

# Al Baraka Islamic Bank launches equal payment plan for flexible installment service for **credit card** holders

Transactions valued at BD 100 and above can be converted into installment plans

● Pay over a period ranging from 3 months up to 24 months

● Service is accessible through Al Baraka Islamic Bank's online portal

Manama

Al Baraka Islamic Bank, one of the leading Islamic banks in the Kingdom of Bahrain is pleased to announce the launch of a new innovative service that grants its credit cardholders greater flexibility and convenience in managing their purchases. The flexible installment purchase service, based on an equal payment plan scheme, allows customers to buy and pay later by converting eligible transactions into manageable installments within their current credit lim-

it, making it easier for them to plan and control their expenses. Under this new feature, all transactions valued at BD 100 and above, conducted locally, internationally, or online can



**Al Baraka Islamic Bank is a leading Islamic bank in the Kingdom of Bahrain. Since its establishment in 1984, it has delivered outstanding results in operations and services for both individual and corporate clients.**

be converted into installment plans. Customers can choose to pay their total purchase amount over a period ranging from 3 months up to 24 months, with the flexibility to select a tenor that best suits their financial needs. For tenors up to 6 months, as there are no additional fees for the installment service, which providing an attractive option for quick repayment. For tenors exceeding six months, a nominal profit rate will apply as per the Bank's prevailing credit card pricing schedule, while tenors of three and six months will remain free of any service or handling fees.

This service is easily accessible through Al Baraka Islamic Bank's online portal, enabling customers to convert their eligible transactions into installments at their convenience. Additionally, the new offering includes an early settlement option, allowing cardholders the flexibility to settle their installment plans ahead of schedule, thus providing greater control

over their finances.

Additionally, the service is available exclusively to eligible retail individual cardholders with active Al Baraka credit cards, and can be availed for transactions of BD 100 and above within 15 days of purchase.

Commenting on the occasion, Mr. Mazin Dhaif, Chief Retail Officer at Al Baraka Islamic Bank, said, "At Al Baraka Islamic Bank, we are committed to enhancing our customers' banking experience by introducing innovative solutions that offer flexibility and convenience. Our new Equal Payment Plan service reflects our ongoing efforts to provide tailored financial products that meet the evolving needs of our clients."

He added, "This latest feature underscores the bank's dedication to delivering innovative, Shariah-compliant banking solutions that empower cus-

tomers to make smarter financial decisions to improve their quality of life."

This new service is available to all credit card holders, irrespective of their card type with no limitations. Interested customers may apply for Al Baraka Islamic Bank credit card and avail this service aside from many other services, features, and benefits.



# Zain Bahrain in partnership with Ericsson introduce latest **5G solutions with Edge User Plane**

To Power Industry 4.0 and Accelerate Bahrain's Digital Transformation

● Zain Bahrain expands its strategic partnership with Ericsson to introduce 5G solutions with edge user plane in the Kingdom

● The enhanced network will accelerate Bahrain's digital transformation and support the nation's Industry 4.0 ambitions

● The new service will enable innovations such as AI-powered predictive maintenance, autonomous systems, and real-time monitoring, helping organizations boost efficiency and performance

Manama

Zain Bahrain, a leading telecom and technology innovator in the Kingdom, has announced an expanded strategic partnership with Ericsson (NASDAQ: ERIC) to introduce the latest 5G solutions in Bahrain, specifically in this case, Ericsson's Local Packet Gateway solution with Edge User Plane technology. This milestone marks a significant

cant step toward enhancing the Kingdom's network capabilities, supporting Bahrain's vision for a vibrant and sustainable digital economy; enabling Industry 4.0 technologies, and establishing a robust framework to

Ammar Al Ketbi, Zain Bahrain Acting CEO



accelerate the next wave of industrial innovation nationwide.

The latest 5G solutions with Edge User Plane technology will deliver faster, smarter, secure traffic and more resilient connectivity, unlocking ultra-low latency and optimized performance across Zain Bahrain's network. This will empower businesses and government enti-

ties to accelerate their digital transformation and unlock new opportunities for innovation and growth. Zain Bahrain's new advanced service will enable its network to support Industry 4.0 technologies, transforming the way industries operate through AI-powered predictive maintenance, autonomous systems, and real-time monitoring. By leveraging these capabilities organizations can streamline complex processes, improve efficiency, and achieve operational excellence.

Ammar Al Ketbi, Zain Bahrain Acting CEO



Petra Schirren, President Gulf at Ericsson Europe, Middle East and Africa

CEO commented: "Our collaboration with Ericsson marks another important milestone in Zain Bahrain's journey to advance the Kingdom's digital ecosystem. By introducing latest 5G solutions with Edge User Plane capabilities, we are paving the way for a new era of intelligent connectivity that will empower enterprises and industries to innovate, transform, and thrive in the digital age."

Petra Schirren President Gulf at Ericsson Europe, Middle East and Africa, says: "Our partnership with Zain Bahrain reflects how the new solutions can drive meaningful transformation across industries. Through the deployment of Ericsson's Local Packet Gateway solution with Edge User Plane, we are enabling advanced use cases that require near-instant connectivity and robust network performance. This partnership highlights Ericsson's continued commitment to delivering cutting-edge network solutions that power the next generation of digital innovation."

# China to impose duties of up to 42.7% on EU dairy

AFP | Beijing, China

China said yesterday would place temporary duties on "certain dairy products" imported from the European Union, marking the latest salvo in a trade spat that spans from food to electric vehicles.

**EU slams duties as 'unjustified'**

Brussels hit back yesterday at China slapping duties of up to 42.7 percent on some dairy products from the European Union, calling the move "unjustified".

The "duty deposits", which range from 21.9 percent to 42.7 percent, come into effect on Tuesday.

They hit a range of items including fresh and processed cheese, curd, blue cheese and some milk and cream, the com-

merce ministry in Beijing said in a statement.

Officials launched an anti-subsidy probe in August 2024 after receiving a request from the Dairy Association of China. The probe will conclude in February.

China's commerce ministry

said Monday that preliminary findings showed a link between EU subsidies and "substantial damage" to its domestic dairy industry.

The fees on EU dairy come a week after Beijing said it would impose anti-dumping levies

on EU pork imports for five years.

Those duties kicked in on December 17 and range from 4.9 percent to 19.8 percent -- down from temporary levies of 15.6 to 62.4 percent that had been in place since September.