

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION**

**AIR SAFETY CIRCULAR NO. 2 OF 1998**

**Subject: Safety in helicopter/Propeller driven aircraft operations – to check the cases of persons coming in contact with the running rotors/propellers.**

In the recent past there has been a number of cases wherein persons have received fatal injuries by coming in contact with the running rotors/propellers. Injuries had occurred mostly under two situations i.e. passenger after disembarking came in contact with the moving rotors/propellers and person approaching the helicopter/airplane after its arrival came in contact with the running rotors/propellers. In the past safety guidelines have been issued by the DGCA and also in the various meetings with the operators it has been impressed that such cases should be avoided by proper briefing of the passengers, shutting down of the engines prior to disembarking of the passengers except in certain special type of operations and providing adequate security around the helipad/airstrip etc. However, cases of fatal injuries by coming in contact with the moving rotors/propellers continue to take place. It is reiterated that the following instructions be strictly adhered to avoid such cases:

1. The passengers should embark and disembark the helicopter/airplane only when engines are shut down with the exceptions for special type of operations where such feasibility does not exist and where special briefing and safety precautions are followed to avoid such cases.
2. Adequate security and guarding of the helipad/airstrip is done so that unauthorized persons do not move close to the helicopters/airplanes and persons guarding the helipad/airstrip are adequately briefed about the dangers of the running rotors/propellers and safety precautions to be followed on the helipad/airstrips. The persons deployed for assisting in the helicopter/airplane operations by the company are fully briefed on the safety precautions to be followed while working close to the helicopter/airplane.

All the operators are required to strictly adhered to above-mentioned guidelines in their operations and also this be brought to the notice of all the pilots and other persons associated with the operations.

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