

# Dhaka Day by Day

## Looking for an Address in too Many Places

by Lavina Ambreen Ahmed

"I'll never come back to Dhaka again". This was the frustrated outburst of a man, who came from the village in quest of his long lost relative. After two and a half hours of relentless "house hunt," he finally found his relatives' residence.

His predicament is understandable since he lives in the village and so may not know the city well. What about the rest of us, the unfortunate city dwellers who sometimes give up hope in sheer despair after an exhausting and disappointing day of trying to find a certain address?

Granted our country is a developing one and we still have a long way to go, but in this computer era, when everything is preferred to be clearcut, precise and to the point — is it too much to ask that our city streets and roads be less confusing to us, the poor tax paying residents?

Finding the right street might not be much of a problem (that is, if you've been living in the city long enough to know your way around) but the next step is sure to drive you out of your mind — finding the correct address.

Our clearly beloved capital has many roads, alleys, and highways, so it's not really surprising if one has a hard time finding a particular place in the busy and populous streets of Gulshan, Maghbazar, Bakshi Bazar, Azimpur, Elephant

Road, Eskaton etc. Even Dhanmondi or the other posh residential areas like Gulshan, Banani, or Baridhara, are no exceptions either, let alone old Dhaka and the maze of Motijheel and Dilkusha commercial area.

Most of us have had an unfortunate experience trying to find an address at least once in our life time. Say, if you're looking for road number 4, you'll probably find road no. 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 — all except 4, the one you're looking for. Often, instead of maintaining a symmetry, the houses located in the same block have different numbers.

Take for example you're on the lookout for house number 57 and hopefully enter the block where the number of houses start with 50. At first, things will look pretty promising as you're bound to see a 51, 52, 53, but then all of a sudden staring at you is unbelievably house no. 34 or 114. You can race the whole area down all you like — without any success. It's as if Aladdin's genie had vanished the house into thin air! But if you're a keenly observant person and if you're in luck you just might find the desired place standing right next to guess where? Where else but next to house no. 114 or 34 in a narrow alley. Those are the times when you'll feel like a fool for not noticing it the first time. The first rule of finding a certain place is remembering the fact that nothing is impossible in this crazy, unorganized city.

We cannot therefore, really blame the post-

man, for 'late-delivery' or for 'lost mail'. After all, what can a mere mortal do, when some of the addresses are so mixed up? In search of one's 'destination', if one travels by car, he is most likely to lose track of the numerous times the fuel tank needs refilling. (not to mention the money spent on it!) If one is on a rickshaw or a baby-taxi, the puller/driver might curse the passenger to hell, for making him roam around the city on a 'wild-goose chase'. On the other hand, the worst possible nightmare awaits a person travelling on foot. Besides getting sore feet and a severe headache, if one isn't alert 100% of the time in our city streets one is likely to fall prey to the hungry vehicles, ie, trucks and buses, ready to devour you at the earliest opportunity. Each of these transports thinks itself to be the 'king of the road'. Chances are, you might end up in an intensive care unit of worse, say 'Au revoir' to this cruel world forever.

Supposed a person gives you a vivid description of his/her house, office or maybe a restaurant, complete with how many floors the building has, the colour of the gate, the names of the shops or other things next to it — yet don't think that you can't go wrong. With all that information piled up in your brain there is always the possibility of a short circuit.

To some all this might seem an exaggeration, but actually only a sufferer knows

the truth. "I missed the most important interview of my life, all because I couldn't find the given address in time," exclaimed a very unhappy young man, desperately in need of a job.

Another individual related her tragic experience of how her mother couldn't make it as the ambulance didn't arrive promptly—needless to say for the same reason as the first. In situations like these you can only blame your awful luck!

You don't really have to be blind or absent minded to get confused in this city. No matter how confident you may be about your ability of always finding the way, remember, there is always a first time for everything.

Since the authorities aren't doing anything about it, we the suffering residents might put forward some of our suggestions. We can have maps with explicit details of every area. There can be expert guides of every roads and alleys, like the 'Sherpa' guides, which help the amateur mountaineers reach the mighty Himalayan peak. The suggestions above can also help solve the unemployment problem, even if it is to a small margin, as the only qualification required for this job is knowing one's neighbourhood by heart!

Ridiculous they may seem, but if materialized, these suggestions might save the time, energy, money and the constant harassment of the city inhabitants.



## DU Public Admn Deptt team meets Biswas

President Abdur Rahman Biswas has stressed the need for rapid human resources development for efficient management of different tiers of administration, reports UNB.

"We must develop our capability and efficiency further through training and advanced management techniques to survive in the highly competitive world", President Biswas told a 23-member delegation of senior teachers and final year students of the Department of Public Administration of Dhaka University yesterday.

The delegation was led by Prof Lutful Haq Chowdhury of the department.

