

■ **India, Bangladesh Commence Trade Transactions in Indian Rupee**

India and Bangladesh have begun trading with each other using the Indian Rupee. This new trade arrangement was officially launched on 11 July at an event in Dhaka, jointly organised by the Bangladesh Bank and the High Commission of India. The Eastern Bank and Sonali Bank Ltd will handle trade and transactions from the Bangladesh side, while the State Bank of India and ICICI Bank will manage operations from the Indian side. The Reserve Bank of India has already authorised banks from 18 other countries, including Germany, Russia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, the United Kingdom, Myanmar, and Oman, to engage in trade using the Indian Rupee.

■ **U.S. Package for Pakistan**