

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION**  
**AIR SAFETY DIRECTORATE**  
**AV.15011/2/2007-AS**

**Air Safety Circular No. 3 of 2007**

**Sub:** Precautions during Refueling.

In a recent fatal accident involving General Aviation aircraft it has been observed that due care and caution was not exercised by the crew of the aircraft during refueling of the aircraft. It was a piston engine aircraft; however the refueling was done with the Aviation turbine fuel instead of gasoline. This turned out to be a fatal error, the fuel got contaminated and immediately after takeoff aircraft experienced loss of power and crashed. All onboard the aircraft received fatal injuries.

In case of scheduled airlines appropriate procedures exists for training of personnel and supervision during refueling with accountability determined. However in case of general aviation it is seen that such procedures are not fully adhered to and thus operation in General Aviation is more susceptible to errors as at above leading to the fatal accident.

The existing regulations in CAR Section 2 Series H Part II require that the fuelling of an aircraft shall be done under the supervision of a person nominated by operator or as specified in the Quality Control Manual and shall be carried out by authorized person from the oil company. The Operator's representative shall ensure that the fuelling of an aircraft is carried out in accordance with the prescribed manner, following the conditions laid down by the aircraft manufacturer.

Further in Section 2 Series 0 Part I **it is mandatory for the Pilot-in-Command of every aircraft before commencing any flight that he should satisfy himself of availability on board of sufficient quantity of fuel and oil of correct grade for the proposed flight.** Aircraft Manufacturers also prescribes the labeling of correct Type/grade of the fuel to be uplifted near each fuel tank filler cap.

All concerned particularly in General Aviation are advised to take utmost care and caution during refueling. Refueling shall be supervised by an approved person. Fuel vendors should also check with the operator about the type/ grade of the fuel to be uplifted before carrying out the refueling. Also operator should ensure availability at all times of prominent labeling/ DECAL indicating correct Type/ grade of the fuel to be uplifted near each fuel tank filler cap as prescribed by the aircraft manufacturer.

The above is for strict compliance.

11<sup>th</sup> September 2007

(Sd/-)  
(R.S. Passi)  
Deputy Director Air Safety  
For Director General of Civil Aviation

Distribution:

All Scheduled/ Non Scheduled/Private/ Helicopter Operators/ Fuel vendors  
Internal: As per list  
PS to DG