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The following Aeronautical Information Circular is issued to all concerned for information, guidance and necessary action.

Sd/-
(M. R. Sivaraman)
DIRECTOR GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION

F. No. 8-4/90-L(1)
Dated, New Delhi, the 10th December, 1992

FLIGHT DUTY TIME AND FLIGHT TIME LIMITATIONS

1. DEFINITIONS

1.1 Flight Duty Time

Flight duty time is the total time commencing from the time of reporting at the airport for the purpose of operating a flight and ending with the termination of a flight or a series of flights (Chocks on plus 15 minutes).

1.2 Flight time

The total time from the moment the aircraft first taxies out under its own power for the purposes of take-off to the moment it comes to rest at the end of a flight.

1.3 Rest period

The period during which a flight crew is not assigned any duty.

1.4 Flight Crew

Flight crew means the pilots who fly the aircraft and shall also include a flight engineer and flight navigator.

2. APPLICABILITY

These flight time/flight duty time limitations shall be applicable to all flight crew personnel.

3. FLIGHT TIME LIMITATION: DOMESTIC AIR OPERATIONS & NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES:

3.1 The maximum number of hours any domestic air carrier can schedule its flight crew members to do flight time shall be as follows:

1. 1000 hours in any 12 months period.
2. 125 hours in a period of 30 consecutive days.
3. 30 hours in any 7 consecutive days.

3.2 No air carrier operating domestic routes with pilots and flights to neighboring countries may schedule a flight crew member for more than 8 hours of flight time during any 24 consecutive hours without a rest period of 16 hours or more and under the following conditions:

- A. Where the flight time is less than 8 hours a pro-rata rest period of twice the flight time shall be provided, but the rest period in no case shall be less than 8 hours;
- B. Each flight crew shall be relieved from all duty for at least 24 consecutive hours during any 7 consecutive days;
- C. No domestic air carrier may assign any flight crew member to any duty with the air carrier during any required rest period;
- D. Time spent in transportation by a flight crew member to or from an airport at which he was relieved from duty to return to his home station, is not considered a part of rest period;
- E. A flight crew member is not considered to be scheduled for duty in excess of flight duty time limitation when due to circumstances beyond the control of the air carrier (such as unanticipated technical delays, adverse weather conditions etc.) the flight duty time gets inevitably extended provided that such extension shall be limited to 4 hrs in any particular case and shall not be more than 8 hours during any period of 30 consecutive days. In such a case the rest period shall be extended pro-rata by twice the amount of time by which the flight time was extended.
- F. Flight crew shall neither be detailed nor undertake any duty between period embracing 0000 to 0500 hours local time if

during the previous day he/she performed flight duty between the period embracing 0000 to 0500 hours local time; and

G. The flight duty time limitation for a flight crew shall be as follows:

<u>Crew Complement</u>	<u>Flight Duty Time (hours)</u>
2 Pilots	11
2 Pilots and one Flight Engineer	12

3.3 No flight crew shall be asked to do more than 6 landings per day. This shall not include landing for technical, ferry and for the purpose of retrieval of aircraft after diversion.

4. **Flight Time Limitations: International Carriers:**

4.1 Two Pilot Crew operations :

A. No air carrier may schedule a flight crew to fly in an aeroplane that has a crew of two pilots for more than 9 hours of flight time during any 24 consecutive hours without a rest period. Before a flight crew is detailed for a flight, his rest period since the last flight shall not be less than 18 hrs.

B. If an air carrier schedules a flight crew to do flight time of more than 9 hours during any 24 consecutive hours, the rest period at the end of this flight duty shall be extended pro rata by twice the amount of time by which the flight time was extended.

C. Flight time of a flight crew shall not exceed:

i. 30 hrs. in 7 consecutive days.

ii. 125 hours during a period of 30 consecutive days.

iii. 1000 hours during the preceding 12 months.

D. Each flight crew shall be relieved from all duties for at least 24 consecutive hours once during any 7 consecutive days.

4.2 Operations with more than two pilots and additional flight crew member(s)

A. When flights are operated with more than two pilots and additional flight crew member, the flight time limitations shall be as follows:

i. Two Pilots and one additional crewmember - A maximum of 10 hours of flight time during 24 consecutive hours.

