminator service and second frequency to Abu Dhabi introduced.
- March 18 : Air-India's Boeing 707 Charter flights for Indian Airlines IC105/106 Bombay/Bangalore/Bombay suspended until further notice.
- Air-India's Boeing 707 Charter flights for Indian Airlines IC187/188 Bombay/Delhi/Bombay.
- April 1 : Second frequency to Sydney re-introduced.
- Frequency to Singapore increased to four times a week.
- Nandi became offline station.
- Withdrawal of one 707 Calcutta/UK Terminator.
- July 1 : Services on the Gulf route increased to six flights a week with the following pattern of operation:  
Every Monday one flight between Bombay and Bahrain via Muscat; every Tuesday two flights each between Bombay and Kuwait via Dhahran and between Bombay and Abu Dhabi via Dubai respectively; every Thursday two flights each between Bombay and Doha via Dubai and between Bombay and Kuwait via Abu Dhabi and Bahrain respectively; and every Sunday between Bombay and Bahrain via Dubai.

1975

- April 1 : Services to Gulf increased to seven flights a week.
- Second 707 London Terminator introduced.
- Charter Operations for Indian Airlines discontinued.
- April 2 : Air-India operated on a scheduled basis two 13-pallet all-cargo Boeing 707 flight to London via Middle East and Europe and one Boeing 707 flight a week to Tokyo.
- April 4 : Boeing 707 Terminator service to Dubai introduced.



AIR-INDIA: CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

1975

- August 1 : An additional 747 terminator service to London introduced.
- August 3 : Second Boeing 707 Terminator service to Dubai introduced.
- October 1 : Dacca operations curtailed to one flight a week on ad hoc basis.
- December 15 : Aircraft used for 13-pallet cargo operation substituted with a wet-leased Boeing 707-329C from SABENA (Belgian World Airlines).
- December 27 : Arrival of Fifth Boeing 747-237B aircraft (VT-EDU Emperor Akbar) in Bombay.

1976

- February 1 : Services to Gulf increased to eleven flights a week.
- Dacca operation suspended with the introduction of Winter 1976 Timetable.
- April 1 : Baghdad becomes online station.
- Amsterdam becomes online once again.
- Twice weekly Moscow services extended to London.
- Two additional 707 terminator services to London via Middle East making a total of 8 terminator services to London - two 747 and six 707s.
- Boeing 747s introduced on Bombay/Sydney route with Monday service operating direct between Bombay and Perth and Friday service via Madras/Singapore/Perth (First 747 service operated on March 29, 1976).
- Jakarta becomes offline station.
- April 6 : Inauguration of a weekly Boeing 707 service to Baghdad via Dhahran and Kuwait.



1976

- May 30 : One stop boeing 747 bullet service from New York to Bombay via London inaugurated. Air-India is the only airline to operate such a service.
- June 25 : Seychelles becomes online station.
- August 4 : Introduction of a weekly Boeing 747 terminator service to Dubai. With the addition of this service, there are now a total of 12 terminator services a week to the Gulf area.
- November 1 : Second Boeing 747 terminator service to Dubai. Air-India now operates 14 terminator services to the Gulf.
- November 3 : Introduction of two Boeing 707 Frankfurt terminators.
- November 4 : SABENA freighter wet-lease discontinued. Reintroduction of all-cargo flights with Air-India aircraft.
- November 5 : Reintroduction of a weekly service between Calcutta and London.
- December 15 : Agreement signed with the Boeing Company for the purchase of sixth Boeing 747.
- December 19 : Ethiopian Airlines' Boeing 707-320C wet-leased to operate all-cargo services.
- One of the weekly services to Nairobi extended to Lagos and Accra.

