

# Tablez to set up 25 Galito's restaurants in UAE, India in 5 years

## Staff Report

ABU DHABI — Tablez Food Company, the F&B arm of LuLu International Group, plans to introduce South Africa's Galito's, a casual dining restaurant, to food lovers in the UAE and India by setting up 25 outlets in the next five years.

Galito's offers authentic flame-grilled chicken using fresh and natural ingredients. Since its inception in 1996 in South Africa, food chain has rapidly expanded its operations to develop a strong market presence in the rest of Africa and Canada.

The franchise agreement signed Wednesday in the presence of South African Ambassador, mandates Abu Dhabi-based Tablez Food Company to develop the Galito's brand across the Middle East, India and Sri Lanka.

In the UAE, the group is actively looking at strategic locations to open its outlets, and is set to launch its first restaurant at Abu Dhabi Al Wadah Mall towards the end of this year, said Shafeena Yusuffali, chief executive officer of Tablez Food Company.

She said her food company set up four years ago, aims to invest over Dh55 million towards the launch of 15 outlets in the UAE within next four years. In India, she plans to invest Dh36 million

to roll out 10 outlets within the next five years Shafeena said the investment into F&B sector was part of creating infrastructure in the wake of Expo2020.

She said her food company was now earning profits. The chief executive hinted more franchise agreements would be following, as talks are underway with several world known brands, as there was great appetite for trying out different cuisines in the market.

Tablez Food Company is the F&B arm of the retail major, Lulu International Group LLC, specializing in international and local cuisines as well as partnering with leading franchising concepts. Currently Tablez has a portfolio of 14 different FB outlets which includes: three Peppermill restaurants in Dubai and Abu Dhabi, five Bloomsbury's cafes, two De Thali restaurants, four London Dairy outlets. The firm has one Bloomsbury's Restaurant in India.

Louis Germishuys, Chief Executive Officer of Galito's, said: "We are excited to partner with Tablez Food Company, which has in-depth knowledge and experience of the region's F&B scene and enjoys a significant international market presence. In our bid to provide customers with fresh made-to-order meals, we use the healthiest natural ingredients in our marinade and basting at Galito's."

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**Mpetjane Kgaogelo Lekgoro, Ambassador of South Africa; Vinay Lall; Thane Bailey; Shafeena Yusuffali; Louis Germishuys; and Sajan Alex during the announcement. — KT photo by Nezar Balout**