

Government of India
O/o Director General of Civil Aviation
AV.15020/5/2002-AS

Air Safety Circular 4 of 2004

Subject: Non-adherence to Cockpit Checklist.

In a recent aircraft incident the cabin door of the aircraft got opened and detached from the aircraft and fell on the runway immediately after take off, at about 150-200 ft AGL. The aircraft thereafter landed safely and all the persons on board the aircraft including the crewmembers escaped without any injury.

The Investigation of the incident revealed that prior to departure the pilot, instead of closing the door himself, asked a passenger to close it. The closing of the door was neither physically checked by any of the crewmember nor the door open warning light was noticed by the crewmember on the control panel.

Rule 7B of Aircraft Rule 1937 specifies, "Every aircraft registered in India shall carry Cock-pit Check Lists and Emergency Check Lists specified by the Director-General for that particular type of aircraft. Such lists shall be carried in the cockpit of the aircraft readily accessible to the pilot in flight" and

The CAR Section 2, Series B part II specifies the procedure to be followed for preparation and use of checklists i.e. "Aircraft requiring two or more crew members must follow the procedure of "challenge and response" while using the "Cockpit Check List" and the check list shall also indicate the function of each flight crew member vis-à-vis each item of the list, to avoid confusion.

In compliance with the above Rule and in the interest of the Safety of Helicopter/Aircraft operations all Non-Scheduled & Private Operators are advised to ensure that the Cockpit Checklist is followed meticulously.

(Sanit Kumar)
Assistant Director Air Safety
For Director General of Civil Aviation

Dated: 29 March 2004
To: All Non Scheduled/Private Operators
Internal distribution as per list.