IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH HIGH COURT DIVISION (SPECIAL ORIGINAL JURISDICTION)

WRIT PETITION NO. OF 2012

IN THE MATTER OF:

An application under Article 102 of the Constitution of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh.

<u>AND</u> <u>IN THE MATTER OF:</u>

Public Interest Litigation (PIL)

AND IN THE MATTER OF:

1. Human Rights and peace for Bangladesh (HRPB), United Kingdom Branch, represented by it's Convenor Rahmat Ali, of village-Doshghornowagow, Post-Doshghor, Thana-Bishanath, District-Sylhet, Bangladesh at present 72 Carman Street, London E-14 6NW, United Kingdom.

.....Petitioner.

-VERSUS-

1. Bangladesh, represented by the Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation, Bangladesh Secretariat, P.S. Ramna, Dhaka

2. Biman Bangladesh, a statutory body corporate operating pursuant to Bangladesh Biman Corporation Ordinance, 1977, represented by its Managing Director, Head Office, Balaka Bhaban, Dhaka.

3. The Chairman, Board of Directors, Bangladesh Biman, Balaka Bhaban, Dhaka, Bangladesh

... Respondents

<u>-A N D-</u> IN THE MATTER OF:

For a direction upon the respondents to restart the operation of the Bangladesh Biman Flights of Sylhet-London-Sylhat.

<u>GROUNDS:</u>

I. For that that as Biman is not a privately owned company, but a statutory public body, a state emanation, it cannot operate at its whim by violating provisions of the Warrant of Precedence.

II. For that due to starting the flights operation from Sylhet-London-Sylhet thousands of people who living at London got opportunity to fly directly to Sylhet without any harassment. Not only that they were able to save their time and specially hundreds of children could be benefited. Due to direct flight to Sylhet from London many people took this opportunity every year and visited their family at Sylhet, hence financially the particular area could be benefited. Moreover the earning of the Biman has increased due to that particular route. Without considering all the above mentioned aspect the authority has stopped the route of Sylhet-London-sylhet, which is not only illegal but also discriminatory. It was also reported in the newspaper that if the decision is not revoked the great population of the London may boycott Bangladesh Biman, which could seriously damage the reputation and earning of the Biman. Hence decision should be taken to restart flights of Sylhet –London-Sylhet.

III. For that this case involves a question of public importance. The question involved in this case is not only about the interest of the particular group but also for the financial benefit of the country. The role of this Hon'ble Court in settling the issue may helpful to avoid the crisis of the Biman.

IV.For that the decision to stop the Bangladesh Flights of Sylhet-London-Sylhet is discriminatory and unreasonable which not only violated the rights of the citizen of Sylhet area but also decreased the earning. Hence the decision may be declared illegal and without lawful authority and direction may be given to restart operations of flights of Sylhet-London-Sylhet.

Wherefore, it is most humbly prayed that your Lordships would graciously be pleased to :-

a) Issue a Rule Nisi calling upon the respondents to show cause as to why a direction should not be given upon the respondents to restart Bangladesh Biman flights operation from Sylhet-London-Sylhet as per earlier schedulde

b) After hearing the parties and causes shown, if any make the Rule absolute;

Present Status

The case was filled and moved by Advocate Manzill Murshid, President, HRPB. After hearing the parties the Hon'ble Court issued Rule Nisi upon the respondents and granted ad-interim order. The matter is pending before the Hon'ble High Court Division.

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