

Al Salam Bank Introduces 0% Profit Grace Period for Social Housing Financing under the Government Land Development Programme

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Al Salam Bank announced a range of exclusive offers and benefits for Social Housing beneficiaries, coinciding with its participation as Platinum Sponsor of the Social Housing Innovation Summit 2026, as part of its commitment to providing flexible financing solutions that facilitate citizens' journey towards homeownership.

In a first-of-its-kind initiative, Al Salam Bank will offer eligible beneficiaries purchasing off-plan units within selected Government Land Development Programme (GLDP) projects a 0% profit grace period until the project's agreed completion date, for a maximum of 12 months. The grace period will apply to both the main subsidized Tasheel or Tasheel+ financing and any eligible additional financing, during which beneficiaries will not be required to make any payments and no profit will be charged. The initiative is designed to provide greater financial flexibility by allowing beneficiaries to be-

gin their financing repayments closer to the completion and handover of their new homes.

Commenting on the occasion, Her Excellency Mrs. Amna bint Ahmed Al Rumaihi, Minister of Housing and Urban Planning, said: "We continue to advance the Social Housing ecosystem by strengthening partnerships with the private and banking sectors, contributing to the availability of more diverse and flexible financing solutions for citizens and expanding their options for suitable homeownership. The Social Housing Innovation Summit represents an important platform for showcasing innovative initiatives and solutions that support the continued development of the housing sector, and we are pleased to see initiatives from banking institutions that support beneficiaries and fa-



Anwar Murad, Group Deputy Chief Executive Officer-Banking at Al Salam Bank



Amna bint Ahmed Al Rumaihi, Minister of Housing and Urban Planning



Abdulla Taleb, General Manager of Eskan Bank

cilitate their journey towards homeownership."

Mr. Anwar Murad, Group Deputy Chief Executive Officer – Banking at Al Salam Bank, said: "Our participation in the Social Housing Innovation Summit reflects our commitment to continuously developing financing solutions that complement the initiatives of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning and Eskan Bank, while adding value for beneficiaries. Through the 0% profit grace period initiative, we aim to provide eligible beneficiaries with greater flex-

ibility during the construction phase of their homes, allowing their financial commitments to commence closer to the handover of their properties. We have also introduced a comprehensive range of benefits and offers during the Summit to make the Social Housing financing experience more convenient and flexible."

Abdulla Taleb, General Manager of Eskan Bank, said: "We welcome initiatives that contribute to the development of housing finance solutions and provide greater flexibility for

citizens benefiting from Social Housing programmes. This initiative reflects our continued collaboration with our banking partners to facilitate the homeownership journey and deliver solutions that address beneficiaries' needs throughout its different stages."

In addition to the main initiative, Social Housing applicants will benefit from a range of exclusive offers provided by Al Salam Bank during the Summit, including eligibility to participate in the Bank's Financing Settlement Campaign, with dedicated prizes for qualifying Social Housing beneficiaries. Eligible Tasheel+ beneficiaries will also have access to higher additional financing amounts with reducing monthly instalments. Other benefits include waivers of property valuation fees, fire in-

surance fees, down payment requirements and administration fees, alongside loyalty reward points, a quick and convenient approval process, competitive financing profit rates and special profit rates on Al Salam Life Planning Account for Tasheel and Tasheel+ beneficiaries

Beneficiaries will also have access to a complimentary BHD 50 voucher upon redemption, subject to the offer's terms and conditions as part of the additional benefits accompanying the Bank's financing solutions during the Summit.

Visitors to Al Salam Bank's booth at the Summit will also have the opportunity to win instant cash prizes and receive special financing discounts by depositing a minimum of BHD 50 into their Danat account.

Al Salam Bank invites visitors to the Social Housing Innovation Summit 2026 to visit its booth and learn more about the available financing solutions and exclusive offers, while engaging with the Bank's team to explore options that suit their homeownership needs and plans.

Bahrain Chamber Board Approves Appointment of Sectoral Committee Chairs for the 31st Term

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The Board of Directors of the Bahrain Chamber, chaired by Nabeel Khalid Kanoo, has approved the appointment of the chairs of the sectoral committees for the 31st administrative term. The appointments form part of the Chamber's efforts to complete its committee structure and strengthen their role as specialised platforms for engaging with business owners, identifying the needs and challenges of economic sectors, and presenting views and recommendations that contribute to improving the business environment and enhancing the competitiveness of the national economy.

