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Cox's Bazar brims with domestic travelers in winter

A Monitor Report



Dhaka: From the hills of Sajek valley of Rangamati to the sandy beaches of Cox's Bazar, all major tourist spots across the country are brimming with travelers during this winter season. While country's educational institutions are all closed at the moment, the main holiday begins, and families are rushing to popular domestic sites amid the cold soothing weather this winter.

This brings a big push to the domestic tourism sector of the countrywhich was ailing from the devastating impact of the last countrywide mass unrest since July.

Since September, hospitality and travel businesses across popular spots have begun recovering and is currently booming, according to reports.

India's recent visa ban on Bangladeshi nationals is also said to have helped the country's domestic tourism sector.

Reports cited Abul Kashem Sikder, President of Cox's Bazar Hotel Guest House Owners Association, saying, "We are entirely full of tourists at the moment. The flow of tourists in December exceeded our expectations." "However, the tourists' purchasing capacity seems to have been eroded by high inflation," he claimed.

He further informed that the overall occupancy rate of hotels, resorts, and guest houses in Cox's Bazar has reached around 80 per cent on weekdays and about 100 per cent on weekends. "However, the flow of tourists has not increased compared to December last year," expressed Sikder.

Industry stakeholders claimed, around two lac tourists are visiting Cox's Bazar each day now.