



**MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE**  
**STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT**  
**AIR ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION**  
**PRELIMINARY REPORT**

OPERATOR:	Helicopter Charter East Africa Ltd
AIRCRAFT TYPE/ MANUFACTURER:	Robinson R44 Raven II/ Robinson Helicopter Co.
YEAR OF MANUFACTURE:	2013
AIRCRAFT REGISTRATION:	5Y-HCC
AIRCRAFT SERIAL NUMBER:	13728
DATE OF REGISTRATION:	11 December 2014
NUMBER AND TYPE OF ENGINE:	One Lycoming IO-540-AE1A5
DATE OF OCCURRENCE:	27 July 2015
TIME OF OCCURRENCE:	1415
LOCATION OF OCCURRENCE:	Nyahururu, 0°2'34"N 36°18'0"E
TYPE OF FLIGHT:	Commercial
NUMBER OF PERSONS ON BOARD:	Three
INJURIES:	Minor/serious
NATURE OF DAMAGE:	Substantial
CATEGORY OF OCCURRENCE:	Accident
PIC FLYING EXPERIENCE:	CPL: ~6,000 hours(~800 hours on helicopter)

*Times given in this report are Coordinated Universal Time (UTC)  
East African Local Time is UTC plus 3 hours.*



Accident Photos

## REMARKS

At 1500 on 27 July 2015, the Air Accident Investigation Division was notified of an occurrence in Nyahururu. The investigator on duty was able to proceed to the site early the next day.

The Pilot had departed from Olmalo at 1330 with three people on board and approximately 2 hours fuel endurance (about 100 litres of fuel) with the point of intended landing being Nyahururu. After 35 to 40 minute's flight time the aircraft arrived at an open field which was the point of intended landing site. When performing his final landing approach, he stated that that the airspeed dropped quite suddenly from 20 knots to almost zero. Application of more power to try and arrest the situation did not yielded the desired outcome; increase of airspeed. The aircraft impacted the ground hard, bounced and then came to rest on its right side. The main and tail rotors made contact with the ground.

The aircraft sustained substantial damage as follows: main rotor blades extensively damaged, empennage section consisting of tail rotor, TR gearbox, vertical and horizontal stabilizer partially separated from tail boom body, substantial damage to glare shield, substantial damage to the landing gear, left skid.

The three occupants were assisted to exit the aircraft and taken to nearby health facility and discharged on the same day.

The investigation is in progress.

## **Chief Investigator of Accidents**

**03/08/2015**