

Govt announces Hajj packages, cuts airfare to Tk130,000

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Online Desk : The government has announced the Hajj packages for 2027 under both government and private schemes, reducing airfare for pilgrims. Under the government scheme, two Hajj packages have been introduced. The lowest-cost package has been fixed at Tk505,648, while the premium package will cost Tk615,263. Religious Affairs Minister Kazi Shah Mofazzal Hossain (Kaikobad) announced the packages at a press conference at the Secretariat on Tuesday. The cost of the standard private Hajj package has been set at Tk513,648.

The minister said Government Hajj Package-1, priced at Tk615,263, offers accommodation in Makkah within 1,000 to 1,400 metres of the Grand Mosque (Masjid al-Haram) and in the Markaziyah area of Madinah. Pilgrims under this package will stay in Zone-2 tents in Mina and receive services and meals in Mina and Arafat under Service Package-3 through the Muallim. The usual stay in Saudi Arabia will be 35 to 40 days. Pilgrims will also have the option to upgrade their rooms or choose a shorter-duration package by paying additional charges.

He said Government Hajj Package-2 (Economy) has been priced at Tk505,648. Under this package, accommodation in Makkah will be located two to three kilometres from the Grand Mosque, while accommodation in Madinah will be outside the Markaziyah area but within 800 metres of the Prophet's Mosque (Masjid an-Nabawi). Pilgrims will stay in Zone-5 tents in Mina. If the hotel is located more than two kilometres away, Salawat bus services will be provided in accordance with Saudi government regulations.

The minister said the government's election manifesto promises an affordable, accessible, humane and expatriate-friendly Hajj management system. As part of that commitment, the airfare for Hajj flights has been reduced by Tk24,830 from last year's rate and fixed at Tk130,000. He said Hajj airfare stood at nearly Tk200,000 in 2023 under the Sheikh Hasina government. It was reduced to Tk167,820 in 2025 under the interim government and has now been further lowered to Tk130,000.

Regarding private Hajj arrangements, the minister said the standard private Hajj package has been fixed at Tk513,648. The package includes accommodation in Makkah within three kilometres of the Grand Mosque and in Madinah within one kilometre of the Prophet's Mosque. A maximum of six pilgrims may share a room. Pilgrims will stay in Zone-5 tents in Mina and receive services and meals in Mina and Arafat under Service Package-3. Hotels located more than two kilometres away must provide Salawat bus services.

He also said eligible enlisted Hajj agencies must form groups based on the minimum quota set by the Saudi government before Hajj registration begins. While adopting the government-approved standard Hajj package will be mandatory, agencies within a group may jointly introduce up to three additional packages. However, no package offering services below the standard of Government Hajj Package-2 will be permitted.