

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2888
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2003
PHASING OUT OF OLD AIRCRAFT
HOLKHOMANG HAOKIP

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the normal phasing out period/time of passenger aircraft;
- (b) the norms followed by other countries like Singapore regarding the phasing out of their passenger, aircraft;
- (c) whether the present fare concession given in the North Eastern sector is unable to attract more customers;
- (d) if so, whether there is any proposal to change the fare-structure in this sector to attract more customers;
- (e) whether the older passenger aircraft are being put in service in the North Eastern sector; and
- (f) if not, the details of the aircraft deployed during the last six months on all the sectors in the country indicating the age of the aircrafts, sector-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)

- (a):- There is no phasing out period/time stipulated for passenger aircraft. The aircraft can operate as long as it is maintained as per manufacturers requirements and maintenance plan and mandatory modifications stipulated by Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).
- (b):- The Government has no information on norms followed by other countries including Singapore for phasing out of their passenger aircraft.
- (c):- No, Sir. The seat factor of the flights operating to North Eastern Region are high.
- (d):- Does not arise.
- (e) and (f):- Individual aircraft are not assigned to specific sectors. The deployment of specific aircraft on a route on a given day is based on the maintenance requirement of the aircraft as well as their positioning at different maintenance bases. Therefore, the aircraft in the fleet are deployed over the network as a whole and no specific aircraft is deployed for the North Eastern Sector, except the four ATR-42 aircraft which are operating exclusively in North East region. The average age of the ATR-42 aircraft is 9.2 years as against the average age of 15.4 years of all other aircraft owned by Indian Airlines.