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Extremism & Exporting Terrorism
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itself

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without a life insurance

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Imran to destabilise PTI

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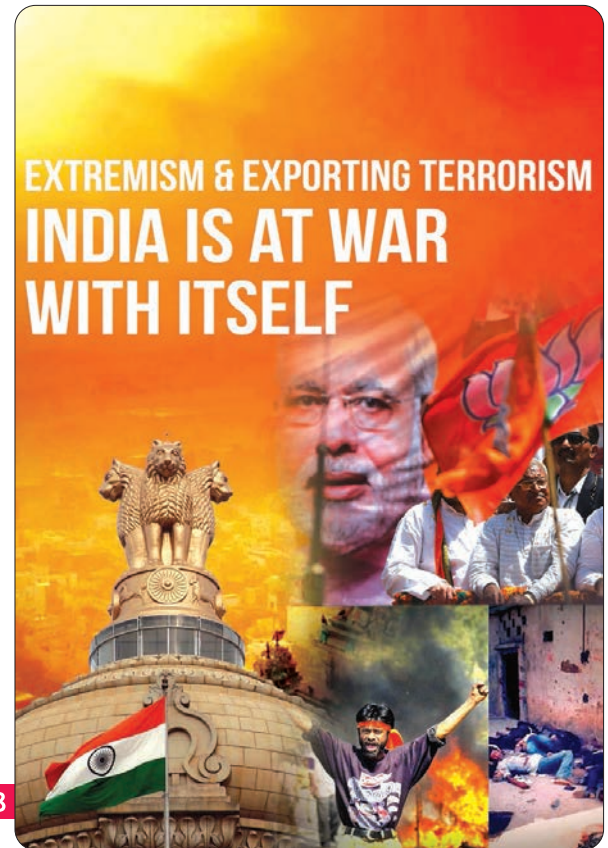
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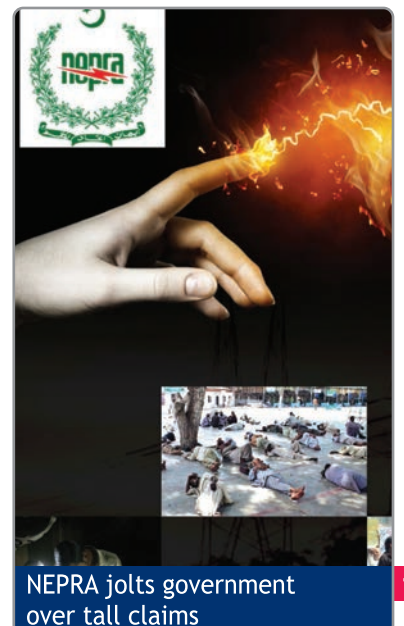
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Editor's Note

No trade with India

It is good omen that the business community has taken bold steps to shop trade with India and warned the government against trade talks with India until improvement in diplomatic ties with the neighboring country, as India has crossed all limits to terrorize Pakistan. The arch rival of Pakistan has completely disregarded the international conventions and norms by repeatedly violating the ceasefire agreements along working boundary and Line of Control.

Other than trade, smuggled items from India including food stuff, jewellery, cosmetics, clothes and many more have weaken our economy. Smuggling is a serious crime that hurts the country in many ways. It deprives government of huge taxes and customs duties while people are deprive of millions of jobs with the closure of many industries from small and medium enterprises to large industrial units. It affects local industries by distorting prices of commodities. Smuggling causes production slowdown, which leads to mass lay-offs, reduced consumer spending, bankruptcies, and lower tax collection. Smuggling has especially benefited from weak governance and chronic political instability.

On the other side, Indian government having made many promises to the people, the members of both the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha but have failed miserably to enact the much needed Lokpal Bill, the Whistleblower's Protection Bill, the Grievances Redress Bill, and the much touted Judicial Accountability Bill. And now by shamelessly ganging up together to wriggle out of the RTI Act they have truly shown their real colours that they are the masters and people only their slaves. And the feudal and autocratic manner by which they brow beat and treat honest IAS and IPS bureaucrats and force them to follow their illegal diktat, these Netas today are nothing but a bunch of self centered corrupt group of people who only believe in looting the nation and encouraging corruption.

The fact that the bureaucracy and the police are becoming totally spunk less can be attributed to the fact that they too have a family and they do not want to ruffle feathers because if they do they will be fixed in a day or two and maybe also forced to commit suicide or be disposed off by the politicians and their goons. And if this not a sham democracy I wonder what is it today.

