

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION
AIR SAFETY DIRECTORATE
AV.15013/2/2005-AS

Air Safety Circular No. 3 of 2006

Subject: Importance of Wearing Seat Belts/ Shoulder Harness.

The analysis of the recent accidents/incidents to small aircrafts/helicopters has revealed that in some cases pilots/passengers have lost their life or received serious injuries due not using safety equipments such as shoulder harness/seat belts etc.

In few accidents, the damage to the structure was not such so as to cause serious/fatal injuries to crews/passengers but it did happen. The same could have been avoided/minimized if passengers/crew had realized the importance of use of shoulder harness/seat belts in time.

In one of the accidents a passenger died due drowning because he could not open his seat belt. This is indicative of improper briefing by the crew. It is the responsibility of Pilot in Command, in case of small aeroplane/helicopters, to brief all passengers about procedure of fastening/unfastening of seat belts and use of safety equipments in the cabin before commencement of flight. These requirements already exist.

Instances are on record wherein the passengers traveling in large aircraft also have received injuries due not using the safety belts.

In view of the above all the scheduled/non-scheduled/private aircraft/helicopter operators are advised to ensure that their Pilots/Cabin Crew carry out the safety briefing before each flight which should include the fastening/unfastening of the seat belts & use of Safety Equipments.

For Safety of aircraft operations and to improve survivability of occupants in case of any mishaps, your co-operation is requested.

22nd March 2006

-Sd-
(A. K. Chopra)
Deputy Director General
for Director General of Civil Aviation

Distribution: All Scheduled / Non-Scheduled / Private/Helicopter Operators.
Internal Distribution: As per list