

Hoax bomb threat for Biman flight traces back to Pakistani number

- A Monitor Desk Report

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Dhaka: The hoax bomb threat for a flight of the country's flag carrier Biman Bangladesh Airlines has been traced back to a Pakistani number, said Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) on January 22.

Earlier in the morning, a bomb threat was received for the national airline's flight from Italy to Dhaka, carrying 250 passengers and 13 crew members. The message read that Biman's flight BG-536 was carrying 34kg of high-grade explosives.

The duty officer of the Armed Police Battalion's Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport unit received the bomb threat message through WhatsApp from an unknown Pakistani number at 4:37 am, said DMP in a notice.

Upon receiving the information, the bomb disposal unit of Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crimes (CTTC) and the Canine unit jointly conducted an

inspection, added DMP.

However, upon thorough inspection of the aircraft, no threat was found on it, said Kamrul Islam, Executive Director of Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport.

"As per protocol all baggage and items were checked, however, no threat was found," he said in a press statement, adding, passengers' belongings were being handed over, and regular processing of passengers was underway.

All passengers were safely evacuated from the aircraft, and the authorities called off the search at 12:30 pm.

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