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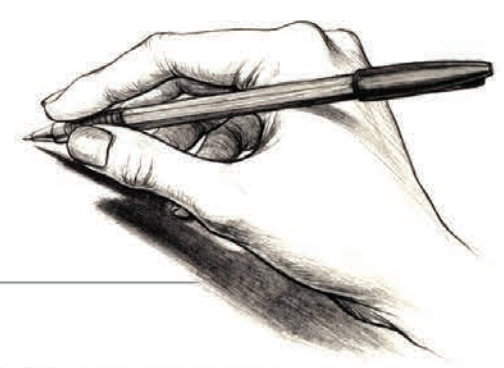
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Suspension of mobile services continue

I always support the stance of government to eliminate terrorism in the country and maintain law and order situation with every cost. Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) on the direction of Interior Ministry suspended the mobile phone and internet services in the major cities as part of security measures for Ashura.

According to sources, on directions of Interior Ministry and Provincial governments, PTA directed mobile and wireless service providers to stop signals in 68 districts of the country on October 23 and 24. I request the government to focus on alternate arrangements rather than suspension of mobile phone and internet services, if possible in the era as we are at war and the enemy is within our lines.

The report named 'Security verses Access: The Impact of Mobile Network Shutdowns', discussed socio economic losses due to suspension of wireless services. Report cited experts, who argue that network shutdowns violate a range of human rights, and are neither necessary nor proportionate responses to potential violent activities. But this is also a fact that we may have save many lives with such initiatives in the country on special occasions.

Umair Munawar, Lahore

Chip vehicle registration cards launched

It is good news for vehicle owners that the Excise and Taxation Department has started the issuance of the new Vehicle Registration Cards (VRC). The cards will incorporate points of interest for both, the vehicle and the proprietor. It is the first occasion that a smartcard framework has been presented which will replace the current enlistment book framework. The credit goes to NADRA whose efforts are commendable in modernizing the basic facilities in Pakistan.

The project started in January; the framework was created as a team with the National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA). Much the same as the new smart NICs, these savvy VRCs have an installed chip like SIM module. These cards state vital information like the subtle elements for the vehicle including its enlistment number and skeleton number, and insights with respect to the vehicle's proprietor including his/her name, NIC number. While the cards list a lot of subtle elements all things considered, the chip is equipped for putting away other applicable and imperative data with respect to the vehicle and its proprietor.

Afaan Waqas, Islamabad.

Metro wifi is good work

Its hard to praise the opponents but I believe this is what makes a nation stronger. I am a PTI follower and I have many differences with PML-N policies. However, when I travel through Metro Bus Service in Rawalpindi-Islamabad then I have no option but appreciate the good work. This is not a luxurious way to travel between the twin cities but it saves a lot of time of the commuters such as students, job holders, lawyers etc. Most importantly, it's really good for female commuters. Another good aspect of the traveling through metro is its free wifi internet which has helped me and many others while we travel. I am working with a multinational firm but being a lady I need to reach back home in timely manners. Yesterday when I left the office and entered the Metro bus, I needed to reply many emails but it found out that that I have no balance in my mobile to activate any internet bundle. Immediately I switched to free wifi of Metro and it was really a great feeling when Having differences is good thing if these are for positive output but whatever is right must be praised as a responsible citizen. However, we must use this free wifi facility from PTCL in a responsible manner.

Saima Gul, Rawalpindi.

'Parho Punjab, Barho Punjab' programme

I appeal to Chief Minister Punjab Shahbaz Sharif rather to launch a new project on education, first you must streamline existing system of education. The government schools, colleges and universities just mint the money and while performance disappeared from these institutions. Pursuing the goal of 100% literacy rate in Punjab and bringing 2.8 million out of school children into the mainstream, Chief Minister Punjab Shahbaz Sharif launched "Parho Punjab, Barho Punjab" a revolutionary reform programme to improve the standard of education through curriculum revision and teacher training. Parho Punjab is being launched with a three year timeline with the tree bearing fruits by 2018 in the form of improved enrolment rates. Dear CM, it is matter of great concern, this practice illiterate the students and strayed their goals so it is need of hour to give them more incentives and lower the fees of private schools, colleges and universities. I think the vision of Punjab Chief Minister Shahbaz Sharif is that the education is key to progress in any country and he launched 'Parho Punjab, Barho Punjab'.

Wasim Nadim, Lahore

Selfie causes mental disorder

The "selfie" by smartphone users has become quite the trend. It seems harmless, one feels like capturing the moment; but in reality this selfie obsession is creating a mental disorder. People who usually take selfies become narcissists and according to many psychologists it's a disorder that should be taken seriously. Narcissists are individuals who bloom under the attention from other people and are extremely selfish. They find appreciation from their physical attributes and rational attributes. Self-centeredness becomes a part of their routine and that is unsuitable for their personality.

These self-absorbed selfie gamers are usually in need, anxious or depressed.

