

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:989
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2003
LEASE OF AIRCRAFT FOR HAJ
THAAWAR CHAND GEHLOT

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of aircraft hired by the Government for the transportation of Haj pilgrims during the period 1998 to 2003, country-wise and date-wise;
- (b) the details of the agreements made for hiring the aircraft;
- (c) the number of pilgrims allowed to be taken free in each foreign aircraft under the Haj service agreement;
- (d) the year-wise details thereof;
- (e) whether the aircraft provided by France were not in good condition; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

Answer

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

(a): The details are as under:-

Year	No. of Aircraft	Country	Date/Period
1998	4	USA	27.2.1998 to 12.5.1998
1999	5	UK	18.2.1999 to 30.4.1999
2000	5	UK	7.2.2000 to 22.4.2000
2001	6	KAMPUCHEA	27.1.2001 to 11.4.2001

Saudi Arabian Airlines also participated during Haj-2001 operations. For the years 2002 and 2003, no aircraft was hired. Air India, Indian Airlines and Saudi Arabian Airlines have carried out the entire haj operations.

(b):The aircraft were hired on the basis of a global tender process. A Haj Tender Committee was formed which examined and evaluated technical and financial bids and recommended award of the contract.

(c):No pilgrim is carried free in the chartered aircraft. An amount of Rs. 12, 000 is charged from each pilgrim for his air travel to/from Jeddah.

(d):Does not arise in view of (c) above.

(e):No aircraft was offered by France.

(f): Does not arise in view of answer at (e) above.