The President advised the students of Public Administration to devote themselves to studies and learn the art of administration properly to undertake the future responsibility of the nation.

He also advised them to maintain peaceful and congenial atmosphere on the campus to acquire knowledge.

Earlier, the members of the delegation informed President Biswas about their proposed study tour to SAARC countries and sought his cooperation.

Among others, Prof Asaduzzaman, Assistant Professors Moshleuddin Ahmed and Abu Elias Sarker, and final year students Moshleuddin Mozumder, Abdul Bari, Babul Mia, FM Qayyum, Mamun Reza, Kazi Wahidul Rahman and Sabrina Siddiqui were present.

## Be aware manhole cover thieves!

City Mayor Mirza Abbas, MP yesterday declared a reward of Tk 10,000 for catching hold of those thieves who steal manhole covers, reports BSS.

Addressing a grand rally of the city sweepers at Syedabad here Mayor expressed concern at the theft of manhole covers in the city streets and asked the sweepers to help catch the concerned thieves.

Mirza Abbas praised the sweepers in keeping the city clean and beautiful and said all their problems would be solved step by step. He said already projects had been taken to solve their housing problem.

Organised by Sweepers and Workers Union of Dhaka City Corporation the rally was also addressed by the president of the union Ratan Mia and general secretary Abdus Sattar Mia.



- 5.00 Opening announcement
- 5.00 Al-Quran
- 5.10 News in Bangla
- 5.35 Cartoon: Tom and Jerry Kids Show
- 5.55 Sports programme: Wrestling
- 6.30 Apner Dakter
- 7.00 Open University
- 7.25 Rabindra Sangeet
- 8.00 News in Bangla
- 8.30 Amar Desh
- 9.05 Drama serial: The Sword of Tipu Sultan
- 10.00 News in English
- 10.30 Sur Lahari
- 11.30 Khabar/The News
- 11.40 Tomorrow's programme summary
- 11.45 Closing

## Weather

### Dry weather likely

By Staff Correspondent

Dry weather with fair sky is likely to prevail over the country during the next 12 hours till 6 pm today.

Met Office forecasts night temperature will remain nearly unchanged across the country.

The country's highest temperature of 28.8 degrees Celsius was recorded at Fent while the lowest 10.6 degrees at Srimangal.

The sun sets today (Sunday) at 5:15 pm and rises tomorrow (Monday) at 6:36 am.

The maximum and the minimum temperatures and relative humidity in some major cities and towns as recorded yesterday are:

| Cities/Towns | Temperatures in degrees Celsius |      | Humidity in Percentage |     |
|--------------|---------------------------------|------|------------------------|-----|
|              | Max                             | Min  | 9 am                   | 6pm |
| Dhaka        | 27.2                            | 12.5 | 75                     | 75  |
| Chittagong   | 26.3                            | 13.9 | 79                     | 69  |
| Rajshahi     | 26.6                            | 13.4 | 75                     | 79  |
| Khulna       | 26.8                            | 13.5 | 75                     | 72  |
| Barisal      | 27.4                            | 12.5 | 89                     | 77  |
| Sylhet       | 27.4                            | -    | -                      | 67  |



State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism Abdul Mannan, MPs, Biman Managing Director and others offering munajat at ZIA prior to the departure of Biman's inaugural flight to New York Friday midnight.



Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia signing the condolence book opened at the death of the Prime Minister of Hungary Jozsef Antall at the Hungarian Embassy at Gulshan yesterday. Hungarian Charge d' Affaires I B Buday was present. —PID photo

## Third phase of THARDEP initiated

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday initiated the third phase of the Thana Resources Development and Employment Project (THARDEP) by distributing loans among 150 distressed and landless rural women and youths of five thanas of the country, reports BSS.

The Prime Minister handed over the cheques for the loans to the landless and distressed youths and women at the International Conference Centre (ICC) in the capital as part of the third phase of THARDEP.

Introduced by the Ministry of Youth and Sports the project, in its third phase, would distribute loans amounting Tk 35 crore among the two lakh poor and distressed rural youths and women of 25 thanas of the country with the aim of making them self-reliant by the year 1995.

The recipients of the loans would also get training opportunities on family planning, adult education, tree plantation, and thana resources development.

Speaking on the occasion, the Prime Minister said the recipients of the loans would be benefited by investing the money in various self-employment projects including dairy and poultry farming and fish cultivation.

She said the government had a plan to expand the project throughout the country.

The first phase of THARDEP was started at Sadarpur thana in Faridpur district and at Harinakunda in Jhenaidah district and a total of Tk one crore three lakhs were distributed among 5,250 poor, distressed and landless rural people.

Under the second phase Tk

## Khaleda condoles death of Hungarian PM

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday condoled the death of the Prime Minister of Hungary, Jozsef Antall, reports BSS.