They thrive on the approvals and admirations from others; this makes them conscious about themselves and eventually they "sell their individuality" according to the social media sites. Twitter, Instagram or Facebook become the dictators and judges of every single person, with a selfie obsession. A fake aura of self-confidence is created when each and every picture is edited to perfection.

Instead of being comfortable in their own skin; they end becoming someone they are not. The likes on their pictures indicate their degree of attractiveness; which makes them joyful.

These superficial aspects ruin a teenager's, a child's or even an adult's personality or even life. By comparing the likes of selfies, one can acquire an incredibly amount of low self-esteem.

This issue can proceed to an extreme level. Danny Bowman, a British teenager, even took his life because he couldn't take the perfect selfie! It's sad and absurd the effects of a seemingly harmless selfie.

Syeda Rafia Imran, Karachi

Write us at: flaremagazine@flare.pk

We received too many letters from our valued readers every month through mail and e-mail, however, due to shortage of space, we are publishing only few selected letters.

Nepra jolts govt over tall claims on loadshedding

Another scandal of PML-N government has exposed and this time National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (Nepra) exposed in its report and said the power shortfall and loadshedding were being done deliberately by Ministry of Water & Power. Managements of government thermal power plants have deliberately kept the power plants closed.

Although, the National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (Nepra) decided not to amend or review its annual report 2014-15 exposing several deficiencies in the power sector, despite reservations expressed by the Ministry of Water and Power. A meeting of Nepra members, presided over by its Chairman Brig (Retd) Tariq Sadozai, also took exception to questions raised by the ministry about credentials of the regulator and its members, most of them appointed by the present government. Nepra's annual report, on the other hand, raised important technical issues in the power sector, including overbilling through time-of-use meters, which are used by a very small number of consumers in any event, as well as questions regarding the choice of power plant to operate given the variable levels of their efficiency.

The Water and Power Ministry has questioned Nepra's capacity to draw the conclusions it has in the annual report. As if to underline the ministry's objections, Nepra has reportedly refused to undertake a technical audit of a number of power plants. It says that it does not have the mandate to perform such an exercise. The ministry, in a separate request, had asked the regulator to undertake an energy cost audit of various power producers to determine which ones were operating at their stated level of efficiency, and therefore what adjustments might be necessary to their tariffs. The all-round failure of independent bodies, whether government, semi-government, independently constituted inquiry commissions or private-sector companies, to probe various issues in the country's power generation shows the sheer opacity under which the entire power sector operates.

Transparency is needed in every area of the sector, from technical audits of generation to transmission and distribution issues, to billing and recoveries, so that a reliable picture can be built of the state of affairs within the sector. But regrettably, given the present circumstances, the events of the past few weeks show that such a picture is totally absent today. The power sector is far too large an entity to be centrally controlled by a couple of ministers and the bureaucracy. It needs institutional reforms that create the right incentives to maximise efficiency and minimise costs. Strengthening the regulator and increasing the role of private-sector professionals in the running of



“Although, the National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (Nepra) decided not to amend or review its annual report 2014-15 exposing several deficiencies in the power sector, despite reservations expressed by the Ministry of Water and Power”

the sector as a whole are crucial ingredients of such a reform effort, but sadly, they appear to be a distant dream at the moment.

In Nepra report, in yet another major embarrassment for the power sector managers, the National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (Nepra) has termed the shortfall in electricity production as compared to its demand as fake. The regulatory authority also declared that rulers were deliberately resorting to loadshedding. It also found that TOU (Time of Use) electricity metres of 70 percent consumers were outdated and out timed, which either loot the consumer or deprive the government from justified charges.

The increase in losses is despite the fact that over-billing has been admitted as a regular practice in the power distribution system

Nepra, in its Annual Report 2014-15, criticised the performance of Water and Power Ministry saying the power shortfall and loadshedding were being done deliberately. Managements of government thermal

power plants have deliberately kept the power plants closed, it said. The same report confirms that Nepra has allowed distribution companies (Discos) to increase their losses to 15.3 percent under the government's official plan for managing circular debt agreed with the IMF as it prepares these Discos for privatisation. The increase in losses is despite the fact that over-billing has been admitted as a regular practice in the power distribution system. The Nepra report confirms that the power generation and distribution system in the country faces a number of systemic problems that cannot be solved by adding more generation capacity to the power grid. With most feeders running at more than their sanctioned load, there is a simple explanation for the frequency with which transformers continue to trip. Similarly, metering rooms, lines and poles remain in poor condition. The situation is the same for public and private sector distribution and generation companies. The fact that all power companies in all sectors failed to meet generation, transmission and distribution standards is highly alarming, but cannot be new information for the country's power bureaucracy. It seems that complacency is the order of the day when it comes to the country's power needs with the government only busy in launching glamorous projects instead of undertaking the dirty work that is needed to repair Pakistan's faltering electricity grid. The PTI has responded to the Nepra report by demanding the removal of the government's power

ministers, Khwaja Asif and Abid Sher Ali; the party has also asked for a refund of undue amounts collected from consumers. The trouble is that the problems in the power sector go beyond the ministers in charge of the key sector in the economy. Yes, there is certainly cause to back the claim that the government needs to return overcharged amounts to citizens, but that will open another Pandora's box in the power sector. If anything, the Nepra report indicates that this box will need to be opened before anything is solved in the troubled sector.

