

CLOSING SPEECH BY THE CHIEF GUEST
INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT SAFETY SEMINAR-2013
26 NOV 2013 (CLOSING DAY)

Bismillahir Rahmanir Rahim,

1. Chief of Air Staff, Members from Bangladesh Armed Forces, Observers from Local Organisations, Distinguished Delegates from friendly Air Forces, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, Assalmu-Alaikum and Good Afternoon.

2. I would first like to thank the Bangladesh Air Force and Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh for jointly organizing the International Flight Safety Seminar-2013 and for inviting me on this auspicious closing ceremony. It is heartening to know that BAF has transformed to a formidable fighting force with 4th generation fighter aircraft although it started with only 3 old aircraft in 1972. Again, it is a matter of great pride for me to notice that BAF has been operating in different United Nations mission successfully for about 20 years without any major accident and incident. Besides, the rate of operational flying has also increased exponentially. The exponentially increased operational flying activities at home and abroad with low rate of incident and accident is indeed a testimony of its dynamic leadership, professionalism and commitment to flight safety by all concerned. I am confident that this gathering of distinguished members from home and abroad along with the local commercial aviation agencies on safety aspect has added to our knowledge and efforts in promoting flight safety.

3. I have been told that in last two days, there were exhaustive sessions where you shared your insights on different areas ranging from topic like “Civil-Military cooperation and coordination”, “Flight Safety in German Armed Forces”, “Standardization in Myanmar Air Force”, “A Fighter Pilots perspective on safe attitude”, “Total Quality Management (TQM) for Enhancing Flight Safety” etc. I am sure now we know better about issues of risk and safety management, human behaviour, safety in air and so on.

4. However, during the seminar several questions might have arose in your mind. Questions like - is it good enough? Can we do better? I think you got the answer that there are a lot to do still. You have studied the relationship between Flight safety, Maintenance and Combat readiness and to find out the ways to enhance the combat readiness. Undoubtedly, this is a challenge for most of the combat pilots.



Closing address by Hon'ble Minister
Air Vice Marshal A K Khandker, Bir Uttom, psa (retd), MP

5. Ladies and gentlemen, the aviation safety is an evolving science. It is also a team effort. Proper interfacing of the software, hardware and live ware is so important that any missing link may only lead to untoward incidents.

6. I am happy to see many other local organisations in aviation business of Bangladesh participating in this seminar. Your keen interest on ensuring flight safety is well reflected through this participation and I am confident such commitment will only take you high in aviation business.

7. I hope the delegates have also been benefited through the Seminar. I hope you have enjoyed your stay here. We are indeed inspired by your presence and participation. I am sure multiparty thoughts with our friendly air forces will provide mutual benefits on safety matters and strengthen our personal bondage.

8. As I look ahead at what the future may bring, I feel encouraged about the prospects for further cooperation on flight safety from many more countries. My grounds of optimism are founded on two main observations; Firstly, the global flight safety outlook impels us to do so. Secondly, technological advancement provides another reason to be optimistic about regional cooperation on safety.

9. I will urge upon all of you to practice safety as a part of culture and I am hopeful the flight safety record will mirror the development of our aviation industry. We have resource constraints but such stringent constraints should propel us to look outwards instead of becoming perturbed. The first priority therefore, in my opinion is to raise quality manpower in aviation industry both military and civil

10. Finally, I would like to avail this occasion to thank Bangladesh Air Force and Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh for jointly hosting of yet another historic event. I also express my profound appreciation to Director of Flight Safety BAF and Chairman, CAAB and their team for planning and organising the International Safety Seminar-2013 and making it a success. I wish you all the very best.

11. Now, I have the pleasure to declare the International Flight Safety Seminar-2013 **'CLOSED.'** Thank you all, ladies and gentlemen.

Allah Hafez.