

Government of India
O/o Director General of Civil Aviation
AV.15013/2/2001-AS

Air Safety Circular 6 of 2004

Subject: Notifying to ATC – any change/revision/amendment in filed flight plan.

The investigation of a recent aircraft accident has brought out that the involved aircraft was under the command of a pilot, other than one who was listed as PIC in the flight plan. Change in the flight plan was not informed to ATC unit

“Rule of Air” of Aircraft Rules 1937 specifies “A flight plan when submitted for facilitating search and rescue or for any other reason shall be in the prescribed form. No deviation shall be made from a flight plan without informing the appropriate air traffic services unit as soon as practicable”.

It further specify “the Pilot-in-command of an aircraft shall, whether manipulating the controls or not, be responsible for the operation of the aircraft in accordance with the Rules of the Air, except that he may depart from these rules in circumstances that render such departure absolutely necessary in the interests of safety”.

The investigation of the accident has revealed that there was no good reason in the interest of safety for Non – adherence of above Rule.

In compliance with the above Rule and in the interest of the Safety of Helicopter/Aircraft operations all Non-Scheduled/State Government & Private Operators are advised to ensure that prior to conduct/operating a flight any change/revision/amendment made in the filed flight plan shall be informed to the appropriate air traffic services unit by the fastest means of communication.

(A K Chopra)
Director Air Safety
for Director General of Civil Aviation

Dated: 31st May 2004

To: All Non Scheduled/State Government Operator/Private Operators
Internal distribution as per list.