On the other hand, PTI leader Asad Umar told the National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (Nepra) that the power sector is sustaining huge loss of Rs 1 billion a day despite the 80 per cent increase in tariff by the government. On top of it, the government has fleeced the masses of more than Rs 70 billion for which the court is requested to play its role in ordering the return of the said amount to consumers.

NA Opposition members demanded the removal of both Federal Minister and Minister of State for Water and Power after Nepra held them responsible for electricity loadshedding and over-billing. ■



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Climate change worst-hit agriculture, fisheries & livestock in Pakistan



“Pakistan is the sixth most populous country in the world. It is geographically located in a region that is likely to be affected most by climate change. Pakistan is in the list of top ten countries which are the most vulnerable to climate change”

Climate change has become the global reality and almost the whole world acknowledges it. It is considered one of the most dangerous phenomena of 21st century. This phenomenon poses serious threat to various countries. Pakistan is considered one of the most vulnerable countries facing the threat of climate change.

Pakistan is the sixth most populous country in the world. It is geographically located in a region that is likely to be affected most by climate change. Pakistan is included in the list of top ten countries which are the most vulnerable to climate change.

According to World Wide Fund for Nature-Pakistan's (WWF-Pakistan) climate change is adversely affecting different sectors particularly agriculture, fisheries and livestock in Pakistan.

Experts, academics, government officials and civil society activists discussed Pakistan's vulnerability to climate change of Pakistan sey Paris. The two major areas of concern discussed were the impact of climate change on the agriculture sector and water scarcity. Now it has crossed mid-November,” University of Agriculture Faisalabad (UAF) Vice Chan-

cellor Iqrar Ahmed Khan observed while discussing the impact of changing weather patterns. Khan said two major changes had impacted crops' growth cycle. He said these were a rise in temperature and the erratic behaviour of precipitation. He stressed the need for agronomic diversity, since Pakistan's agriculture sector largely focused on growing wheat, rice, cotton and sugarcane. He said there was a need to look into new technology to conserve water. “We

Ten of the world's leading oil and gas companies vowed to help fight climate change, notably by shifting towards cleaner natural gas

also need to grow crops that are more water efficient,” Khan said. He stressed the need to maintain a balance between development — citing the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor — and the environment which would inevitably be degraded by the huge increase in traffic this would bring. He went on

to be scathing about the developmental choices that Pakistan was making, saying they were redolent of the 1950s and 1960s rather than 2015. ‘Climate literacy’ needs to be the new buzz-phrase though whether it will ever gain currency outside the halls of academia is an open question.

There is no push to include climate literacy in the ramshackle national curriculum, and children remain as ignorant of climate change and its effects on their country as they were 30 years ago. Two areas of particular concern are water shortage and the effect of climate change on the agriculture sector that is the economy's backbone. Temperatures have risen, and rainfall has become more erratic in frequency, location and fluctuations in levels of precipitation. In terms of an existential threat to the survival and integrity of the state, climate change presents a challenge far greater than that presented by terrorism or even the growth of an extremist society. Adapt or die is no cliché, it is the grimmest of realities.

On the other hand, ten of the world's leading oil and gas companies vowed to help fight climate change, notably by shifting towards cleaner natural gas, but their promise was dismissed by Greenpeace as a public relations ploy. The initiative to limit climate-altering greenhouse gas emissions comes six weeks ahead of a critical summit in Paris to negotiate a global climate rescue pact. “We are committed to playing our part,” chief executives of the 10 companies in the Oil and Gas Climate Initiative said in a joint statement, adding that they “recognise” the goal of limiting the global average temperature rise to two degrees Celsius (3.6 Fahrenheit).

The companies -- BG Group, BP, Eni, Pemex, Reliance, Industries, Repsol, Saudi Aramco, Shell, Statoil and Total -- account for nearly a fifth of the world's oil and natural gas production.

They said they had already reduced greenhouse gas emissions from their operations by 20 percent.

The oil and gas groups foresaw a shift towards relatively clean natural gas, promising to contribute to “increasing the share of gas in the global energy mix” without giving details. They also outlined technical solutions including carbon capture and the elimination of “routine” flaring of natural gas, which oil groups have already promised to halt.