"I am grieved at the death of Jozsef Antall, Prime Minister of Hungary", she wrote at the condolence book opened at the Hungarian Embassy at Gulshan in the morning.

Begum Zia wrote in his death the people of Bangladesh had lost a distinguished friend.

The Prime Minister also expressed her heartfelt sympathy to the government and the people of Hungary and the members of the bereaved family.

## Int'l support to Liberation War recalled

By Staff Correspondent

Hundreds of people lit numerous candles at the Central Shaheed Minar premises Friday evening symbolically inspiring the nation with the spiritual light of the martyred freedom fighters.

Naripakkha, a women organisation arranged the programme to pay homage to the martyrs of the Liberation War.

The speakers on the occasion recalled those foreign friends who had actively supported the Liberation War.

Mahiuddin Ahmed, Lubna Marium and Lutful Hai recalled the contributions of Marietta from England, Abu Syed Aiyub, Gauri Aiyub and Maitree Devi from India, Steve Mankin from the USA and Dipu, Ranjan, Samir and many others from Tripura, India in the freedom struggle.

## Dr Shahjahan IEB president

By Staff Correspondent

Dr M Shahjahan, Vice Chancellor of the BUET, and engineer Ibrahim Mia of the Dhaka Electric Supply Authority, were elected president and Honorary general secretary respectively of the Institute of Engineers, Bangladesh (IEB) for the term 1994-95.

Laying emphasis on motivating the country's youths to integrate themselves in the development activities, she said the success of the programme had been acclaimed both at home and abroad.

Begum Zia urged the loanees to properly invest the money and repay the loans in time.

State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadek Hossain, Member of Planning Commission M Mokammel Hoq, Secretary of the Ministry of Youth and Sports M Azizul Haq, Director General of Youth Development Directorate M Zainul Abedin, the ADB, representative in Dhaka and Begum Momena Khatun, a distressed woman on behalf of the loan recipients, spoke on the occasion.

## PM hands over ten buses to educational institutions

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday handed over ten buses to ten educational institutions of the country, reports BSS.

The institutions which received the buses are: Dinajpur Hajee Danesh Krishi College, Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET), Kalaroa College, Satkhira, Bagherhat Government Women's College, Government P C College, Bagherhat, Gachbaria Government College, Chandanai, Chittagong, Pachibibi Hajee Mohsin College Joypurhat, M C College, Sylhet, BIT Rajshahi and Rajendra College, Faridpur.

Foreign Minister A S M Mustafizur Rahman, Communications Minister Oli Ahmed, Health and Family Welfare Minister Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf, State Minister for Establishment Aminul Haq, a number of MPs, heads of the educational institutions and representatives of the college students union were present on the occasion at the Prime Ministers office.

## Quarat confce inaugurated

Information Minister Barister Nazmul Huda has said Islam is a complete code of life through which we can get the proper direction of life, reports BSS.

He was inaugurating the first Quarat Conference at the Ultra Haji Camp Friday.

## Qulkhwani

Mr Azizuddin Ahmed, Ex General Manager, Panam Oil Mills died of heart failure at 1 o'clock night of December 16, 1993 (Innahillaha... Rajeun). He was bed-ridden with paralysis.

His Qulkhwani will be held today Sunday at his 286/A/2 Dhanmondi Road-27 residence. All friends, relatives, colleagues and well wishers are requested to attend the Qul and pray for the salvation of the departed soul. S-512

