

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION
AV. 15013/3/2002-AS

Air Safety Circular No. 3 of 2005

Subject: Flights to & from remote and uncontrolled airfield – weather briefing regarding.

In one of the recent fatal accident the pilot was unable to continue the flight due poor visibility enroute. While searching for an appropriate place to land, made an error of judgement and crashed.

In an another accident a helicopter entered drifting clouds enroute at low height, lost visual reference and crashed.

There are number of accidents on record wherein helicopter/ small aircraft while flying in hilly terrain in bad weather collided with terrain.

It is imperative to have detailed weather reports at destination / alternate and enroute for safe conduct of flight. Flights have to be conducted following approved Meteorological Minima. As mostly the helicopter fly under VFR conditions, therefore before take off pilot/ Operator must ensure that appropriate meteorological reports have been obtained.

The analysis of the above type of accidents reveal that in some cases the pilots carried out the take-off from uncontrolled helipad/ airstrip without obtaining appropriate meteorological reports from authorities nor did try to find out enroute weather or destination weather.

It is further advised that the pilots operating flight to and from remote places from uncontrolled airspace, helipads and air strips should obtain enroute weather report/information from the appropriate authorities, observe caution about local weather phenomenon and plan & conduct flight accordingly.

(R.S. Passi)
Assistant Director Air Safety
for Director General of Civil Aviation
25.4.2005

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2. All non-scheduled fixed wing operators.
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