



President,
Global Research Alliance

Dr. A R Upadhya
Director
National Aerospace Laboratories
Kodihalli,
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My dear Upadhya,

I was shocked and deeply dismayed to hear about the tragic accident that SARAS PT-2 met with and the precious lives that we lost. My heart goes out to the families of those, who have lost their lives and to you all.

SARAS was more than a project. It was a dream of a new dawn for the Indian civil aviation industry.

I had said when I spoke at the time of the inaugural flight of SARAS, that in the 20,000 plus mornings that I had lived until then, that was the happiest morning of my life. In the same way, I would say that when I got the news of the crash from Samir Brahmachari, that was the saddest evening of my life.

Accidents do happen. A technologically advanced nation like United States of America has seen disasters after disasters – whether it was Apollo, Challenger, Columbus and so on. But that did not deter them. They fought back and flew higher and higher.

Adversities have to be looked upon as the the best opportunities, from which to learn. We should get back with even greater vigour and determination.

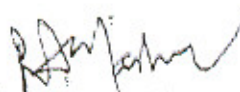
I have been restless from the time I have heard the news. I will like to personally meet the team and the families of those, who lost their lives so tragically.

Tomorrow being a holiday, I would come to NAL day after tomorrow.

I want to emphasise again and again that there is nothing that a great laboratory -- National Aerospace Laboratory, whom I have called the 'Kohinoor' in the crown of CSIR, will not be able to do.

Warm personal regards,

Yours sincerely,


(R.A. Mashelkar)

Chairman, National Innovation Foundation
Chairman, Reliance Innovation Council
Chairman, Marico Innovation Foundation
Formerly
Director General,
Council of Scientific & Industrial Research
Secretary,
Department of Scientific & Industrial Research, Govt of India
President,
Indian National Science Academy

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