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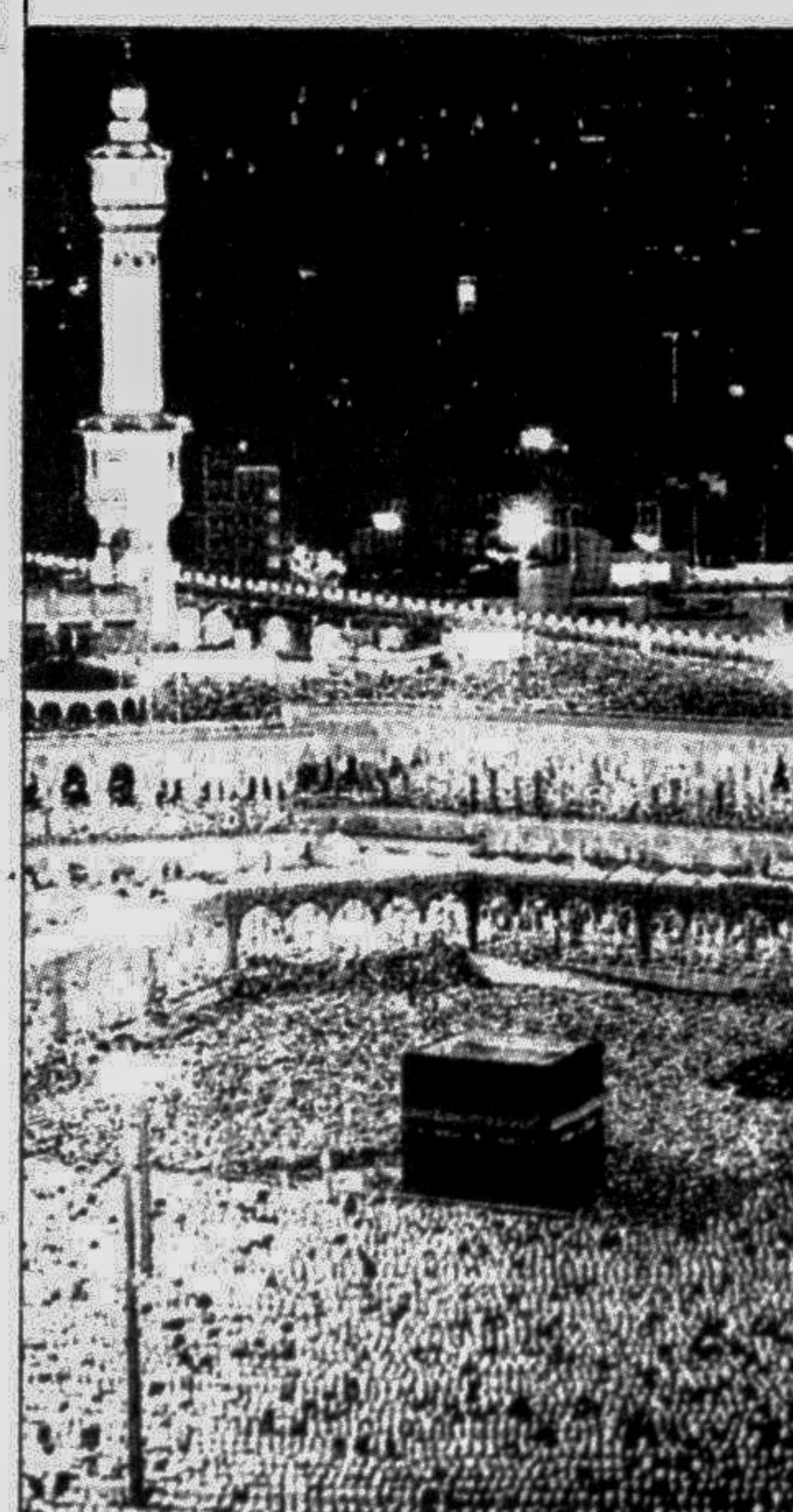
The containerised cargo ex: M. V. MONT BLANC MARU V-29014 from Kobe, Yokohama, Nagoya and Hongkong ex: M.V. O. CENTAURUS V-50AB from Karachi ex: M.V. NANTA BHUM V-169, ex: M.V. XETHA BHUM V-24 & ex: M.V. MAHA BHUM V-186 from Bangkok ex: M.V. CALIFORNIA VENUS V-75548 from Keelung have been relayed to M.V. EPONYMA V-EPM17N Import Rotation No. 1015/93 is due to arrive Chittagong on or about 18-12-1993 from Singapore.

Consignees are requested to take delivery of their cargo from FCL containers within 5 days free time from the date of landing and if cargo not cleared within 45 days will be guided by Customs Act.

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**QUALIFICATIONS:** Candidates must have high academic qualifications preferably a Ph D or equivalent degree in Sociology. They should have at least 7 years' teaching and research experience in a University or an Institute of Advanced Research. They should have original research works published in recognised research journals. Experience and performance as a teacher as well as significant contribution to different areas of University activities especially in guiding the overall educational and co-curricular activities of the students will also be treated as qualification. In special cases the condition of period of experience may be relaxed.

Eleven copies of application together with attested copies of certificates, testimonials and mark-sheets along with a Pay Order/Bank Draft of the value of Tk 50/- (Fifty) only, payable to the Registrar, should reach him on or before 12-1-1994. Candidates already in service must apply through proper channel. D-906

**Bank holiday Dec 25**

The Bangladesh Bank and all scheduled banks will remain closed on December 25 on account of Christmas Day, reports BSS.

**Biman starts New York flight**

The Biman Bangladesh Airlines has started operating its regular commercial flight to New York — the 30th international destination under Biman's network, says a press release.

The inaugural flight left Dhaka Friday midnight with 274 passengers on board. The State Minister for Civil Aviation & Tourism Abdul Mannan was present at the airport to saw off the inaugural flight. The members of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Civil Aviation & Tourism Ministry were among the passengers of the inaugural flight.

Munajat was offered prior to the departure of the flight. Biman will operate once-a-week flight to New York every Friday via Delhi, Dubai and Amsterdam.

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