

SPEECH BY COAS

41st COMMAND SAFETY SEMINAR ON 08 APR 2018

BismillahirRahmanir Rahim.

Principal Staff Officers,
Air Officers,
Dear Participants,
Ladies and Gentlemen

Asslamualaikum.

1. I am so happy to be here amongst you for the cause of flight safety. Let me extend my warm and heartiest felicitations to all the members coming from different Bases for the 'Command Safety Seminar 2018'.

2. Command Safety Seminar is a manifestation of our attachments and commitment towards aviation safety. I always look for this seminar as it provides opportunity to share experiences and reborn with the spirit of Flight Safety. I am delighted to preside over this professionally rewarding event. I extend my appreciations to the speaker and participants for enlightening and enriching our knowledge through presentation and interactions. I am confident that today's gathering of professionals will further strengthen and improve safety awareness.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

3. 41st Command Safety Seminar reviews an interesting and significant year of our professional achievements. This is the consecutive tenth year that we have generated more than 20,000 flying hours in BAF reflecting a trend of increasing operational effort. In 2017, we have generated more than 28,000 flying hours. More so, a considerable amount of this flying effort, around 3,556 hrs, was generated by our flying contingents comprising of C-130 and MI-17 helicopters in UN missions under diverse operating conditions with limited logistical support. Today, we carry out more challenging operations round the clock. Along with the global flying operations, we also carry out major and challenging maintenance rectifications of our aircraft and helicopters with marginal facilities in the UN environment. This truly speaks about our excellent professionalism and I am really proud of you.

Dear Audience,

4. I am certain that the diverse program of this seminar has benefitted all the participants. This seminar is not limited to year 2018 only. It will be a strong link between past and future as this seminar critically analysed the previous years' safety activities so that we remain safe in future.

5. Apart from our global engagements in UN Peace Keeping Operations, increased involvement in different VVIP & VIP flights, routine exercises and necessary support during emergency- all these have made aviation safety more challenging. From the brief of DFS you must have noticed that occurrence rate/1000 hrs have increased than previous years. We are to really work more professionally to improve upon our safety performance. It is now more than imperative to enhance knowledge, improve supervision and observe strict adherence to safety regulations. Only then we will be able to further reduce avoidable incidents and uphold safety trend.

6. I am happy that BAF could hold yet another International Flight Safety Seminar on 06 to 08 November 2017 involving representatives from 11 friendly countries. It was indeed a milestone achievement in our efforts to enhance our knowledge through experience sharing and also to promote aviation safety through an international forum.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

7. We all are aware that we are in the cross road of availing equipment with the latest technologies. We have already acquired few sophisticated fourth generation aircraft. I would like to remind you that you must gain sufficient professional knowledge so that the equipment can be used to the optimum

level with utmost safety. In this regard I shall urge you to continue pursue your effort on quality training which would enhance safety consciousness. You must note that overall safety environment depends on the knowledge level of the individual. I am also happy to note that the Directorate of Flight Safety is presently supervising mass scale education and training programme to improve upon overall safety environment. This would allow better risk management and improving overall safety environment.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

8. I am very keen on the key note paper presented in this seminar. The speaker, Wing Commander Retired Enam-Al-Huq, who is a renowned bird specialist of the country, gave us fresh thoughts on BASH. I am sure if we can implement the 'lessons learned' we would be able to make our operational environment safer. I would like to thank ACAS(Plans) and Director Flight Safety for selecting such specialized topic. I am sure; all the participants are more educated.

Dear Participants,

9. Let me remind you an old saying "Accidents never happen accidentally". There is always a root cause behind each accident. As soon as a flying machine starts to roll, hazards also follow it like a shadow. No matter how much we try to mitigate the

potential hazards, the risk will always remain. This is the blunt truth that has to be kept in mind by all planners and supervisors while making a fine balance between operational requirement and flight safety. Remember that “take offs are optional but landings are mandatory”. Therefore, I want you to plan your mission well ahead and fly the plan. We cannot afford to waste any effort that is essential for flight safety.

10. Finally, Ladies and Gentlemen, my heartiest felicitations go to BAF Base Sreshto Matiur Rahman for winning the Inter Base Flight Safety Trophy for the year 2017. I also congratulate 11 Squadron for winning the Inter Squadron “Khademul Bashar” Flight Safety Trophy. I express my deepest appreciation to Directorate of Flight Safety for organising ‘41st Command Safety Seminar-2018’ and rekindling our safety consciousness. I thank all of you for your dynamic presence and lively participation. May Allah bless us all and wish you safe days ahead. **Allah Hafez.**