1977

- January 14 : Frequencies to the Gulf stepped up to 17 services a week with the addition of two more Boeing 707 services to Abu Dhabi and one Boeing 707 service to Kuwait, to make a total of three services each to Abu Dhabi and Kuwait.
- Introduction of weekly Boeing 707 terminator services to Rome and Bangkok.
- February 19 : Withdrawal of weekly 707 Rome terminator service.
- April 13 : Introduction of a weekly 707 terminator service to Jeddah. Air-India now operates 21 terminator services to the Gulf.
- June 18 : Introduction of twice weekly Airbus service to Dubai, operated with aircraft wet-leased from Indian Airlines. With the addition of these two services, Air-India now operates 23 terminator services to the Gulf.
- November 1 : Air-India flights to Mauritius discontinued; last flight was on October 31, 1977.
- Bangkok terminator withdrawn.
- With the introduction of one more 707 terminator service to Muscat (Flt. AI-831/830), the total number of 707 terminator services to the Gulf goes up to 20.
- November 2 : Mauritius begins twice weekly service on India-Mauritius route with Boeing 707s. One service will be operated on behalf of Air-India.

Date of Issue : April 9, 1980



- November 5 : Both Boeing 747 Sydney services routed via Singapore.
- November 6 : Introduction of third Boeing 747 terminator service to Dubai.
- December 19 : Ethiopian Airlines freighter wet-lease discontinued, instead SEABOARD World Airlines' DC-8 wet-leased to operate all-cargo services.
- December 31 : Indian Airlines' Airbus flights to Gulf discontinued.

#### 1978

- January 10 : Australia service terminated at Perth due to operational reasons and frequency reduced to once a week.
- January 31 : Introduction of a weekly 707 service to Trivandrum via Dubai.
- February 1 : Air Chief Marshal P.C. Lal appointed Chairman of Air-India and Indian Airlines.
- February 6 : Arrival of sixth Boeing 747-237B VT-EFJ "Emperor Chandragupta" in Bombay.
- February 18 : Reintroduction of twice weekly Airbus Service to Gulf (one to Abu Dhabi and one to Muscat) with aircraft wet-leased from Indian Airlines.
- March 1 : Introduction of second 707 service to Trivandrum via Dubai.
- April 1 : Third Boeing 747 terminator service to London introduced.  
  
Perth/Sydney extension restored.  
  
Air-India's twice weekly 707 service to Mauritius resumed, with the third frequency being operated by Air Mauritius.
- April 7 : Mr. K.G. Appusamy, Managing Director appointed common Vice Chairman of Air-India and Indian Airlines.
- July 2 : Arrival of seventh Boeing 747-237B VT-EFO "Emperor Kanishka" in Bombay.
- July 16 : Three Boeing 747 terminator services a week to Paris discontinued.  
  
Withdrawal of two Frankfurt 707 terminators.  
  
Introduction of two Boeing 707 Teheran terminators.  
  
Reintroduction of direct flights between Delhi and Moscow by dropping Teheran as a halt.

Date of Issue : April 9, 1980



## AIR-INDIA : CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

September 17 : One Kuwait terminator service extended to Trivandrum.

November 16 : Ras-al-Khayma becomes online station.

### 1979

February 15 : A Sperry Univac 1100/22 Real Time Computer System installed at Air-India's Computer Centre at Santa Cruz. It is at present under test.

April 1 : Withdrawal of Airbus services to Gulf, which was being operated with aircraft wet-leased from Indian Airlines.

Introduction of fourth Boeing 747 terminator service to Dubai.

Withdrawal of one of the three Boeing 747 Paris terminators.

Introduction of fourth Boeing 707 service to Nairobi. This is the second service extended to Accra.

Introduction of Boeing 707 terminator from Trivandrum to Abu Dhabi. With this addition, Air-India operates two 707 services to Dubai, one to Abu Dhabi and one to Kuwait via Abu Dhabi.

Withdrawal of one of the four Boeing 707 UK terminators.

Withdrawal of weekly Amsterdam charter service operated by Air-India Charters Limited.

August 16 : Arrival of eighth Boeing 747-237B VT-EFU "Krishna Deva Raya" in Bombay.

September 7 : First freighter service to New York via Europe inaugurated with a wet-leased DC-8-63F aircraft.

September 9 : Cargolux DC-8-63F aircraft wet-leased to operate freighter service to New York.

November 20 : Foundation stone of 'Centaur Lake View Hotel', a Rs. 9 crore five-star hotel of the Hotel Corporation of India, laid by the Union Minister for Tourism and Civil Aviation.

