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CAAM CONDUCTS SAFETY BRIEFING FOR ALL HELICOPTER OPERATORS IN MALAYSIA

PUTRAJAYA – The Civil Aviation Authority of Malaysia (CAAM) conducted a safety briefing as part of CAAM's initiative to further enhance safety awareness among helicopter operators in Malaysia. Helicopter operations are known to be agile and adaptable and has a unique capability to land and take-off in diverse situations. Its agility makes helicopter the preferred form of transportation especially for hard-to-reach and remote areas throughout Malaysia. Thus, this safety briefing is part of CAAM's commitment to increase and strengthen safety oversight for helicopter operations in the country ahead of the upcoming general election (GE15) and the forecasted flood where there will be an expected increase of helicopter operations in the country.

The safety briefing which was attended by Accountable Managers, Director of Flight Operations and Safety Managers of more than 10 helicopter operators in Malaysia focused on several safety matters that includes the importance of safety occurrence reporting from the general aviation industry for a healthy safety culture. With consistent safety occurrence reporting, it can improve safety of aircraft operations by timely detection of operational hazards and system deficiencies. It plays an essential role in accident prevention enabling the identification of appropriate remedial actions by prompt analysis of safety data and by the exchange of safety information. This is also in accordance with Civil Aviation Regulations 2016 (CAR 2016) Regulation 165, on the requirement to submit Mandatory Occurrence Report (MOR) when an occurrence occurs within Malaysia or involving an aircraft operated by a Malaysian operator. Apart from that, CAAM also called upon all operators to immediately increase situational awareness and safety promotions with strict discipline and compliance. It is crucial for all pilots to have situational awareness with regards to the location, flight conditions, configuration, and energy state of the aircraft as well as any other factors that could affect its safety such as proximate terrain, obstructions, airspace reservations and weather systems. With increased situational awareness, it may influence decision making and allows the crew to stay ahead of the aircraft and have better anticipation of the future.

Among other safety matters raised were the importance of open and effective communication for safe operations and this includes pre and post briefing among the maintenance team and pilots. Additionally, pre-flight inspection and regular maintenance checks are also essential to ensure efficient operation, optimized performance, and full compliance with CAAM safety standards and regulatory requirements.

Moving forward, CAAM will continue to carry out regular engagements with local operators as part of our commitment to enhance and increase safety awareness among key industry players. This is also to ensure fair execution of Malaysian regulations and most importantly for the interest of safety for the industry and public.

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