

Yet another Tu-154M accident

- various sources



On Sept.1, 2006 afternoon around 1.45 p.m. a Tu-154M(EP-MCF) operated by Iran Air Tours while landing at Mashhad skidded off the runway and caught fire. The plane carrying 148 people, had arrived from Bandar Abbas, in the south of Iran.

According to Nouroollah Rezai Niaraki, chairman of Iran's Civil Aviation Organization, the plane skidded off the runway and then its left wing hit the ground and caught fire resulting in 29 deaths.

According to a survivor "The plane was shaking badly during the landing, then it suddenly lurched to the left, then it caught fire, and all the passengers rushed to the emergency exit." The 11 crew members however survived.

This is the second accident involving a Tu-154M in a short span of few weeks. On Aug.22, 2006 another Tu-154M owned by Pulkovo Airlines crashed in Ukraine killing all 170 onboard.

While nose wheel tyre burst was mentioned as a possible cause, the same was not confirmed by Civil Aviation organization and the investigation is on.



Burnt centre fuselage



Broken empennage