



**MINISTER OF TRANSPORT  
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT MALAYSIA**  
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**8 June 2017  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**PRESS STATEMENT  
BY YB DATO' SRI LIOW TIONG LAI  
MINISTER OF TRANSPORT**

**Liow: AS350 Helicopter Crash Final Report Complete**

A Final Aircraft Accident Report on the Eurocopter AS350 (RP-C6828) helicopter crash near Sungai Batang Lupar, Sarawak one year ago has been completed by the Ministry of Transport's Air Accident Investigation Bureau (BSKU) which is in charge of air accident and incident investigation.

The final report has been uploaded onto the Ministry of Transport's website ([www.mot.gov.my](http://www.mot.gov.my)) at 3pm today, 8th of June 2017. The next-of-kin of those who perished on board this tragic accident has been informed by the investigation team on the findings and analysis of the final report earlier.

The sole objective of the investigation of this accident is to prevent similar accidents and incidents in future and not for the purpose to apportion blame or liability.

The report contains factual information, analysis and conclusion to the findings and probable cause of the accident. These includes aircraft information, communication, flight recorders, wreckage and impact information as well as meteorological information.

The investigation team comprised of six team members, led by Capt. Dato' Yahya Abdul Rahman, as Investigator-In-Charge. The investigation was assisted by BEA, France and the Aircraft Accident and Inquiry Investigation Board (AAIIB) of The Philippines.

The final report concluded that the most probable cause of the accident is the inability of the pilot to use all available information's to make the correct decision, so as not to make the flight susceptible to disorientation when flying over water at low altitude in bad weather with limited visibility.

Meanwhile, the investigation team outlined several key safety recommendations to ensure safety and security of helicopter operations in future in the final report. The recommendations are as follows:

- Malaysia and The Philippines Civil Aviation Authorities are to ensure that VFR single pilot operations to have sufficient knowledge on decision making process when flying in marginal weather or in the vicinity of thunderstorm. It is for these authorities to make CRM or Aeronautical Decision Making course a mandatory knowledge to single pilot operations.
- Department of Civil Aviation (DCA) Air Traffic Controller should adhere to all procedures related to emergency responses as published in the Manual of Air Traffic Services, especially on the timing for declaration of each phase of emergency so that other SAR Agencies will be able to react accordingly.
- Foreign helicopter pilots flying in Malaysia are to be familiar with and exposed to local terrain and weather pattern prior to flying on his own operationally. It is recommended that foreign helicopter pilots requires 10 hours of under supervision flying prior to flying on their own.

All enquiries pertaining to this report can be directed to the Ministry of Transport's Corporate Communications Unit and can be reached via email at: [UnitKomunikasiKorporat@mot.gov.my](mailto:UnitKomunikasiKorporat@mot.gov.my)

The Department of Civil Aviation (DCA) will announce the requirements for helicopter operations, taking heed of the recommendations put forward by the investigation team to prevent similar future accidents or incidents in due course.

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