

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 4011
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 3rd April 2018)

Flying life of aircrafts

4011. SHRI RANVIJAY SINGH JUDEV

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:-

- (a) what is the flying life of an Aircraft; and
- (b) whether there are any passenger aircrafts flying beyond their flying life?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Jayant Sinha)

(a) to (b) There is no flying life of an aircraft specified by manufacturer or regulator of State of design of aircraft. However, some of the aircraft manufacturers have defined Design Economic Life in type certification document with the approval of Aviation Regulatory Authority of State of design of aircraft. An aircraft is considered for flying if it is maintained in accordance with relevant maintenance program/ guidelines specified by manufacturer and approved by DGCA for that particular type of aircraft. However, aircraft may operate beyond Design Economic Life subject to compliance of additional modification/ inspection/ tasks laid down by the manufacturer after evaluating several factors like environment in which it has operated. The factors which limit the Design Economic Life are repetitive inspection requirements/corrosion, fatigue, metal fatigue, cracks etc. in areas which are normally accessible during even major checks. Any enhancement in Design Economic Life is done by manufacturer only after it is approved by its regulatory authority.
