GOVERNMENT OF INDIA DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION AV. 15013/7/2003 -AS

Air Safety Circular No. 6 of 2005

Subject: Adherence to offshore operation procedure.

The analysis of the recent accidents/incidents to the helicopters, engaged in offshore operation, has revealed that most of these resulted due to ignorance/non-adherence/violations of the procedures laid down for safe offshore operation. Proper planning and vigilance could have easily avoided some of the accidents.

The investigation of one of the accident revealed that the pilot landed at a rig for the first time and met with an accident while taking off. It was further brought out that the pilot never carried out reece flying before starting the operation from the Rig.

Incorrect crew combination and non-compliance of safety regulations by the crew contributed to another accident in which the helicopter plunged into sea resulting in drowning of one of the passengers who could not open his seat belt due improper briefing.

Non-confirming helideck in respect of obstructions requirements along with improper take off technique followed by the crews caused another accident.

All the operators engaged in offshore operations shall prepare standard operating procedure for offshore operations and ensure its compliance, shall strictly follow laid down regulations to avoid recurrence of such avoidable accidents.

8th July 2005

-Sd
(A K Chopra)

Deputy Director General
for Director General of Civil Aviation

Distribution: All helicopter operators.

Internal Distribution: As per list