CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY OF NEPAL
AIR NAVIGATION SERVICES SAFETY STANDARDS DEPARTMENT (ANSSSD)
HEAD OFFICE, KATHMANDU, NEPAL

SAFETY CIRCULAR

Ref. No.: CAAN/ANSSSD/2026/WC-02
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Subject: Potential Impacts of Severe Cyclonic Storm "Arnab" on Air Navigation Services and Aviation Operation.

To: All Concerned Air Navigation Service Providers, Aerodrome Operators, Aircraft Operators and Other Relevant Stakeholders

1. PURPOSE

This circular has been issued to maintain operational safety during the forecasted severe weather system as mentioned in the special meteorological bulletin issued by the Nepal Meteorology Department (NMD), Nepal on 2083/07/09 for the period of 2083/07/12-14

2. BACKGROUND

As mentioned in the bulletin, a very severe cyclonic storm ("Arnab") making landfall around Andhra Pradesh/Visakhapatnam is inducing widespread moisture influx across Nepal. This may bring moderate to heavy rainfall, thunderstorms, strong winds and snowfall in high-altitude and Himalayan regions, potentially affecting aircraft operations, particularly in Koshi, Madhesh, Bagmati, Gandaki and Lumbini provinces, with possible impacts in parts of Karnali and Sudur Paschim provinces. Heavy rainfall, gusty winds, and low visibility conditions are expected to peak between Thursday (2083/07/12) and Saturday (2083/07/14), severely impacting terminal approach and aerodrome surface conditions.

3. RECOMMENDATION FOR AIR TRAFFIC SERVICES PROVIDERS

i. **Air Traffic Management:**

- Implement traffic planning and management for flights during heavy precipitation and wind.
- Coordinate with adjacent ATS units for departures, holding and rerouting when terminal weather deteriorates below operating minima.
- Ensure radar controllers with more spacing to accommodate aircraft performance in heavy precipitation or Missed approach conflicts.

ii. **Wind Shear, Turbulence:**
- Issue immediate wind shear and sudden weather alerts to all landing and departing aircrafts.
- Record pilot reporting of wind shear and severe turbulence; advise crews of potential thunderstorms and inform meteorological office.

iii. **Surface Condition Monitoring & Braking Action Reporting:**
- Record pilot reporting of braking action and advise crews.
- Establish continuous coordination with Airport Operations/Civil Engineering/ Airside Division to monitor water accumulation, pooling, or hydroplaning risks on Runway.
- Closely monitor all vehicle and ground equipment movements.
- Ensure frequent runway inspections of the runway during weather to clear debris blown in by gusty winds.
- Ensure uninterrupted operation of Airfield lighting systems issuing immediate NOTAMs for any degradation.

4. **RECOMMENDATION FOR AERODROME OPERATORS:**
Monitor runway and taxiway conditions, drainage, wind-related hazards and the serviceability of essential facilities. Ensure the readiness of emergency response arrangements and promptly disseminate relevant operational information.

5. **RECOMMENDATION FOR AIRCRAFT OPERATORS AND FLIGHT CREWS:**
Conduct thorough pre-flight weather assessments, consider possible delays, holding and diversions, and ensure appropriate fuel planning and compliance with applicable operational procedures.

6. **RECOMMENDATION FOR ALL CONCERNED STAKEHOLDERS:**
Ensure the readiness of critical CNS/ATM infrastructure, backup power and communication facilities, as applicable; assess operational risks; and promptly report significant hazards, disruptions or safety occurrences through established channels.

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