Investment in gas, renewables and technologies such as carbon capture and storage systems, “will contribute greatly to reducing the cost and impact of climate change for future generations,” they said.

At a press conference in Paris, BP chief Bob Dudley said the big 10 energy firms were competitors but they could also cooperate. “The technology can provide a solution for the future,” added Total CEO Patrick Pouyanne. Environmental defence group Greenpeace however derided the initiative.

“The oil companies behind this announcement have spent years lobbying to undermine effective climate action, each and every one of them has a business plan that would lead to dangerous global temperature rises, yet suddenly they expect us all to see them as the solution, not the problem,” Greenpeace campaigner Charlie Kronick said in a statement. “Their latest intervention contains nothing meaningful that will significantly aid the decarbonisation of the global economy,” he said.

The November 30-December 11 Paris climate summit offers an opportunity to make a shift towards clean renewable energy, Kronick said. The energy companies made no mention of carbon pricing, in which the prices of goods and services reflect the cost of carbon pollution, as an option to reduce greenhouse gas emissions even though six of the 10 companies had endorsed it in June. Shell spokesman Jon French said the company “absolutely” still supports carbon pricing. “There are a variety of carbon pricing systems that could be envisaged,” French informed.

“Ideally, a market-based pricing system would be preferable to us.”

Carbon trading -- in which governments essentially issue permits to pollute that can then be traded on an open market -- is being called into question with many critics calling instead for a simple tax on greenhouse gas emissions. ■

The business community across the Pakistan has suggested political parties to launch long marches for awareness regarding benefits of KBD, saying the government should not take any pressure on Kalabagh Dam. These views expressed various chief of business community organisations.

President, Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) Sheikh Arshad has said that being an agrarian economy, Pakistan cannot afford to waste huge amount of water resources which are depleting fast. Shortage of water has not only caused undue damage to the agriculture sector but the manufacturing sector as well.

He said that the nation cannot waste any more time, therefore, the government should pave way for early construction of Kalabagh Dam which is the only solution of water and electricity shortage.

Former finance minister Dr Salman Shah said that the Kalabagh Dam is the only project in Pakistan that can make power affordable for the masses in a short period of five years. It is also the only project that can make the economy competitive and sustainable without the crutches of bailouts and loss of sovereignty.

Gujranwala Chamber of Commerce and Industry President Samee Ullah Ch suggested the civil society and political parties particularly the business community including chambers, trade bodies and engineers councils to launch long marches from Karachi to Peshawar to convince the masses for construction of Kalabagh Dam. He said the Kalabagh Dam was only viable solution to handle water situation in Pakistan while Neelum Jhelum was a hydro generation project, not water storage project. He said the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Sindh would be real beneficiaries of the Kalabagh Dam while Sindh always benefited more whenever any dam was constructed. It is the need of hour to create awareness that Kalabagh Dam was not only beneficial to Punjab alone but it would be more helpful in erasing poverty from KPK, GCCI President added. He also urged the business community to launch an awareness campaign in those areas of Sindh as well as KPK which are facing scarcity of water, by sending delegations and holding meetings with chambers of these provinces. Samee Ullah said that the Chambers should also take the issue with the incumbent government of the PML-N, reminding them of their past commitments to construct this mega dam, as the cheapest energy could be generated only through hydel resources and construction of Kalabagh Dam was crucial for Pakistan's energy need.

The IEP Lahore Centre chairman Engineer Khalid Sajjad observed that over the years, Sindh's irrigation network has stagnated. The marvelous north-south Nara irrigation canal system that emanates from the Sukkur Barrage irrigates 2.5 million acres of land. The Kotri Barrage was constructed in 1955 with a command area of three million acres, while the Guddu Barrage was completed in 1962 and irrigates around 2.9 million acres of land. The additional water made available by the Mangla and Tarbela dams was channeled through these barrages to the water-rich districts of Sindh.

Kalabagh Dam was only viable solution to handle water situation in Pakistan while Neelum Jhelum was a hydro generation project, not water storage project

Khalid Sajjad said that Kalabagh Dam is not only beneficial to Punjab alone but it would be more helpful in erasing poverty from Khyber Pakhtun Khawa as it would irrigate 800000 acres of cultivable land that is located 100-150 feet above the Indus river level in the province. He said this land could only be brought under cultivation if the river level is raised that is only possible if Kalabagh Dam is built.

The Chairman of LCCI standing committee on

Kalabagh Dam only solution of water and electricity shortage



“Kalabagh Dam is the only project in Pakistan that can make power affordable for the masses in a short period of five years. It is also the only project that can make the economy competitive and sustainable without the crutches of bailouts and loss of sovereignty”

KBD Abdul Basit said that flood damages were usually result of non-availability of dams as the Kalabagh Dam had a storage capacity of 200,000 cusec water which could save the country from floods. He said world water experts had declared the KBD a viable project. He was of the view that Kalabagh Dam issue has been so much politicised and the delay in construction of dam is a part of a great game against the country. Some political parties are manipulating the issue for their advantage, he regretted.