December 23 : Arrival of the Boeing 747-237B VT-EGA "Samudragupta" in Bombay.

### 1980

January 1 : Boeing 747s introduced on India-Japan route. Air-India now operates two Boeing 747 and one Boeing 707 service a week to Tokyo and two Boeing 707 services to Osaka.

January 6 : Boeing 747 flight AI-132 extended to Calcutta. The aircraft turns round and operates flight AI-103 starting from Calcutta to New York.

Date of Issue : April 9, 1980



AIR-INDIA: CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

1980

- February 22 : Arrival of the Boeing 747-237B VT-EGB "Mahendra Verman" in Bombay.
- March 31 : Boeing 707-437 VT-DJK "Everest" withdrawn from service.
- April 1 : Boeing 707s withdrawn from India-Japan route and replaced with Boeing 747s. Services reduced to four times a week. Osaka service extended to Tokyo. Simultaneously, India-Japan all-cargo Service withdrawn.
- Fourth Boeing 747 London terminator service reintroduced.
- Of the three Paris terminators, two operated with 747s and one with 707.
- One of the four Boeing 747 London terminators withdrawn.
- April 3 : Mr Raghu Raj assumed charge as Chairman and Managing Director of Air-India.
- April 6 : Arrival of 10th Boeing 747-237B VT-EGC "Harsha Vardhana" in Bombay.
- June 1 : New route added to Air-India's network with the start of a weekly 707 service to Lusaka via Dar-es-salaam.
- Singapore eliminated as a halt on Bombay/Sydney Weekly service, which now operates Bombay/Perth/Sydney/Melbourne/Perth/Bombay.
- Singapore will be served with three 707 services a week, via Madras and Kuala Lumpur.
- European extension of the twice weekly Moscow service discontinued.
- Once a week 707 service to Dacca re-introduced (See entry for February, 1976). Also the third 747 terminator service to Paris reintroduced (see entry for April 1, 1979).
- Introduced three 747 Delhi/Gulf/Delhi services.
- July 29 : Boeing 707-437 VT-DNY "Dhaulagiri" withdrawn from service.
- Boeing 707 fleet reduced to seven aircraft.
- August 31 : Wet-lease arrangement for DC-8-63F switched from cargolux to flying tiger. Both DC-8-63Fs now wet-leased from flying tiger.
- September 26 : Suspension of flights to Tehran/Baghdad.



**AIR-INDIA: CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS**

- November 1 : 747 Delhi/Gulf/Delhi terminator services discontinued. (See entry for June 1, 1980).
- 747 Gulf terminator services increased from 16 to 18. Singapore  
707 terminator services increased from 3 to 4 (See entry for June 1, 1980).
- Introduction of daily 707 Gulf Service from Trivandrum (See entry April 1, 1979).
- 707 Gulf terminator services increased from 9 to 10 from Bombay.
- Introduction of a weekly 747 flight to Baghdad.
- December 8 : New International Airport Terminal at Bombay opened.
- 1981
- February 22 : Mr. A P. Sharma, Union Minister for Tourism and Civil Aviation officially inaugurated the first module of the Bombay International Airport Terminal and laid foundation stone for the second module.
- March 10 : Sharjah becomes online station with a weekly Boeing 707 service.
- March 16 : Computerised passenger reservations system inaugurated in Bombay.
- March 30 : Delhi cut-over to computerised reservations.
- April 1 : Melbourne becomes offline.
- One of the four 747 Tokyo services withdrawn.
- One of the three 747 Paris terminators withdrawn.
- Calcutta 747 terminator (AI-132) extended to Bangkok.
- 747 flights to Gulf increased from 18 to 21.
- Freighter service re-introduced on Bombay-Tokyo route with wet-leased DC-8-63F aircraft.
- April 14 : First Boeing 707 scheduled flight to Salisbury, Zimbabwe, via Seychelles.
- May 25 : Calcutta cut-over to computerised reservations.
- June 15 : Madras cut-over to computerised reservations.
- Operations Headquarters Building next to 747 Simulator Building officially opened by Capt. D. Bose, Director of Operations.



