

PIA asks crew to not fast inflight

A Monitor Report

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Islamabad : Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) has asked its pilots and cabin crew not to fast while flying. The notification comes just before Ramadan and explains why fasting during flight operations can be dangerous and pose safety risks.

According to reports, PIA issued a safety alert to its pilots and flight attendants ahead of Ramadan this week. The alert warns crew against fasting while operating flights, citing the known causes of fasting such as dehydration, slow reflexes, low stamina, and deteriorating judgment.

Considering both pilots and cabin crew are required to be sharp and alert for any potential safety issues while flying, fasting could interfere with this. PIA describes the risk as "considerable" and hence asks crews not to fast while onboard.

While crews have been asked not to fast, the same does not apply to passengers. Pakistan's Civil Aviation Authority has temporarily lifted its ban on serving meals on domestic flights, which was introduced due to the rising Covid-19 cases. Airlines can now offer an iftar meal to passengers, a huge reprieve for travellers.