Abdul Basit said that everyone knows that the existing dams are constantly silting up leaving ever decreasing capacity to store water. The construction of Kalabagh dam along with other new dams is desperately needed to store adequate water.

PIAF Chairman Irfan Iqbal Sheikh said that it is a good omen that some political elements have started realizing the importance of this mega project that would certainly pave way for its early construction.

He said that Kalabagh dam is a must to control the poverty & hunger and those who were opposing the KBD were enemies of this country as they were playing with the country's future.

Irfan Iqbal Sheikh said that the civil society

would also have to play its role in creating a consensus as new water reservoirs would benefit every Pakistani. It is the high time that all undue stands should be brushed aside to save the country from that era of darkness. He said that unlike Pakistan, India is constructing dams at every possible site.

Another set up is that the country may face more power shortage in the coming days as IRSA has served 36 hours notice to WAPDA to make a contingency plan for the adjustment of its power generation capacity as the authority is all set to reduce the water outflow from Tarbela and Mangla by 25000 cusecs.

Due to less water demand from the provinces for Khareef season, currently the only option for IRSA is to decrease outflow from Tarbela and Mangla, an official source told The Nation.

The reductions in water outflow will definitely cut the hydel power generation capacity of the WAPDA and they will have to switch over to the thermal generation to meet the shortage, the source said. However, the source failed to tell about the exact decrease in the power generation due to reduced outflow from two main hydro generation sources of Tarbela and Mangla. ■

NAB starts work on 'Say No to Corruption' campaign as nabbing corrupts



“The EBM decided to authorize five inquiries. First inquiry was authorized against Pir Mazhar ul Haq, former minister for education Sindh and others. In this case, the accused persons were alleged for illegal appointment of 13,000 teachers in Education Department, Sindh, which causing loss of Rs. 4-6 billion approximately to the national exchequer”

The Executive Board Meeting (EBM) of National Accountability Bureau (NAB) decided to authorize five inquiries and number of complaint verifications against the former federal ministers. The meeting was held under the chairmanship of Qamar Zaman Chaudhry at NAB Headquarters. The following decisions were made in the EBM. The EBM decided to authorize five inquiries. First inquiry was authorized against Pir Mazhar ul Haq, former minister for education Sindh and others. In this case, the accused persons were alleged for illegal appointment of 13,000 teachers in Education Department, Sindh, which causing loss of Rs. 4-6 billion approximately to the national exchequer.

Second, inquiry was authorized against Dr. Arbab Alamgir Khan, ex-federal minister for communication and Asma Alamgir, ex-MNA, regarding accumulation of assets beyond known sources of income.

Third, inquiry was authorized against Muhammad Amin Umrani, ex-provincial minister for excise & taxation Balochistan. In this case, the accused person is alleged for accumulation of assets beyond known sources of income.

Fourth, inquiry was authorized against Muhammad Ismail Gujjar, Chairman Quetta Development Authority (CDA), ex-minister. In this case, the accused person is alleged for illegal transfer of government land. Fifth, inquiry was authorized against Dr. Iftikhar Ahmed, Chairman PARC and others. In this case, the accused person is alleged for misuse of authority and embezzlement of funds, that causing loss to the national exchequer.

The EBM also decided to authorize four complaint verifications (CV). First complaint verification was authorized against Dost Muhammad, Minister for Usher & Zakat, Sindh. In this case, the accused person is alleged for corruption, corrupt practices and accumulation of assets beyond known sources of income. Second, complaint verification was authorized against Dr. Abdul Sattar Rajper, MPA, PS-22, Naushero Feroze, Sindh. In this case, the accused person is alleged for corruption, corrupt practices and accumulation of assets beyond known sources of income. Third, complaint verification was authorized against officers/officials of University of Punjab for

surrendering the land of the University of Punjab without any lawful authority thus causing loss to the national exchequer. Fourth, complaint verification was authorized against officers/officials of Ministry of Food Security & Research. In this case, the accused persons were alleged for corruption/corrupt practices thus causing loss to the national exchequer.

The EBM also decided to re-authorize inquiry against Air Cdre (Retd) Muhammad Junaid Ameen, Ex-DG CAA, AVM (Retd) Sajid Habib, Ex-Dy DG CAA, Air Cdre (Retd) Javed Khan, Ex-Director Technical CAA, Air Cdre (Retd) Khalid Alauddin Khan, Ex-Director Technical CAA and others.

