

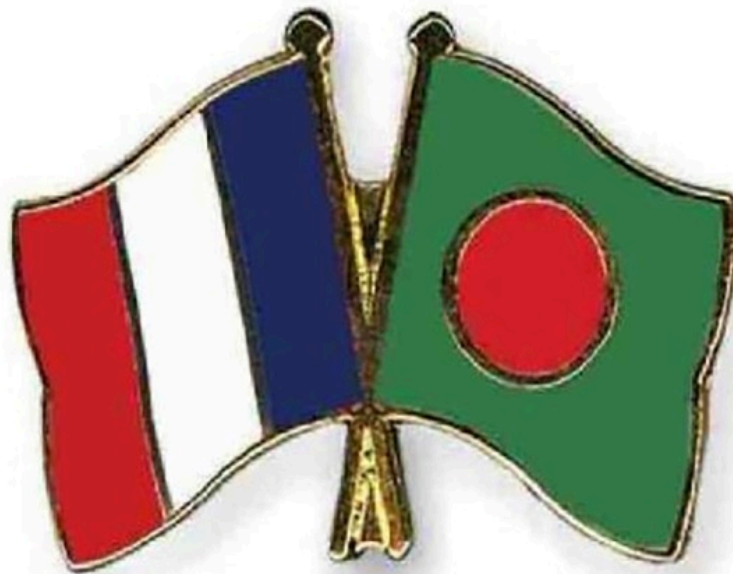
## **BD, France willing to build partnership in aviation, space, aerospace technology**

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Dhaka: Bangladesh and France have reasserted their will to build a "key partnership" in aviation, space and aerospace technology.

The countries affirmed their commitment to extend cooperation in political relations, development cooperation, trade and investment, defense cooperation, cooperation in science and technology including ICT and agriculture, cultural cooperation, cooperation in archaeology, and diplomatic training in France.

Bangladesh and France held the first bilateral political consultations on January 19 in Dhaka.

The Bangladesh delegation at the consultations was led by Kazi Russel Pervez, director general (West Europe and European Union) at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The French delegation was headed by Bertrand Lortholary, director for Asian Affairs of the French Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs.

Ambassador of France to Bangladesh Marie Masdupuy and representatives from different ministries of the Bangladesh government also joined the consultations.

Both sides highlighted the importance of enhancing bilateral trade and exchanging business delegation.

The Bangladesh side invited France to enhance investment in the country, particularly in food and agro-processing, advanced manufacturing, consumer electronics, automotive, leather, and pharmaceuticals.

They also acknowledged the prospects for strengthening cooperation in aviation security and maritime domain awareness.

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