



AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION AND INQUIRY BOARD

FINAL REPORT

RP-C189 ROBINSON HELICOPTER COMPANY R44 II

OPERATOR: PHILIPPINE ADVENTIST MEDICAL AVIATION SERVICES

TYPE OF OPERATION: GENERAL AVIATION

DATE OF OCCURRENCE: JULY 27, 2023

***PLACE OF OCCURRENCE: SITIO BABAHAGON, LANTAPAN, BUKIDNON,
PHILIPPINES***



BASIC INFORMATION

Aircraft Registration No. : RP- C189

Aircraft Type/Model : Robinson Helicopter Company R44 II

Operator : Philippine Adventist Medical Aviation Services Inc.

Address of Operator : PAMAS Airstrip, Mountain View College, Valencia City, Philippines

Place of Occurrence : Sitio Babahagon, Lantapan, Bukidnon, Philippines

Date/Time of Occurrence : July 27, 2023/0945H

Type of Operation : General Aviation

Phase of Flight : Cruise

Type of Occurrence : Forced Landing

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On or about 0900H local time, July 27, 2023, a Philippine Adventist Medical Aviation Services (PAMAS) operated Robinson Helicopter R44 II type of aircraft with Registry Number RP-C189 departed PAMAS Airstrip located at MVC Complex, Valencia City, Bukidnon to pick up passengers at Brgy. Bantuanon, Lantapan, Bukidnon. The said passengers will be performing skydiving activities in the said barangay, which is celebrating its fiesta. The flight proceeded at the pick-up point without incident.

After reaching the pick-up station, the aircraft took off again with four (4) skydivers as passengers, ascending to its planned altitude of 8,000 ft. However, upon reaching 3,000 feet., the aircraft experienced low engine power. Subsequently, the pilot decided to discontinue the flight and return to the PAMAS base station. While en route toward the PAMAS airstrip, the aircraft continued to lose power and encountered difficulty maintaining altitude. The pilot made the decision to search for a suitable area to perform an emergency landing. Eventually, the aircraft had to make a forced landing at a nearby banana plantation situated at Sitio Babahagon, Lantapan, Bukidnon. The pilot and three (3) passengers safely evacuated the helicopter, while one (1) passenger seated at the back sustained a minor injury and was transported to a nearby hospital. The aircraft sustained substantial damage due to collision with bananas and an impact with the ground.

PROBABLE CAUSE

- **Primary Cause Factor**
 - a. Loss of rotor rpm resulting to engine power loss.
 - b. The pilot's application of an inappropriate amount of collective during climb that developed into blade stall resulting to decrease of main rotor rpm.
- **Contributory Cause Factor**
 - a. The pilot's decision to operate the aircraft exceeding the maximum take-off weight specified in the R44 pilot's operating handbook.
 - b. Pilot's lack of situational awareness.

SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS

The AAIIB provides the following recommendation to the **CAAP-FSIS** in view of the investigation conducted:

- a. To ensure that the operator makes certain that pilots operating the R44 are familiar with the take-off weight limitation specified in the pilot's operating handbook.
- b. To ensure that the operator makes sure that pilots operating the R44 are knowledgeable of the emergency procedures specified in the pilot's operating handbook.

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