

PRABHA IAS IPS COACHING ACADEMY



An Indian Air Force (IAF) AN-32 transport aircraft crashed and caught fire at the Air Force Station in Assam's Jorhat recently, killing five personnel.

AN-32 Aircraft

The AN-32 (Antonov AN-32) is a Soviet-origin twin-engine turboprop military transport aircraft. Its NATO reporting name is Cline.

It is designed and manufactured by the Antonov Design Bureau of Ukraine, then part of the USSR.

It was purchased by India from the USSR in 1984. The planes were specially customised to suit the IAF's requirements.

The IAF has a fleet of around 100 AN-32 planes.

It is designed to excel in extreme environments, functioning perfectly in high-altitude airfields (up to 4500 m above sea level) and hot tropical climates. It is powered by two single-shaft turboprop engines.

It can carry a maximum weight of 27 tons at a maximum speed of 530 km/h.

It can transport up to 7.5 tons of cargo, 50 passengers, or 42 paratroopers, and it is extensively used for supply drops in remote regions.

The range and service ceiling of the aircraft are 2,500 km and 9,500 m, respectively.

It can take off and land on rough airfields and dirt runways.

It also has a limited bombing role and is used for para-trooping operations.