



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT

OC NO 3 OF 2023

Initial Issue: 26 May 2023

DGCA-22024/08/2023-FSD

Subject: Rapid disembarkation

Introduction

Abnormal and emergency procedures should be designed to enable flight crew members to immediately recognize an abnormal and emergency situation, rapidly gain awareness of situational dynamics and take necessary measures to safeguard occupants & other crew members. CAR Section 8 Series O Part II and CAR Section 8 series O Part VII lays down procedure for emergency duties of flight crew members in situations requiring emergency evacuation. In case of evacuation not required, PIC may choose normal deplaning. However, there may be instances where full scale evacuation is not required as the situation may not be immediate life threatening but rapid deplaning is advantageous over normal deplaning.

Cabin Safety Circular 1 of 2016 issued by DGCA provides guidance material for preparation of Safety Emergency Procedure manual and for inclusion of rapid disembarkation in the cabin crew training syllabus.

This circular provides guidance for aircraft operators to lay down requirements and guidance for conduct of rapid disembarkation for flight crew members.

Applicability:

This operations circular is applicable to operators engaged in Commercial Air Transport (Aeroplane)

Content:

Rapid disembarkation (also referred to as 'rapid deplaning', 'precautionary deplaning', 'precautionary disembarkation') is a precautionary egress from the aircraft in situations assessed by the crew members as deviating from normal conditions but not being an

immediate emergency, i.e. not posing an immediate threat to passengers and crew members on board, but which may escalate into an emergency. Rapid disembarkation usually happens at the airport.

In event of an emergency in an airplane, when on the ground, PIC is responsible for safety of occupants on board. PIC, while handling the emergency shall assess the situation as:

1. **Life threatening:** In case of life threatening situation, PIC shall order an emergency evacuation of the airplane.
2. **Not life threatening:** In case of no life threatening situation, PIC may consider normal deplanement procedure keeping other safety factors under considerations.
3. **Not immediate life threatening:** In case of no immediate life threatening situation, PIC may consider rapid disembarkation procedure keeping other safety factors under considerations

Emergency exits and slides are not to be used in rapid disembarkation unless the crew members decide that this has become necessary and will give the relevant command to passengers.

Rapid disembarkation is a rapid egress from the aircraft, therefore passengers and crew members will leave all their belongings on board unless they are instructed otherwise.

Crew members' instruction (i.e. words used) for a rapid disembarkation will be different from that used for evacuation. It is essential that operator lays down communication procedures for smooth conduct of rapid disembarkation. The focus should be on understanding of passengers on what the crew members are saying, remain calm and leave the aircraft as instructed and as soon as possible.

The operator shall lay down detailed procedures for rapid disembarkation as part of operations manual and SEP manual.

Sd/-
(Ravi Krishna)
Joint Director General
for Director General of Civil Aviation