

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3027
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2012
OUTDATED AIRCRAFT
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Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether sufficient number of aircraft are available in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor along with the total number of Government aircraft flying in the country;
- (c) whether old/outdated aircraft are still being pressed into service;
- (d) if so, the details of routes in which they are operated and the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Government has formulated any policy to replace its old and outdated aircraft with new ones;and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI K. C. VENUGOPAL)

(a) & (b): The number of Pax/Cargo aircraft in the country are as follows:

Public Sector aircraft = 198 (140 Airplane, 58 Helicopters)

Private Sector aircraft = 510 (271 Airplane, 239 Helicopters)

Total = 708 (411 Airplane, 297 Helicopters)

(c) to (f):- There is no specific age limit for aircrafts, No such limits are prescribed by the manufacturers either. However, they are to be maintained in accordance with maintenance programme approved by Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) and by the manufacturers for maintaining the airworthiness. All aircrafts operated by the airlines are airworthy. CAR Section-2, Series 'F' Part X lays down the procedure to ensure continued airworthiness of ageing aircraft and continued structural integrity of all aircraft which have crossed 20 years of age. DGCA ensures the compliance with the stipulated requirements.