

Foreign Exchange Policy Department-1

Bangladesh Bank

Head Office

Dhaka

www.bb.org.bd

FEPD-1 Circular No. 39

Date: September 28, 2026

All Authorized Dealers in
Foreign Exchange in Bangladesh

Use of international cards for purchase of air tickets
from airlines operating in Bangladesh.

Dear Sirs,

Attention of Authorized Dealers (ADs) is invited to FE Circular No. 47, dated November 19, 2025 in terms of which resident Bangladeshi nationals, having valid visas where applicable, are permitted to use their international cards for purchase of air tickets from airlines operating in Bangladesh for travel abroad, subject, inter alia, to acquisition of ticket sale proceeds through payment service arrangements with ADs operating in Bangladesh.

02. Upon review, it has been decided that purchase of air tickets from foreign airlines operating in Bangladesh using international cards shall also be permissible where the ticket sale proceeds are settled through their established international acquiring and payment settlement arrangements outside Bangladesh.

03. For identification of eligible transactions under the provision of paragraph 2 above, ADs shall recognize the Merchant Category Codes (MCCs) of the respective airlines, as per enclosure (Annexure-A)

04. The facility under this circular shall be outside the applicable travel entitlement. Accordingly, upon verification of eligible ticket transactions, ADs may refill/replenish the international cards up to the amount utilized for such ticket purchases, subject to appropriate transaction arrangements between ADs and cardholders under the existing banker-customer relationship.

05. The facility for settlement through acquiring and payment arrangements outside Bangladesh shall not be applicable to Bangladeshi airlines in respect of ticket sales for travel from Bangladesh to destinations outside Bangladesh. Such ticket sales shall continue to be subject to the applicable provisions governing local acquisition and settlement of ticket sale proceeds.

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06. In cases where ticket sale proceeds of foreign airlines are settled abroad under paragraph 2 above, such proceeds shall be duly accounted for and adjusted against the remittable surplus earnings of the respective airlines in accordance with Part-B of FEPD-1 Circular No. 08, dated May 07, 2026.

07. Purchase of air tickets under this facility shall be reported by ADs to Bangladesh Bank as per reporting routine including through the TM module.

08. Accordingly, the provisions of FE Circular No. 47/2025 shall, mutatis mutandis, remain unchanged.

Please bring the contents of this circular to the notice of your respective constituents.

Yours faithfully,

Encl. Annexure-A



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Director (FEPD-1)(Current Charge)
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Merchant Category Codes of Foreign Airlines

SL	Airline	IATA Code	MCC
1	Air India	AI	3020
2	Cathay Pacific Airways	CX	3099
3	China Eastern Airlines	MU	3206
4	China Southern Airlines	CZ	3308
5	Emirates	EK	3026
6	Flydubai	FZ	3070
7	Gulf Air	GF	3040
8	Kuwait Airways	KU	3038
9	Malaysia Airlines	MH	3100
10	Oman Air	WY	3183
11	Qatar Airways	QR	3136
12	Saudi Arabian Airlines (Saudia)	SV	3014
13	Singapore Airlines	SQ	3075
14	SriLankan Airlines	UL	3044
15	Thai Airways International	TG	3077
16	Turkish Airlines	TK	3047
17	Air Arabia	G9	3236