

PART XII

SEARCH AND RESCUE

232. Search and Rescue Services. - (1) The Chairman shall ensure through CAAB's own resources, or with assistance of other Organizations of Bangladesh or in cooperation with other States for the establishment, maintenance and operation of search and rescue services within territory of Bangladesh to ensure that timely assistance is rendered to aircraft, passengers and persons in distress. Such services shall be in accordance with the requirements of the Convention.

(2) The Search and Rescue Procedures shall be prepared taking into consideration available resources within the country of various organizations for example, Defense Forces, Maritime Authority, Fire Brigade, Hospitals, Police and other Organizations as may be applicable. All the Organizations shall render appropriate assistance and services as per the detailed role & procedures agreed and required by the Chairman.

(3) Provision of search and rescue services will be established for the portions of the high seas or areas of undetermined sovereignty shall be determined on the basis of regional air navigation agreements. The Chairman, having accepted the responsibility to provide search and rescue services in such areas shall thereafter, individually or in cooperation with other States, arrange for the services to be established and provided in accordance with the provisions of this rule.

(4) Basic elements of search and rescue services shall include a legal framework, a responsible authority, organized available resources, communication facilities and a workforce skilled in coordination and operational functions.

(5) Search and rescue services shall establish processes to improve service provision, including the aspects of planning, domestic and international cooperative arrangements and training.

(6) The Chairman shall provide assistance to aircraft in distress and to survivors of aircraft accidents, regardless of the nationality or status of persons or the circumstances in which such persons are found.

(7) The Chairman shall use search and rescue units and other available facilities to assist any aircraft or its occupants that are or appear to be in a State of emergency.

(8) Aeronautical and maritime rescue coordination centers serving the same area shall ensure the closest practicable coordination between the centers.

(9) Aeronautical and maritime search and rescue services should be facilitated for consistency and co-operation amongst them.

(10) The Chairman should establish joint rescue coordination centers to coordinate

aeronautical and maritime search and rescue operations, where practical.

(11) Subject to such conditions as may be prescribed by Bangladesh Government, the Chairman may permit immediate entry into Dhaka SRR by search and rescue unit of neighbouring States or allow search and rescue units of Bangladesh to enter into SRR of other neighbouring States for the purpose of searching for the site of aircraft accidents and rescuing survivors of such accidents.

(12) The Chairman should enter into agreements with neighboring States to strengthen search and rescue co-operation and coordination, setting forth the conditions for entry of each other's search and rescue units into their respective territories. These agreements should also provide for expediting entry of such units with the least possible formalities

(13) In order to promote search and rescue efficiency, the Chairman may arrange joint training exercises involving search and rescue units of neighboring countries.

(14) The Chairman shall arrange for all aircraft, vessels and local services and facilities, which do not form part of the search and rescue organization, to cooperate fully with the later in search and rescue and to extend any possible assistance to the survivors of aircraft accidents.

(15) The Chairman should ensure that wreckage resulting from aircraft accidents within Bangladesh or, in the case of accidents on the high seas or in areas of undetermined sovereignty, within the search and rescue regions for which it is responsible, is removed, obliterated or charted following completion of the accident investigation, if its presence might constitute a hazard or confuse subsequent search and rescue operations.

(16) Expenditures incurred in Search and Rescue operation including the cost incurred in removing the wreckage of the aircraft may be charged to the Owner(s) and Operator of the aircraft.

233. Information concerning emergencies.- Any authority, organization or any element of the search and rescue organization having reason to believe that an aircraft is in an emergency shall give immediately all available information to the rescue coordination centre of the Civil Aviation Authority.