

Civil Aviation Authority of Sri Lanka

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Special Direction

(Issued under Section 121, Civil Aviation Act No. 14 of 2010)

Document Classification: *Please mark* ($\sqrt{}$)

Top Secret	Secret	Confidential	Unclassified	1
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Title: Photography at Civil Aerodrome/Aircraft in Flight

Reference No: AVSEC/25/01/30

S.N: AVSEC. Dir. 007

Date: 21/03/2023

Pursuant to Section 121 of the Civil Aviation Act No.14 of 2010 (which is hereinafter referred to as the CA Act), Director General of Civil Aviation (which is hereinafter referred to as the DGCA) shall have the power to issue, to all operators and licence holders providing aeronautical services, any Special or General Directions in regard to any matter connected with or relating to the maintenance of public safety and welfare of the citizens of Sri Lanka.

Accordingly, I, being the DGCA do hereby issue this Special Direction on photography, videography and cinematography at Civil Aerodromes including inside an aircraft and in flight.

This Special Direction shall be applicable to any person who is at any Civil Aerodromes including inside an aircraft and in flight and shall come into force with immediate effect and remain in force unless revised/revoked.

Attention is also drawn to Section 103 of the Act, which states inter alia that failure to comply with a Special Direction is an offence. Further, this Special Direction is not complied with or violated, an appropriate enforcement action will be taken as per the Aviation Enforcement Policy and Procedures Manual, SLCAP 0005 by the DGCA under Section 102 of the CA Act No. 14 of 2010.

All addresses please acknowledge receipt of this directive and its compliance status.

Civil Aviation Authority of Sri Lanka No.152/1, Minuwangoda Road, Katunayake, Sri Lanka.

P.A dayakantha
Director General of Civil Aviation and
Chief Executive Officer

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1. Special Direction

No person cause or permit to take, any photography, videography and cinematography at Civil Aerodromes including inside an aircraft and inflight except in accordance with and subject to the terms and conditions of a permission in writing granted by the DGCA.

The Purpose of this Special Direction is not to prevent people from photography, videography and cinematography at Civil Aerodromes and inside aircraft but to ensure safety and Security Protocols are not violated.

2. Exemption

Exemption from this Special Direction granted for those mentioned hereunder, subject to conditions:

- 1. Aerodrome Operators, Aircraft Operators and Aeronautical Service Providers with prior approval for a period of time, in blocks of one year or less, during the validity of their license or permit, exclusively for its own product development and special events.
- 2. Media personnel cleared by the Director of Government Information Department subject to prior approval and on conditions upon a written request by the media organization concerned, on a case by case.
- 3. Bona-fide passengers travelling in an aircraft engaged in commercial air transport permitted photography whilst in the departure terminal, inside aircraft and in-flight.

3. Applicable Legal Provisions

- I. Section 121 of the Civil Aviation Act No. 14 of 2010
- II. Regulation 288 of the Air Navigation Regulations of 1955
- III. Section 102 of the Civil Aviation Act No. 14 of 2010
- IV. Section 103 of the Civil Aviation Act No. 14 of 2010

4. Definition

"Aerodrome" means any defined land or water area intended to be used, whether wholly or partly, for the landing and departure of aircraft and all buildings, sheds, vessels, piers and other structures standing thereon or appertaining thereto;

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