

## Riyadh Air keen to launch flights to Dhaka, Saudi envoy tells Bangladesh

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Dhaka: Saudi Arabia's new national carrier, Riyadh Air, has expressed strong interest in launching flight operations to Dhaka, signaling a potential boost to air connectivity between Bangladesh and the Kingdom.

The interest was conveyed by Saudi Ambassador to Bangladesh Dr. Abdullah Zafer H. Bin Abiyah during a courtesy call on Civil Aviation and Tourism Minister Afroz Khanam and State Minister M. Rashiduzzaman Millat at the Secretariat on Sunday morning, read a press release of the ministry.

During the meeting, both sides expressed optimism about further strengthening bilateral relations, with particular emphasis on enhancing cooperation in the tourism sector.

The ambassador highlighted Riyadh Air's plan to establish a station in Bangladesh and operate flights to Dhaka. In response, the state minister urged Saudi authorities to consider expanding operations beyond the capital, suggesting potential flights from Sylhet and Chattogram as well.

The minister also stressed the need to further improve the quality of services offered by Saudi airlines for Bangladeshi passengers. The ambassador assured that steps would be taken to enhance service standards in the near future.

The meeting underscored growing aviation ties between Bangladesh and Saudi Arabia, alongside broader cooperation in tourism and connectivity.

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