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Khaama Press

Ariana Afghan Airlines fined \$10 million by UAE Court

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A court in United Arab Emirate sued the state Airlines – Ariana Airlines of Afghanistan \$10 million.

Officials in the ministry of transportation and aviation of Afghanistan said the verdict was announced a month ago by a court in Sharjah.

Meanwhile Afghan transportation ministry officials said they do not agree with the decision of the Sharjah court despite the verdict has been announced where Ariana Airlines will have to pay \$10 million fine to an airlines company based in United Arab Emirate.

Yalda Natiq chief of the external affairs at the ministry of transportation of Afghanistan said the ministry and Ariana Airlines are gathering information to deny the claims by UAE based Airlines Company.

She said, “They are claiming to gather all the required information relating the case and their legal advisor along with our legal advisor contact UAE officials and the Airlines Company based in Dubai. The claims are not true by an Airlines Company in UAE since they are thinking that the case is still open and Ariana Airlines has been sued and is obliged to pay the fine.”

Ariana Airlines was sued by Sharjah Court to pay \$10 million to one of the Airlines Company in UAE after Ariana Airlines hired a number of aircrafts from Pamir Airways.

Pamir Airways is not operational currently but the Airlines had rented a number of aircrafts from an Airlines Company in UAE around eight years back.

In the meantime chief of the Ariana Airlines said, “The aircrafts hired by Pamir Airways was returned back to Sharajah Airport after the transfer of the Afghan pilgrims was completed but the UAE company did not receive the aircrafts.”

Nasir Ahmad Hakimi Chief of the Ariana Airlines said, “The contract was signed between Pamir Airways and with Amad Saba the owner of the UAE based airlines in 2004 for the transportation of Afghan pilgrims where Ariana Airlines later signed a contract with the Pamir Airways to rent the aircrafts. The UAE based airlines company is now suing the Afghan embassy and Ariana Airlines to pay \$10.5 million since they know that Pamir Airways does not exist anymore and that the aircrafts were returned on time.”

In the meantime a number of economic observers believe that the Afghan government should take necessary steps to follow and resolve the issue.

Afghan economic analyst Syed Massoud said, “We are obliged to start negotiations in this regard considering the sensitive situation and Ariana Airlines which needs cooperation has been sued \$10 million by UAE.”

Ariana Airlines is the only state aviation company in Afghanistan and access to information regarding the contract of Pamir Airways with the UAE based Airlines Company seems to be difficult since Pamir Airways does not exist anymore.

There are also concerns that the private Airlines Companies are looking to end the operations of the only state aviation company in Afghanistan by purchasing its shares.