

Launching of Padma Cruise boosts up river tourism

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Dhaka: Dhaka Cruise and Logistics launched a river cruise from the Shimulia ghat in the Louhajang Upazila of Munshiganj on January 21 to boost river tourism on the Padma River.

“There is a possibility of creating a river tourism spot in the Padma... The inauguration of the ‘Padma Cruise’ marked the beginning of river tourism, just within 41 days after the bridge’s full infrastructure was visible.”

Mahbub Ali, State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism said this while speaking as the chief guest at the ‘Padma Cruise’ inauguration ceremony beneath the under-construction Padma Bridge in the middle of the Padma river.

Stating that the initiative has been taken to expand river tourism on the occasion of Mujib Year, the state minister hoped that the immense potentiality of the sector will be brought out soon.

The ‘Padma Cruise’ started its journey with a double-decker named ‘MV Dingi’. Up to 60 tourists can board this ship together. And 48 tourists will be able to ride at night with cabin facilities.

The cruise ensures safe life jackets, firefighting facilities, and rescue boats for the

passengers.

The ship is currently offering student, regular cruise, and full-moon night packages. Every day, the ship will cruise for three hours in two phases starting from 10:00 am-1:00 pm and 2:00 pm-5:00 pm from the Mawa ghat.

The cruise packages will include lunch, light snacks, tea, and coffee, with an option to change the itinerary and menu as per tourists' requirements.

Hazera Khatun, Deputy Director of Bangladesh Tourism Board; Md Humayun Kabir, Louhajang Upazila Nirbahi Officer; Md Asaduzzaman, Additional Superintendent of Police, were present among others at the inauguration event, which was presided over by Mohiuddin Helal, Chairman of Dhaka Cruise and Logistics.

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