



Pilgrims in the first Hajj flight at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport of the capital yesterday. A Boeing 777-300ER of Biman Bangladesh Airlines took off with 409 pilgrims on schedule, at 7:05am. The Hajj flight operations will continue till September 28.

PHOTO: STAR

Biman starts Hajj flights

First trip takes 409 pilgrims
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Biman Bangladesh Airlines yesterday started Hajj operation with the first flight with 409 pilgrims departing the capital's Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport for Saudi Arabia on schedule.

Civil Aviation Minister Rashed Khan Menon, Religious Affairs Minister Matur Rahman, and top Biman officials bade farewell to the pilgrims at the airport.

The 419-seater Boeing 777-300ER took off at 7:05am.

Last year, Hajj flights started with hiccups as an aircraft Biman leased to carry pilgrims could not fly for not having clearances from the Saudi Arabian civil aviation authority. The disruption of flight schedule had caused immense sufferings to pilgrims.

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National film policy soon

Inu tells roundtable at DU
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A national film policy will be formulated soon in order to encourage production of good movies imbued with the spirits of the language movement, liberation war, secularism, and democratic and cultural values, Information Minister Hasanul Huq Inu said yesterday.

The aim of the policy will be preventing vulgarism, fundamentalism, militancy, and bad culture in Bangladeshi films, he told a roundtable at Dhaka University. The Department of Television and Film Studies (TFS) of Dhaka University organised the discussion, "Vision of Bangladesh Film Policy", at the university senate building.

Inu said those who did not want changes, advancements and did not want to abide by the constitution opposed policies including the National Broadcast Policy.

Presenting a keynote paper, Prof AJM Shafiqul Alam, chairman of the TFS department, said the policy should encourage production of decent films and help bring back the audience to cinemas.

He suggested formation of the "National Independent Film Commission", which would promote film related research and education. The commission will also investigate allegations against films and cinemas and take action accordingly, he said.

The professor said that to encourage film production,

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Myanmar delegation arrives today

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

A five-member Myanmar delegation arrives in Dhaka today for talks over issues concerning Bangladesh, including repatriation of Rohingyas, stopping Yaba smuggling, establishing a border liaison office to fast track dispute resolution, and holding regular security dialogues.

The delegation, headed by Deputy Foreign Minister Thant Kyaw and accompanied by two officials from the embassy in Dhaka, is likely to raise allegations of armed insurgents in yellow fatigues operating in the neighbouring country from Bangladesh, stated sources.

Foreign Secretary Shahidul Haque will lead the 10-member Bangladesh side at the foreign secretary-level 8th Foreign Office Consultation (FOC) on

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To Know is to Prevent

Do not suffer in silence from Uterine Fibroid any more!

Sharmila Roy, at 45, is a Manager in a multinational bank in Dhaka. She has had two children both delivered by caesarian section. She was tired of suffering from excessive menstrual bleeding for last four years. Because of this excessive bleeding she was anemic and felt weak in general. She has been diagnosed of having uterine fibroids.

Uterine fibroids are very common non-cancerous (benign) growths that develop in the muscular wall of the uterus. They can range in size from very tiny to quite large. Occasionally, these can even cause the uterus to grow to the size of five to ten month pregnancy. Most fibroids don't cause symptoms—only 10 to 20 percent of women who have fibroids require treatment. Depending on size, location and number of fibroids, these may cause:

- Heavy, prolonged menstrual periods and unusual monthly bleeding, sometimes with clots; this can lead to anemia
- Feeling of heaviness in lower abdomen
- Sometimes pain during menstruation
- Bladder pressure leading to a frequent urge to urinate
- Pressure on the bowel, leading to constipation and bloating
- Abnormally enlarged abdomen

Sharmila's Gynaecologist advised her to have a hysterectomy (removal of whole uterus); Sharmila didn't want a traditional open surgery, which involves removing the uterus through an incision in the abdomen. "I wanted to have a minimally invasive surgery because I couldn't take a lot of time off my work," she says.

Sharmila found exactly what she was looking for at this Internationally Accredited hospital in the city. Last month, she underwent a total laparoscopic hysterectomy. Total laparoscopic hysterectomy is a surgical procedure that allows both the uterus and cervix to be detached from inside the body by laparoscopic instruments and then they are removed through the vagina. The benefits of laparoscopic hysterectomy are well demonstrated in terms of cosmetic benefit leaving behind tiny holes instead of large incisions of open surgery, minimal post operative bleeding, less post-operative pain and adhesion, quicker post-operative recovery enabling one to join normal activities earlier.

Instead of an eight-inch long scar across her lower abdomen, Sharmila has only three very tiny scars. She feels she probably should have had a hysterectomy years ago but she was afraid of having surgery. Now she'd say that surgery really

* Name disguised to protect identity

** This information is for public awareness only; it is NOT a medical advice

For further queries or feedback

call Dr. Nafiz Ahmed at 01713240314 (everyday 9am to 5pm) or write back to us at 2know2prevent@apollodhaka.com



wasn't that bad at all. Her iron levels are back to normal within six weeks and it's just amazing not having to deal with all that pain and blood loss every month. Hardly a day passes that she doesn't stop and think about the difference it's made.

If she'd had a 'traditional' hysterectomy, there's no way she would have been out of hospital so quickly, nor would she has been going for walks within a matter of three days. And she was back at work within seven days.

Sharmila can't praise the Gynecologist's care highly enough in this International Standard Hospital! "She is clearly so skilled at what she does, and takes genuine care. Her positive attitude was also a great help to me. I was equally impressed with the nursing care, levels of cleanliness and comfort of the hospital – all of which was excellent."

Most importantly all doctors and staffs of the hospital helped Sharmila choose appropriate medical care by giving her full understanding of the reasons for treatment, the risks, and the potential benefits. Females need not suffer in silence from excessive bleeding due to fibroids any more! The right hospital with skilled and experienced Gynaecologist in your city can perform safe and effective laparoscopic hysterectomy to give pain-free comfortable life to you!



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