

# Fast delivery, faster devotion

Food delivery riders in Kingdom rush to distribute flood of Iftar orders on time

● **Defying challenges of fasting during Ramadan to fulfill their duties**

● **Facing evening traffic and humid weather**

**Zahra Ayaz**  
TDT | Manama

Food delivery riders in the Kingdom are defying the challenges of fasting during Ramadan while rushing to deliver iftar orders to customers' doors.

Even amidst the flood of orders during the holy month, these dedicated riders remain committed to their task.

The Daily Tribune had the opportunity to speak with several riders from leading delivery service companies, shedding light on their experiences.

Irshad Mohd one of these riders, skillfully navigates through bustling streets to ensure that

orders are fulfilled within the stipulated time frame set by his company's app.

Mohd who completes around 10 deliveries daily during Ramadan, shared his perspective: "I don't experience any fatigue during Ramadan because my mind is productively occupied when working. I genuinely enjoy my job and try to do it well. Ramadan is significant as it's a time for prayer and introspection. It's our responsibility to fulfill our duties."

**Breaking fast**

When asked about how he manages to break his fast during iftar time while still delivering food, Mohd explained, "I stop my bike at a safe spot to break my fast with dates and water. I always keep dates and a bottle of water with me. Later, after completing my deliveries, I visit nearby Shawarma restaurants to satisfy my hunger."

Abdulrahman, another delivery rider, shared his initial struggles, stating, "I have to do my job



**As food delivery riders in Bahrain continue to serve the community during Ramadan, their dedication and resilience shine through, reminding us of the spirit of unity and devotion that characterizes this holy month.**

even if I am fasting. During the first two days, it was challenging to find a suitable spot to break my fast. However, people are really kind, and when orders are close to iftar, they often offer me dates, fruits, or water." He further added, "I usually



A food delivery rider in the Kingdom

prefer midnight deliveries because at that time, I don't have to worry about opening my fast. During Ramadan, most people place their orders just before Maghrib and during midnight."

Expressing his desire to celebrate Eid Al Fitr with his family

next year, Abdulrahman mentioned that this year he would have to connect with them over a call.

**Strategy**

Nouman Malik, another delivery rider, emphasised the

importance of delivering food promptly, especially during the evening hours when traffic is heavy and people rely on them to open their fasts.

He revealed his strategy, saying, "I always keep a sandwich and dates with me to break my fast during working hours. Last Wednesday, near the Juffair signal on the red light, a group of children were distributing iftar meals, and they gave me one."

Acknowledging the challenges of fasting during humid weather, Malik expressed his contentment with fulfilling his job responsibilities, stating, "Although the weather is changing and fasting during humidity presents challenges, it's part of our job, and we are happy with it."

As food delivery riders in Bahrain continue to serve the community during Ramadan, their dedication and resilience shine through, reminding us of the spirit of unity and devotion that characterizes this holy month.

# Bahrain committed to supporting individuals with disabilities

TDT | Manama

The Bahrain parliamentary delegation emphasised the steadfast dedication of the government towards individuals with disabilities during a panel discussion held by the Commit-

tee on Democracy and Human Rights on the sidelines of the 148th IPU Assembly in Geneva.

They highlighted the substantial support and sponsorship provided by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, affirming Bahrain's resolve to encourage

inclusivity and empowerment for everybody to fulfil the objectives of worldwide development.

The panel discussion centred around exploring sustainable measures aimed at improving the living conditions of individuals with disabilities.

The delegation assured the panel that under the leadership of the His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, the government has launched numerous initiatives and programmes to prioritise

the inclusion of individuals with disabilities across all facets of life. Particularly in the realms of education and employment, significant efforts have been made to ensure their active participation.

Additionally, comprehensive healthcare services, including

rehabilitation and treatment, have been provided to cater to their specific needs. Furthermore, the government has extended financial support to empower individuals with disabilities, promoting their self-sufficiency and general welfare.