In this case, the accused persons were alleged for irregular procurement without preparation and approval of PC-I & PC-II and award of contract through repeat order without tendering. Thus causing loss of Rs. 2.6 billion to the national exchequer

NAB extending the circle of investigation into the LNG scandal, has summoned Secretary Petroleum Arshad Mirza.

The EBM also decided to authorize two investigations. First investigation was against Tahir Basharat Cheema, ex-MD, PEPCO and Ibrahim Majoka, ex-CEO GEPCO. In this case, the accused persons were alleged for illegal appointment of 437 employees in GEPCO in violation of rules. Second investigation was against officers/officials of Sindh Public Service Commission and others. In this case, the accused persons were alleged for misuse of authority and illegal appointments of Gazetted Officers through CCE-2003/04.

The EBM also approved Voluntary Return (VR) application of private contractors of Rs. 17.371 million. Voluntary Return (VR) application of officers/officials of National Highway Authority (NHA) KP rejected. An investigation for misuse of authority and causing loss to national exchequer has been authorized against them.

On the other hand, NAB Lahore has arrested ac-

cused Zahoor Ahmad Wattoo, in Formanites Housing Scheme scam, worth Rs. 1.5 billion, on allegation of cheating public at large. In the said scam, more than 1100 affectees filed complaints with NAB Lahore.

The accused persons, in connivance with each other, launched Formanites Housing Scheme in 1997 and lured the general public to invest / purchase plots in the subject housing society. In the subject housing scheme illegalities committed by the accused persons were massive in number and magnitude. The number of plots sold out to the general public was far greater than those existed in the approved plan. Moreover, there were frequent instances of duplication and cancellation of plots without any justification and plausible reason. Further, land reserved for amenities was illegally transformed into residential and commercial plots and sold out to the general public. Public was forced to pay excessive development charges.

NAB extending the circle of investigation into the LNG scandal, has summoned Secretary Petroleum Arshad Mirza. Sources said that major corruption occurred in the LNG import scandal as investigations are underway in financial embezzlement from construction of LNG terminals to E-gas stations.

NAB Khyber Pakhtunkhwa arrested Alla-ud-Din Khan Ex-Chief Engineer (BPS-19) Public Health Engineering Department (PHED) Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, allegedly involved in misuse of authority, illegal commissions and kickbacks from the Supplier Companies and caused huge loss amounting to approximately Rs. 24.00 million to the government exchequer. The Planning & Development Deptt Govt of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa constituted a Provincial Committee for standardization of engineering products & materials and the user departments have to procure the required engineering products / materials from the qualified firms / suppliers.

Accused Alla-ud-Din Khan the then Chief Engineer PHED (KP) unilaterally and illegally shortlisted, fake, dummy firms without advertising the same in the media, and issued a circular to his subordinate officers to compulsorily make procurements from the dummy firms. Eventually round about 350 voltage stabilizer were purchased at exorbitant rates causing huge loss to the national exchequer. ■



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Warid launches affordable BIMA accidental insurance service



“Warid’s BIMA product has already paid out its first claim, giving the family of a tragically deceased customer Rs 300,000. BIMA has been designed in partnership with MILVIK, a leading provider of mobile-delivered insurance and health services and the innovative insurance company, Alfalah Insurance”

Warid Telecom has launched a new low-cost accidental insurance service called BIMA, which provides Warid customers with an easy way to protect the financial future of their families for as little as Rs. 30 per month. Warid’s BIMA product has already paid out its first claim, giving the family of a tragically deceased customer Rs 300,000.

BIMA has been designed in partnership with MILVIK, a leading provider of mobile-delivered insurance and health services and the innovative insurance company, Alfalah Insurance. Warid has introduced this option for customers so that they can access the security that comes with insurance through an affordable and convenient mechanism. BIMA is available in four tiers: the most affordable Silver Plan starts at only Rs. 30 per month and the maximum cover on the Diamond Plan is Rs 1,500,000. Warid’s BIMA is available to prepaid customers who simply need to SMS “BIMA” to 9878 (at no charge) after which a MILVIK agent will call them within one working day to discuss payment plans and options. Soon after BIMA product will also be available for postpaid customers.

Unlike other insurance products, Warid’s BIMA offers a straightforward claims process; customers only need to SMS ‘Claim’ to 9878 and they would be



contacted by a claims coordinator who will guide them through the easy preparation of the claim forms. Valid claims will be paid within just a few days of filing a claim.

The first claim has already been paid, giving Rs 300,000 to the family of Javed Iqbal, a BIMA customer who passed away in a tragic accident. Mr. Iqbal was the sole breadwinner and sadly leaves behind a

family of four dependents; the money will be used to fund the further education of his eldest son, Nouman Javed. The claim was processed by MILVIK and paid by Alfalah Insurance within just two days of filing.

