

Flights between Bangladesh-India increases to 21 weekly

A Monitor Report

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Dhaka : The number of weekly flights between Bangladesh and India under the air bubble arrangement increased from seven to 21 starting October 15.

Air Vice Marshal M Mafidur Rahman, Chairman, Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh, made the announcement, according to reports.

"The agreement between Bangladesh and India is effective completely from October 15. As per the arrangement, Bangladeshi airlines are operating 21 flights each week to India and Indian airlines operating the same number of flights to Bangladesh," said the CAAB Chairman.

On September 5, flight operation between the two neighbouring countries resumed under the agreement after a four-month hiatus due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Air bubble agreements are temporary arrangements between two countries aimed at restarting commercial passenger services when regular international flights are suspended as a result of the pandemic. They are reciprocal in nature, meaning airlines from both countries enjoy similar benefits.

Under the agreement, Biman Bangladesh Airlines, and private airline US-Bangla, will jointly operate 21 weekly flights while different Indian airlines -- including Spice Jet and Indigo -- will operate the same number of flights to Bangladesh.

Travellers from Bangladesh must test negative for Covid-19 in a PCR test done no

earlier than 72 hours before the flight, and they have to go to through molecular tests at their own expenses after arriving at Indian airports.

CAAB said, irrespective of Covid-19 vaccination, any passenger travelling to and from India shall have to complete 14 days of strict home quarantine and all other related provisions, including requirement of PCR test, would be applicable to the concerned passengers.