meem من بنك الخليج الدولي By Gulf International Bank		GULF INTERNATIONAL BANK B.S.C. - RETAIL BRANCH			Financial Statements For the year ended 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2023		
<b>STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION</b>							
	31.12.23	31.12.22					
	BHD	BHD					
<b>ASSETS</b>							
Cash and other liquid assets	842,029	1,162,009					
Placements	41,600,000	24,600,000					
Investment securities	-	9,967,228					
Loans and advances	11,977,412	11,107,582					
Due from related parties	22,664,751	9,496,024					
Equipment	151,390	457,793					
Other assets	172,318	79,075					
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>77,407,900</b>	<b>56,869,711</b>					
<b>LIABILITIES</b>							
Deposits from customers	29,149,300	12,631,098					
Due to related parties	26,102,999	22,955,443					
Other liabilities	1,183,567	2,222,003					
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>56,435,866</b>	<b>37,808,544</b>					
<b>HEAD OFFICE ACCOUNT</b>							
Capital funds	20,000,000	20,000,000					
Retained earnings / (accumulated loss)	972,034	(938,833)					
<b>Total Head Office account</b>	<b>20,972,034</b>	<b>19,061,167</b>					
<b>Total liabilities and Head Office account</b>	<b>77,407,900</b>	<b>56,869,711</b>					
<b>STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME</b>							
	Year ended	Year ended					
	31.12.23	31.12.22					
	BHD	BHD					
Interest income	2,390,868	1,062,532					
Interest expense	1,332,916	451,211					
Net interest income	1,057,952	611,321					
Net fee and commission income	441,088	524,439					
Foreign exchange income	458,276	239,460					
Other income	2,534	-					
<b>Total income</b>	<b>1,959,850</b>	<b>1,375,220</b>					
Staff expenses	269,038	356,991					
Premises expenses	40,698	39,831					
Other operating expenses	866,692	1,097,001					
<b>Total operating expenses</b>	<b>1,176,428</b>	<b>1,493,823</b>					
<b>Net income / (loss) before provisions and tax</b>	<b>783,422</b>	<b>(118,603)</b>					
Provision reversal / (charge) for expected credit losses	188,612	(820,230)					
<b>Net income / (loss) for the year</b>	<b>972,034</b>	<b>(938,833)</b>					
Other comprehensive income	-	-					
<b>Total comprehensive income / (loss) for the year</b>	<b>972,034</b>	<b>(938,833)</b>					
<b>STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN HEAD OFFICE ACCOUNT</b>							
	Capital funds	Accumulated losses	Total				
	BHD	BHD	BHD				
<b>At 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023</b>	<b>20,000,000</b>	<b>(938,833)</b>	<b>19,061,167</b>				
<b>Transactions with Head Office:</b>							
Transfer of losses to Head Office	-	938,833	938,833				
<b>Total transactions with Head Office</b>	<b>20,000,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>20,000,000</b>				
<b>Comprehensive income:</b>							
Comprehensive income for the year	-	972,034	972,034				
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>972,034</b>	<b>972,034</b>				
<b>At 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023</b>	<b>20,000,000</b>	<b>972,034</b>	<b>20,972,034</b>				
<b>At 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022</b>	<b>20,000,000</b>	<b>(1,058,288)</b>	<b>18,941,712</b>				
<b>Transactions with Head Office:</b>							
Transfer of losses to Head Office	-	1,058,288	1,058,288				
<b>Total transactions with Head Office</b>	<b>20,000,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>20,000,000</b>				
<b>Comprehensive income:</b>							
Comprehensive loss for the year	-	(938,833)	(938,833)				
<b>Total comprehensive loss</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(938,833)</b>	<b>(938,833)</b>				
<b>At 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022</b>	<b>20,000,000</b>	<b>(938,833)</b>	<b>19,061,167</b>				
The financial statements have been approved on 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2024 and signed by:-							
<b>Mushari AlOtaibi</b> Acting Head of Retail Banking		<b>Asif Saherwala</b> Group Head of Financial Controls					
The statement of financial position, statement of income, statement of other comprehensive income, statement of changes in head office account and statement of cash flows have been extracted from the financial statements of GIB's B.S.C. Retail Branch for the year ended 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2023 which were audited by Ernst & Young who have expressed an unqualified audit opinion on 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2024.							
Gulf International Bank B.S.C., P.O. Box 1017, Al-Dowali Building, 3 Palace Avenue, Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain. Tel: +973 17534000							
Gulf International Bank B.S.C. - Retail Branch is licensed by the Central Bank of Bahrain as a conventional retail bank							
<b>STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS</b>							
		Year ended	Year ended				
		31.12.23	31.12.22				
		BHD	BHD				
<b>OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>							
Net profit / (loss) for the year		972,034	(938,833)				
Adjustments for:							
Provision (reversal) / charge for expected credit losses		(188,612)	820,230				
Depreciation and amortisation		306,403	445,404				
Operating income before changes in operating assets and liabilities		1,089,825	326,801				
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:							
Statutory deposit with the Central Bank		34,000	(227,000)				
Loans and advances		(681,218)	(5,968,110)				
Due from related parties		(13,168,727)	13,094,597				
Other assets		(93,243)	8,851				
Deposits from customers		16,518,202	(23,451,276)				
Due to related parties		3,147,556	16,767,028				
Other liabilities		(1,038,436)	1,031,438				
<b>Net cash flows from operating activities</b>		<b>5,807,959</b>	<b>1,582,329</b>				
<b>INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>							
Additions to equipment		-	(403,138)				
Net decrease / (increase) in investment securities		9,967,228	(21,902)				
<b>Net cash flows from / (used in) investing activities</b>		<b>9,967,228</b>	<b>(425,040)</b>				
<b>FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>							
Transfer of losses to Head Office		938,833	1,058,288				
<b>Net cash flows from financing activities</b>		<b>938,833</b>	<b>1,058,288</b>				
<b>Net increase in cash and cash equivalents</b>		<b>16,714,020</b>	<b>2,215,577</b>				
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at 1<sup>st</sup> January</b>		<b>25,299,009</b>	<b>23,083,432</b>				
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at 31<sup>st</sup> December</b>		<b>42,013,029</b>	<b>25,299,009</b>				
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2023 excludes statutory deposits with the Central Bank amounting to BHD 429,000 (31 <sup>st</sup> December 2022: BHD 463,000) and includes placements with original maturities of less than three months amounting to BHD 41,600,000 (31 <sup>st</sup> December 2022: BHD 24,600,000).							