

On-the-spot report

Shrey Chopra visits Dubai Police Air Wing



Protectors of Dubai

Nestled between Dubai and Abu Dhabi, Al Maktoum International Airport is the home to the elite Dubai Police Air Wing. With a fleet of state of the art Leonardo/AgustaWestland AW139's, the DPAW is ready to respond to any call at a moments notice.

This elite unit, serving the Emirate of Dubai, is ready for anything, responding to calls ranging from police assist on land, to rescues in the desert, or Search and Rescue operations out in the open waters.

Operations

The year 2019 saw the introduction of the current AW139's to the Dubai Police Air Wing (DPAW). With a fleet of three, each of these helicopters feature a multirole configuration to cater for the diverse mission profiles.

Each crew covers a 24 hour shift, from 0800, to 0800 the next day, followed by 48 hours off. While ready to respond for any type of call, the majority of the Air Wing's call volume is made up of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Assist and Search and Rescue (SAR) in the desert.

The high call volume, attributed to EMS, stems from the lack of EMS Air Services in the UAE. Due to this, the Dubai Police Air Wing AW139's are fully equipped with an EMS Suite, to respond to urgent medical cases. Staffed by a paramedic provided by the Dubai Ambulance Service, the helicopter can land on highways, adjacent to roads, or makeshift landing zones cordoned off by police

