

Biman, Pakistan Int'l Airlines ink cargo deal to boost regional trade

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Dhaka: Biman Bangladesh Airlines and Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) have formally entered a significant partnership, signing a Cargo Interline Agreement to streamline air cargo logistics and accelerate bilateral trade between the two nations, said the latter on November 17.

The agreement, which is set to become effective from December 1, aims to substantially reduce the logistical hurdles associated with transporting high-value commodities. Key sectors expected to benefit include the movement of textiles, pharmaceuticals, and agricultural products between Bangladesh and Pakistan.

A major strategic element of the deal involves utilizing Saudi Arabia's key hubs—specifically Jeddah, Madinah, and Riyadh—as crucial transit gateways. This arrangement establishes a vital "strategic corridor" for regional commerce, facilitating faster and more cost-effective cargo

solutions through the extensive networks of both national carriers.

The collaboration marks a significant step forward in strengthening economic ties between Dhaka and Islamabad. The move is viewed in the context of recently warming diplomatic relations and renewed efforts to enhance cooperation in areas such as trade and cultural exchange. By leveraging their combined capabilities, Biman and PIA are expanding competitive cargo services across the region.

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