

**EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

**PUBLIC AFFAIRS SECTION**

TEL: 880-2-8855500

FAX: 880-2-9881677, 9885688

E-MAIL: [DhakaPA@state.gov](mailto:DhakaPA@state.gov)

WEBSITE: <http://dhaka.usembassy.gov>



**Remarks**

**By**

**U.S. Ambassador to Bangladesh Dan Mozena**

**A Celebration**

**Bidding Farewell to the DC-10 and Welcoming the Boeing 777**

**Biman Bangladesh Airlines**

**VVIP Ramp, International Airport**

**February 11, 2014**

The Honorable Prime Minister

The Honorable Minister

... and all who share my vision of Bangladesh as Asia's next economic tiger, the Royal Bengal Tiger ... an economic powerhouse commensurate with its size as the world's seventh largest nation.

Asalam 'mlaikum and good morning ...

Connectivity ... connectivity is the key to success in this increasingly globalized and interconnected world.

Today we celebrate connectivity, Bangladesh's connectivity to the world... and it's a double celebration.

First, we bid farewell to a trusted friend of Biman and Bangladesh ... this proud DC-10, the world's last passenger DC-10. Fleets of DC-10's the world over amassed more than 25 million hours of flight time ... that's 2,851 years of service to the world's commerce. With a production run from 1968 to 1989, these once state of the art airplanes with GE and Pratt & Whitney power were the pride of the industry in their day.

Today we also hail Bangladesh's newest link to the world ... Biman's third brand new Boeing 777. Much like the DC-10 in its time, this newest member of the Biman fleet is a marvel of modern engineering with advanced materials and super-efficient engines. The 777, introduced in 1995, has already flown nearly 5 million flights, and accumulated more than 18 million green and fuel efficient flight hours. And all with over 99% dispatch reliability.

Both airplanes represent the best of American ingenuity and technology. I am pleased that Biman has over the decades continued to choose American products as Bangladesh strengthens and expands its linkages to the world to meet the needs of this great nation, a nation that in my view could be/should be the next Asian tiger. Thank you.

=====

*Prepared for delivery*