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सफदरजंग एयरपोर्ट के सामने
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NOTICE FOR HELICOPTER OPERATORS

Subject: Helicopter operations during electioneering

In view of the ensuing elections for assemblies of three States viz. Arunachal Pradesh, Haryana and Maharashtra, helicopters are extensively being used as VIPs are making use of helicopters while touring to these States for electioneering.

As in the past, it is once again reiterated that safe operations of helicopters during the election period cannot be over emphasized and must be the primary concern of each operator and others involved in chartering/ leasing helicopters. It should be ensured that hiring of helicopters is done only from NSOP holders and not from private helicopter owners/operators.

It is pertinent to mention that safe operations can be ensured by proper maintenance of helicopters and adhering to laid down rules/ regulations/ requirements and various advisory circulars issued by DGCA from time to time. All State Government operators and NSOP holders shall ensure that helicopters are properly maintained by CAR 145 approved maintenance organizations, certification is carried out only by qualified/ experienced engineers available at the site field in accordance with approved maintenance programme and the snag rectification is religiously carried out as per manufacture instructions. It must be ensured that adequate spares and consumables are procured and provided to maintenance personnel so that MEL releases by carrying forward of defects are kept to a minimum. Any major inspections falling due should be completed before the helicopters are deployed for election work.

DGCA shall keep a close watch on operators' adherence to procedures, SOPs, watch hours, weather minima, FDTL, maintenance inspections, etc. and any non compliance or violation will be severely dealt with. Cases of pilots not carrying out their pre-flight/ daily inspections, wherever required, not recording observed defects, will result in strict action. The pilots are therefore advised to maintain a written record of all checks carried out by them. In no case the pilots should operate the flights in case defects have not been rectified.

Operators are also responsible for complete security and access control of their aircraft. The BCAS has issued circular no. 5/2002, 26/2005 and AVEC order 2/2009 regarding general aviation operation and procedure to be followed to achieve aviation security to preclude possibility of any unlawful interference against civil aviation operations and possibility of these non scheduled aircraft taking off from unmanned aerodromes. These instructions should be meticulously followed to ensure safety and security of your aircraft.

Further, a booklet on precautions to be taken for election flying highlighting the do's and don'ts in helicopter operations published by the Rotary Wing Society of India also provides useful tips for the personnel concerned with helicopter operations.

The above may kindly be brought to the notice of all concerned in your organization for strict compliance.



(R.P. SAHI)

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