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## **In Moscow Region sentence passed on former aircraft commander**

A court has recognized the evidence gathered by investigating bodies of Moscow Interregional Transport Investigations Directorate of the Russia's Investigative Committee sufficient to convict Zakarzha Zakarzhayev, 64. He was found guilty of a crime under part 3 of article 263 of the RF Penal Code (violation of safety rules for traffic and use of air transport involving by negligence death of two people).

The court and investigators have found out that on 4 December 2010, Zakarzhayev was flying a Tupolev Tu-154M plane in good order, whose operator was OAO Airlines of Dagestan (OJSC), from Moscow (Vnekovo) to Makhachkala. With 7 more crew members and 163 passengers aboard, he took off from the Vnekovo international airport for the Uytash (Makhachkala) international airport. 29 minutes later, at 02:36 PM, he landed the plane at the Domodedovo airport, overshooting the runway, and landing it on the soil, where it hit the obstacle and fell apart. As the result of the crash, 2 passengers died and 72 more passengers and crew members were injured.

The immediate reason for the crash was that aircraft commander Zakarzhayev violated the requirements in the section "Approach and landing with two engines out of order" of Tu-154M flight manual. According to the conclusion of a comprehensive flight technical expert examination there is a direct cause-and-effect relation between the violations by Zakarzhayev and the crash. The expert facility also studied if there had been any violations in the actions of each of the crew that could have led to the crash. It was found that the actions of other crew members had not entailed any serious consequences.

The court has given Zakarzhayev a 3-year suspended sentence with 3 years of probation, but was released due to tan amnesty.

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