The appointments include Mrs. Dima Rasool Al Haddad as Chair of the Commercial Markets Committee; Mr. Ali Abdulhussain Makki as Chair of the Traditional Markets Committee; Dr. Ahmed Abdulkarim Al Koofi as Chair of the Education and Training Committee; Dr. Abdullah Abdulrahman Al Hamed as Chair of the Technology, Artificial Intelligence and Digital Transformation Committee; Mr. Mohammed Abdulali Al-Aali as Chair of the Industry and Sustainable Energy Committee; Mr. Hussain Isa Al Samaheji as Chair of the Hospitality, Tourism and Promotion Committee; and Mr. Uzair Mohammed Osman as Chair of the Real Estate and Construction Committee.

The appointments also include Dr. Lamia Ahmed Mahmood as Chair of the Healthcare Sector Committee; Mr. Khalid Ali Rashed Al Amin as Chair of the Food Sector Committee; Mr. Ammar Ahmed Al Fardan as Chair of the Pearls, Gold and Jewellery Committee; Mr. Nader Yousif Rahimi as Chair of the Finance, Insurance and Tax Committee; and Mr. Mohammed Ali Al Muslim as Chair of the Transport and Logistics Services Committee.

On this occasion, Kanoo congratulated the newly appointed committee chairs, wishing them



success in carrying out their responsibilities over the next four years and expressing his confidence in their contribution to supporting the Chamber's Board of Directors in serving the private sector and strengthening its role as a key partner in Bahrain's economic development.

He affirmed that the formation of the committees followed a comprehensive review of their names, mandates and criteria for selecting their chairs and members, aimed at strengthening the representation of economic sectors and benefiting from relevant expertise and competencies. He noted that the committees will play a key role in monitoring challenges and opportunities, anticipating emerging economic trends, and putting forward initiatives and recommendations that support the growth, sustainability and competitiveness

of their respective sectors.

He added that the Chamber relies on the committees to strengthen direct engagement with business owners, listen to their views and proposals, and translate them into practical recommendations to be discussed with the relevant authorities, contributing to practical solutions and the development of the business environment. He noted that the establishment of the Pearls, Gold and Jewellery Committee and the Traditional Markets Committee reflects the Chamber's commitment to supporting promising sectors, while also developing sectors associated with the Kingdom of Bahrain's rich commercial and cultural heritage and enhancing their sustainability.

Kanoo affirmed that the committees represent a key pillar in shaping the Chamber's policies



Mr. Nabeel Khalid Kanoo

and initiatives. He added that the Board of Directors will work closely with the chairs and members to follow up on their outputs and assess their impact, ensuring that recommendations are translated into actionable initiatives and strengthening the Bahrain Chamber's role as an effective representative of the private sector and a supporter of sustainable economic development.

BIS Hosts Parent Orientation on CBSE Updates for Grade IX



Bhavans Bahrain Indian School (BIS) organised an insightful Parent Orientation Programme for Grade IX, familiarising parents with the latest CBSE academic updates, curricular changes and emerging learning opportunities. Principal Mr Saji Jacob highlighted key provisions, including the Third Language, Advanced Mathematics and Advanced Science, along with skill-based learning initiatives such as Kaushal Bodh and Kaushal Vikas. Parents were also introduced to the upcoming Individuals and Societies subject. The interactive session addressed parents' queries and was followed by meaningful teacher-parent interactions. Directors Mr Himanshu Verma and Mrs Ritu Verma appreciated the active participation and continued support of the parent community.

ILA to Host 'Platinum Dandiya Beats 2026'



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Pradeep Puravankara

The Indian Ladies Association (ILA), Bahrain, will host its iconic ILA Platinum Dandiya Beats 2026 on Thursday, October 1, at the Crowne Plaza Convention Centre from 8:00 PM. The event marks ILA's 70 years of community service under its motto, "Service Before Self."

The celebration will feature

traditional Garba and Dandiya, music, live entertainment and cultural festivities, bringing together families and communities across Bahrain. Proceeds will support ILA's philanthropic initiatives, including the Sneha Recreation Centre, which provides free education, therapy, specialised care and life-skills development for children with special needs. The Daily Tribune and News of Bahrain are the event's media sponsors.