

Oman Air plans daily flight operations to Dhaka

A Monitor Report

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Dhaka : Oman Air is planning to commence daily flights to and from Dhaka in an effort to serve the growing number of passengers from Bangladesh as the Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in the capital is on its way to make its new Third Terminal operational, said Sunil V A, Regional Vice-President of Oman Air.

Currently, the airline operates three weekly flights to and from Dhaka. "We want to fly daily to and from Dhaka," said Sunil on the sidelines of an event in Chattogram recently.

On the other hand, the airline is currently operating seven weekly flights to and from Shah Amanat International Airport in Chattogram.

Sunil said that they are hoping that Dhaka Airport will fully open up by June 2022 and they will get more slots to operate daily flights.

The airline is eyeing Oman-Muscat bound passengers. Port city Chattogram already has a lot of people living and working in the Middle Eastern country.

The airline serves around 70 per cent of passengers from Chattogram, bound for Oman, while it is 40 per cent from Dhaka and other parts of the country, Sunil mentioned.

For its flights to Chattogram, Oman Air will be shifting from narrow-body planes to wide-body aircraft, depending on demand. Currently, the airline operates flights with Boeing 737 narrow-body aircraft, said Sunil.

He mentioned Oman Air's plans to diversify its products in Bangladesh as it is a fast-

growing market. "We have a very strong network in Europe and the Middle East. Our vision is to grow with the city of Chattogram," explained the VP of Oman Air. In this post-pandemic times, the aviation industry is rebounding with the reopening of international borders. "The fare will reflect the reality very soon and the passengers will be able to pay the fare they used to pay in pre-pandemic times," said Sunil.

In Bangladesh, Oman Air's Global Sales Agent is Galaxy Travel International.

On this note, Galaxy's President and CEO Ahmed Yusuf Walid said, "Most of the passengers choose Oman Air as it operates regular flights from Chattogram. We want to retain their trust."

As per reports, there are 18 flights from the Shah Amanat International Airport every week that are bound for Muscat, the capital of Oman. Of the flights, Oman Air runs the highest number of flights. Besides, five flights are operated by SalamAir, also an airline of Oman, and three each by Bangladesh Biman and US-Bangla Airlines.