

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 17
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 29th November 2021)

AVERAGE LIFESPAN OF PASSENGER AIRCRAFT IN FLYING

17. SHRI BRIJLAL

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

- (a) the average lifespan of any passenger aircraft in flying;
- (b) the average amount of expenditure made per aircraft for the maintenance of passenger aircraft; and
- (c) the number of aircrafts which have been decommissioned after their stipulated service period and the number of new aircrafts put in operation in last three years and the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD))

(a) The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has not prescribed guidelines specifying life for an aircraft to fly in India. The aircraft can continue to operate provided it is maintained in accordance with periodic inspections as stipulated by the manufacturer of the aircraft. However, DGCA has laid down age criteria for an aircraft to be imported into India, which is restricted to 18 years of age or 65% of designed economic life in terms of pressurization cycle, whichever is earlier.

(b) The expenditure on maintenance of an aircraft depends upon many factors such as type of aircraft, age of aircraft, usage, etc. to keep it airworthy. As the aircraft ages, the cost of parts, components and maintenance cost increases, for maintaining the aircraft in airworthy condition. DGCA does not maintain such data on maintenance cost of aircraft but through inspections and surveillance ensures that the aircraft are kept in an airworthy condition.

(c) DGCA has informed that 3 aircraft have been declared Beyond Economic Repair (BER) during the last three years. The details of new aircraft put in operation in the last three years are as follows:

Year	No. of aircraft registered
2018	91
2019	87
2020	61
2021 (till 23.11.2021)	57
TOTAL	296
