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Ministry of Information & Communications

Royal Government of Bhutan Thimphu: Bhutan

Attachment A: Broad Guidelines for helicopter

Ownership	 Helicopter Operation would be open to: Bhutanese national(s): Individual ownership, Partnership;
	ii.Under FDI arrangement in accordance with the FDI policy in force.
Scope of Services	 Government medical evacuation using helicopters that are currently mandated to RBHSL will not be extended to private operators.
	 Private helicopter operations are allowed for tourism purposes and also for air cargo, aerial survey and filming, including private medical evacuation by private individuals or parties on chartered demand.
Market Protection	 There shall be no market protection including the provision of subsidy in any form.
	• The fees and charges for various services to be provided by the operators, shall be left to the market forces.
Infrastructure	 Parking for helicopters and hangar facilities shall be proposed outside of Paro International Airport and any other airports, specified by BCAA/DOAT.
	 The development and operation of helipads by the private sector shall be permitted subject to certification by BCAA.
	 The certified list of helipads/heliports, which will be permitted for use by the helicopter operators, shall be provided by the Department of Air Transport and Bhutan Civil Aviation Authority, based on technical, safety security and regulatory parameters and procedures.
Age and type of aircraft	 Only new helicopters shall be allowed to be imported and registered in Bhutan, and these shall be permitted to operate up to a maximum of 12 years.
Human Resources	Technical and managerial posts - As prescribed by BCAA
Operating and technical requirement	The helicopter operation shall be allowed strictly under visual flight rules (VFR) conditions (i.e. dayligh operation).

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	Helicopters shall be permitted to operate to any part of the country on the landing pads designated by the Department of Air Transport, MoIC, with the exception of those places prohibited specifically by BCAA, Ministry of Home & Cultural Affairs, Royal Bhutan Army and any other relevant agency. Exception shall also be allowed for emergency medical evacuation, disaster, search and rescue and on technical grounds.
	• The interested operator will be required to fulfil and comply with all requirements (documentation, safety, regulatory) set by BCAA prior to issuance of Air Operator Certificate (AOC).
	 After the AOC is granted, the operator will be subject to continuing inspection by BCAA in order to ensure that the operator continues to operate to the same standards upon which the issuance of the AOC was based.
Penalties for non-compliance with conditions of AOC	 Non-compliance to any conditions of the AOC, will be dealt in accordance with the Civil Aviation Act of Bhutan 2016 and its subordinate Regulations, and other relevant by-laws.

Attachment B: Broad Guidelines for jet operation for medical evacuation

Ownership	Jet Operation for medical evacuation would be open to:
	i. Bhutanese national(s): Individual ownership, Partnership;
	ii. Under FDI arrangement in accordance with the FDI policy in force.
Scope of Services	Government medical evacuation that are currently mandated to RBHSL will not be extended to private operators.
	For medical evacuation only
Market Protection	There shall be no market protection including the provision of subsidy in any form.
	• The fees and charges for various services to be provided by the operators, shall be left to the market forces.

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Infrastructure	Parking for aircraft and hangar facilities shall be proposed outside of Paro International Airport subject to availability of space.
Age and type of aircraft	• In case of new aircraft, it shall be allowed to operate up to 20 years or 70 % Design Service Goal (DSG) whichever comes first.
	• In case of used aircraft to be imported or taken on lease, it shall not be more than 10 years of age or 50% of Design Service Goal whichever is earlier. It shall be permitted to operate maximum up to 15 years of age since date of manufacture or 70% of DSG, whichever comes first.
Human Resources	Technical and managerial posts - As prescribed by BCAA
Operating and technical requirement	• The jet operation shall be allowed strictly under visual flight rules (VFR) conditions (i.e. daylight operation).
	• The interested operator will be required to fulfil and comply with all requirements (documentation, safety, regulatory) set by BCAA prior to issuance of Air Operator Certificate (AOC).
	• After the AOC is granted, the operator will be subject to continuing inspection by BCAA in order to ensure that the operator continues to operate to the same standards upon which the issuance of the AOC was based.
Penalties for non-compliance with conditions of AOC	 Non-compliance to any conditions of the AOC, will be dealt in accordance with the Civil Aviation Act of Bhutan 2016 and its subordinate Regulations, and other relevant by-laws.

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