

Plane Crash in Northern Siberia Leaves at Least 7 Dead

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A twin-engine passenger plane crashed early Tuesday local time near a northern Siberian town, killing at least seven of the 15 people on board, the Emergency Situations Ministry said.

Initial reports indicated that all of those aboard the Antonov-24 turboprop were killed, but ministry spokeswoman Irina Andryanova later said seven were confirmed dead and the fate of the others was being determined.

The plane crashed from an altitude of about 700 meters as it was approaching the airport for the town of Igarka, north of the Arctic Circle, Andryanova said. She said there were four crew members and 11 passengers aboard the plane. An-24s have a capacity of about 45 people.

Igarka is in the sprawling Siberian region of Krasnoyarsk, some 2,500 kilometers east of Moscow.

Some Russian news reports said the plane belonged to regional airline Katekavia, but there was no definitive information available immediately on what airline the plane was flying for.

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