## AIR-INDIA: CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

- June 26 : Mr. Raghu Raj, Chairman & Managing Director laid the foundation stone of the second 747 Hangar at the Engineering Base at Bombay Airport.
- July 1 : Re-introduction of second 747 service to Sydney via Singapore and Perth. With this Air-India operates three 707 and two 747 services to Singapore.
- Re-introduction of third 747 terminator to Paris. (See entry April 1981).
- One of the Bombay/Dubai/Abu Dhabi 747 services replaced with a 707. With this Air-India operates twenty 747 and eight 707 terminator services to the Gulf.
- November 1 : Twice weekly Boeing 707 Moscow service extended to London.
- November 7 : Boeing 747 introduced on Amsterdam route. A weekly service AI-131 operates every Saturday Bombay/Rome/Amsterdam.

### 1982

- January 3 : Amritsar and Birmingham become online stations, with the Moscow services now routed Bombay-Delhi-Amritsar-Moscow and Birmingham. Amritsar becomes the 6th online station in India; others being Bombay, Delhi, Calcutta, Madras and Trivandrum.

Date of Issue : January 28, 1982

Published by Public Relations Office  
Air-India, Bombay.



1982

- April 1 : All westbound Boeing 747 flights to New York will operate via Dubai instead of Kuwait.
- May 25 : Air-India and Airbus Industrie signed an agreement for the purchase of three A300B1-200 Airbus aircraft in Bombay. Two aircraft will be delivered to Air-India in July/August 1982 and the third in November 1982.
- July 3 : Airbus A300-B1 wet-leased from Indian Airlines introduced on the Bombay-Singapore route. The twice weekly service operates to following routing: Bombay/Madras/Singapore/Madras/Kuala Lumpur/Madras/Bombay (Thursdays & Wednesdays), Bombay/Madras/Kuala Lumpur/Singapore/Madras/Bombay (Saturdays).
- July 29 : Air-India's Airbus "VT-EHN" "GANGA" received by Mr Raghu Raj, Chairman-cum-Managing Director in Toulouse.
- August 11 : First Airbus VT-EHN "GANGA" arrived in Bombay.
- August 12 : With the arrival of Air-India's second Airbus VT-EHO "GODAVARI" in Bombay, the fleet now consists of ten Boeing 747s, six Boeing 707s and two Airbus A300B1-200s.
- August 15 : With the introduction of Air-India Airbus on the Gulf routes from August 15, 1982, the pattern of operation has been split three ways with 15 Boeing 747, 11 Airbus and four Boeing 707 services a week. Of the 11 Airbus services four are extended from Gulf points to Trivandrum and back. The Boeing 707 services to the Gulf have been reduced to four a week, of which three are extended to Trivandrum from the various Gulf points. Trivandrum, therefore is served with a total of seven services a week from the Gulf. (A-I now operates 37 services a week from India to various Gulf points)
- August 16 : Baghdad reintroduced as an online station (see entry September 26, 1980).
- October 2 : Montreal introduced as an online station with a twice weekly 747 service on the routing Bombay/Delhi/Frankfurt/London/Montreal on Wednesdays and Saturdays.
- October 15 : Mr J.R.D. Tata re-enacted his original flight of 1932 in a Leopard Moth from Karachi to Bombay via Ahmedabad to mark Air-India's 50th Anniversary.



1982

November 10 : Mr Raghu Raj, Chairman-cum-Managing Director, Air-India, unanimously elected President of IATA at the AGM in Geneva. Mr Raghu Raj is the second Indian to have been elected President of IATA. Mr J.R.D. Tata was the first in 1958. Mr Raghu Raj succeeds Mr Armin Baltensweiler, President of Swissair.

November 15 : Third Airbus A300B<sup>1</sup>-200 "VT-EHQ" "Cauvery" arrived in Bombay.

Boeing 707 withdrawn from Gulf-Trivandrum services. All the seven flights on the route being operated with Airbus A300B<sup>1</sup>.

The 200 rooms Centaur Hotel at Delhi Airport inaugurated by Mr Bhagwat Jha Azad, Union Minister for Civil Aviation and Civil Supplies.

Date of Issue : December 13, 1982

Published by Public Relations Office,  
Air-India, Bombay.