- ii. Three Pilots and one additional crewmember - A maximum of 12 hours of flight time during 24 consecutive hours.
 - iii. Four Pilots or 2 sets of crew - A maximum of 14 hours during 24 consecutive hours.
 - B. If a flight crew has flown 9 hours or more during any 24 consecutive hours, he shall be given at least 18 hours of rest before being assigned any further duty. Where the flight time is less than 9 hours a pro-rata rest period of twice the flight time shall be provided but the rest period in no case shall be less than 8 hours.
 - C. Each flight crew shall be relieved from all duty for at least 24 consecutive hours once during any 7 consecutive days.
 - D. No flight crew may fly as a flight crew member more than
 - i. 125 hours during any 30 consecutive days
 - ii. 270 hours during any 90 consecutive days
 - iii. 1000 hours during any 12 months period.
 - E. Each air carrier shall also provide adequate sleeping quarters in the aeroplane wherein a flight crew is scheduled to fly for more than 12 hours during any 24 consecutive hours.
 - F. Any flight crew who has done 12 or more hours of flight time shall be given at least 48 hrs. of rest before he is assigned for further duty.
- 4.3 The air carrier shall give each flight crew upon return to base from any flight or series of flight, a rest period that is at least twice the total number of hours of his flight time while he was away from the base.
- 4.4 The maximum flight duty time/flight time shall be as follows:

(i)	2 Pilot operations	12 hrs./9 hrs.
(ii)	2 Pilot and one other flight crew member	12 hrs./10 hrs.
(iii)	3 Pilots	14 hrs./10 hrs.
(iv)	3 Pilots and one other flight crew	15 hrs./12 hrs.
(v)	2 sets of flight crew	16 hrs./14 hrs.

- 4.5 The flight duty time in all cases could be extended by a maximum of 4 hours in case of technical snags, adverse weather or any other unforeseen circumstances to avoid inconvenience to passengers. However, whenever the flight duty time gets extended, the rest period shall be pro-rata increased by twice the amount of extended period of flight duty time, provided that no flight crew shall be asked to extend flight duty time more than 8 hours in a period of 30 days.
- 4.6 No flight crew operating on an international flight shall be required to do more than 3 landings during the operations of the flight. This does not include Technical landing and landing for retrieval after diversion and ferry.

5. Other Aerial Operations:

- 5.1 In agricultural spray operations, flight time on any type of aircraft, irrespective of weight or category, should not exceed four hours during a consecutive period of 24 hours.
- 5.2 In aerial work operations involving flight below 1500 feet AGL, the flight time shall not exceed 4 hours, or, 5 hrs. if airborne air-conditioner system is in use, during a consecutive period of 24 hours.
- 5.3 In executive flying operations (including State Government, V.I.P. flight operations) the maximum flight time and flight duty time in any consecutive 24 hours is as follows :

	Flight Time (Hrs.)	Flight Duty Time (Hrs.)
(i) Single Pilot	6	9
(ii) Two or more pilots	8	12

- 5.4 After every flight every flight crewmember shall be given a minimum rest period of 10 hrs. and the time spent in transportation, to and from the place of work shall not be counted in the rest period.
- 5.5 The weekly, monthly and annual flight time shall be as follows:
- i. 35 hrs. in a period of 7 consecutive days.
 - ii. 125 hrs. in a period of 30 consecutive days.
 - iii. 1000 hrs. in any 12 months period.
- 5.6 Except as specified above, for executive flight operations, aerial work and other operations, monthly, quarterly and yearly flight and duty time limitations and other conditions specified in para 3 shall apply.

6. General Conditions for all operations :

1. The time spent in office duty prior to operating a flight will be considered for calculation of Flight Duty Time.
2. The restrictions in regard to number of landings are not applicable to flight crew engaged in training flight. If the training flight is conducted after public transport operation(s) during any 24 hour period, the number of landings shall not be the limiting factor for calculation of FDTL, but the total flight and duty time shall not exceed the specified FDTL. Whenever public transport operation is conducted after a training flight, number of landings and flight and duty time of training flight shall be considered for calculating the FDTL.
3. Flight and duty time limitations can be extended with the specific approval of the DGCA in extraordinary circumstances in accordance with the conditions, which the Director General may specify.
4. In respect of helicopter pilots, of PHL, State Governments and other than those engaged in agricultural spray operations, the Flight and Duty time limitations specified in AIC No. 17/90 dated 17.8.1990 will continue to apply.
5. In all the above cases the period of transportation shall neither be counted towards duty time or rest period.
6. Each flight crew shall be relieved from all duty for at least 24 consecutive hours during any seven consecutive day.
7. Operator shall maintain record of flight and duty time of each member of the flight crew.

AIC No. 6/90 dated 28.3.90 and AIC 22/91 dated 11.12.91 are cancelled.

SUMMARY OF FDTL

3.

3.1	Type of operation	Crew Composition	Flight Time	Flight Duty Time	7 days	30 days	90 days	12 months	Remarks. Max. No. of landing in a day	
3.1.1	Domestic flights and flights to neighbouring countries	1) Two crew	Pilot Co-pilot	8	11	30	125	-	1000	6
		2) Three crew	Pilot Co-Pilot Flight Engineer	8	12	30	125	-	1000	6
3.1.2	International flights	1) Two crew	Pilot Co-pilot	9	12	30	125	-	1000	3
		2) Three crew	Pilot Co-Pilot Flight Engineer	10	12	30	125	-	1000	3
		3) Four crew	3 pilots One additional crew member	12	15	-	125	270	1000	3
		4) Multiple crew	4 pilots or 2 sets of crew	14	16	-	125	270	1000	3