
Investigators keep on working at explosion scene in high-rise house in Zagorskiye Dali village in Sergiyevo-Posadsky district

The investigating bodies of the Russia's Investigative Committee in Moscow Region continue investigating a criminal case opened into part 3 of article 219 of the RF Penal Code (violation of fire safety requirements, entailing death of two or more people) over an explosion in a 9-storey block of flats in the village of Zagorskiye Dali in Sergiyevo-Posadsky district. As a result of the explosion the roof and ceiling between 8 and 9 floors partly collapsed between 3 and 4 sections of the house, 4 flats were completely destroyed and 7 were badly damaged.

The preliminary version of the accident is gas explosion.

7 dead bodies, including 4 members of one family (a six-month-old baby, his 33-year-old mother, 71-year-old grandmother and 81-year-old grandfather), 2 men and a woman have been found during the investigation of the scene and have been sent for forensic medical examination. All of them have traumas characteristic of pressing down by a blunt heavy object.

Today investigators and criminologists of the Moscow Region Main Investigations Directorate are keeping on working at the scene, recording the progress of removing the rubbles, seizing necessary objects and fragments of floors, scrapes and microscopic sections of wallpaper. No gas cylinders were found at the scene. Gas-distributing point No 68 has been examined. The investigators have seized documents from the local office of repairs and operation service and from the communal housing managing company in regard to explosions, accidents, servicing and repairs of gas supply network of the house, and other technical documents. They have also questioned officials of Sergiyevo-Posadsky district electricity networks Mytishchimezhraygaz and the head of the communal housing managing company. The latter said that in early November 2013 the company received several complaints from the residents that there had been a smell of burning in the house, however the specialists had not found the source of the smell. Forensic medical expert examinations have been assigned during the investigation, witnesses from the residents of this house and the neighboring one and the injured are being questioned. There has been identified and questioned an owner of an empty flat – he is from Moscow Region. An explosive technical expert examination will be assigned to find the epicenter and the exact cause of the explosion.

At present other investigating operations are underway to find all the circumstances of the incident. The investigation is ongoing.

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