

No unnecessary interrogation of passenger at HSIA: State Minister

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Dhaka: State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism Mahbub Ali directed all concerned authorities at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport to ensure smooth passenger service during his visit on May 23.

"The passengers should not be harassed and interrogated unnecessarily at the airport," said the State Minister in a media briefing.

Mahbub Ali further claimed that he has already discussed the matter with Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal and the airport immigration authority.

"Every day around 21,000 passengers fly through Dhaka airport. Hence, it would not be conducive to interrogate them all in their best interest," he added.

"Not everyone needs to be questioned. Only stop those who seem dubious. If

necessary, interrogate them separately," noted the State Minister.

His visit to the airport on May 23 was aimed to inspect the situation at the airport.

Only those deemed as needed are being questioned while immigration police are responsible for identifying real passengers, further claimed Mahbub Ali after the visit.

Meanwhile, the airport customs have been directed to conduct searches on those who are suspected on the basis of tipoffs.

The State Minister also noted, only 1-2 per cent of the passengers can be checked separately.

Moreover, Mahbub Ali also advised all to remain cautious about the outbreak of an infectious disease called Monkeypox, already spread across many countries.

Secretary of Civil Aviation and Tourism Md Mokammel Hossain, Chairman of Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh Air Vice Marshal M Mafidur Rahman, and Biman Bangladesh Airlines Managing Director and CEO Abu Saleh Mostafa Kamal, among others, were also present at the media briefing.

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