Gulnaz Shehzadi, wife of the deceased said: “We are thankful to God and also to my husband for deciding to purchase Warid BIMA which will help us get through this hard time. We were skeptical at first, but we realize that the service is transparent and much more straightforward than we had believed. I have learnt from this experience that everyone should have Warid’s BIMA because life is very unpredictable”.

Warid’s BIMA offers a straightforward claims process; customers only need to SMS ‘Claim’ to 9878 and they would be contacted by a claims coordinator who will guide them through the easy preparation of the claim forms. Valid claims will be paid within just a few days of filing a claim

“The average person simply can’t afford to pay traditional insurance premiums. By partnering with Warid Telecom and Alfalah Insurance to deliver insurance through a mobile phone, we are lowering costs for our valuable customers and making it possible for every family to access insurance,” said Osman Haneef, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Managing Director of MILVIK Mobile Pakistan. “We are proud to pay our first claim in Pakistan, and are glad that we can provide Mr. Iqbal’s family with financial help when they need it the most. This is a great product that has been designed to cater to the specific needs of Warid’s customers. I urge you all to contact one of our expert agents by sending ‘BIMA’ via SMS to 9878 to learn more about Warid’s BIMA product, how you can register, and how you can make a claim”.

MILVIK Pakistan’s mission is to secure the lives and future of every family in Pakistan by offering a range of micro-insurance and health products. MILVIK Pakistan launched in July 2015 and already has over 130 employees in Lahore. ■



Osman Haneef, CEO and MD MILVIK Pakistan hands over the cheque to the claimant Gulnaz Shehzadi at first claim payout ceremony of Warid’s BIMA in association with MILVIK & Alfalah Insurance held in Lahore

Mobilink illuminates Minar-e-Pakistan to spread breast cancer awareness

Mobilink has been a supporter of Pink Ribbon campaign for the past six years. Mobilink is also assisting the campaign by carrying out an advocacy drive which involves sending out information based messages to its customer base nationwide.

Minar-e-Pakistan was lit up in rosy pink lights to symbolise support for breast cancer awareness month, and in solidarity of patients and survivors on occasion of International Mammogram Day. This initiative by Pink Ribbon campaign with support of Mobilink and Parks and Horticulture Authority Punjab (PHA) is in accordance with international support for 'Pinktober', which has seen famous monuments such as Empire State, White House, Eiffel Tower and Sydney Opera House also turning pink. The famous Centaurus Mall in Islamabad was also turned pink recently.

Pakistan has the highest rate of female breast cancer in Asia, as one out of nine Pakistani women is likely to suffer from breast cancer at some point of life. Approximately 90,000 cases of breast cancer are reported every year in Pakistan and about 40,000 women die from this deadly ailment. More than 90 per cent women have a chance of surviving breast cancer with early diagnosis; however, due to lack of awareness and medical facilities women are diagnosed at later stages, which is the prime reason for the high mortality rate.

Head of Corporate Communications, Mobilink, Omar Manzur, commenting on initiative said: "Mobilink has been a supporter of

Pink Ribbon Campaign for the past six years. Mobilink is also assisting the campaign by carrying out an advocacy drive which involves sending out informational messages to its customer base, nationwide. Our partnership with Pink Ribbon is reflective of our commitment to raise awareness regarding the most pervasive forms of cancer and hope that this drive helps curb breast cancer probability in Pakistan."

Chief Executive, Pink Ribbon, Omer Aftab thanked PHA and Mobilink for supporting the cause. Speaking about the importance of Pink Illumination, he said that early detection is key to survival.

He mentioned that the issue of breast cancer still has cultural sensitivities attached with it, but we need to raise this issue more and more in media. It is important for the entire society to realize the importance of awareness and early detection to save lives of a mother, a sister, a wife or a daughter.

He added that Pink Ribbon is setting up Pakistan's first dedicated Breast Cancer Hospital.

Director Public Relations PHA, Javed Shaida appreciated the initiative taken by Pink Ribbon, adding that lack of awareness about health issues cause problems. He also stated that PHA would continue to extend its support for such noble causes.



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Flare

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The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) has issued the regulations for the security of internet banking to provide a minimum set of operational, administrative, technical and physical safeguards to secure internet banking offered by the banks in Pakistan. These regulations will be effective from April 01, 2016, said SBP in a statement. SBP has taken this action in view of increasing usage of internet banking in the country, and to protect and safeguard the interest of its customers and users.

These regulations will help in minimizing the security risks associated with the internet banking and will introduce international best practices for safeguarding this important delivery channel.

Further banks under these regulations are required to implement two factor authentications and initiate a formal customer awareness program to increase awareness of the security threats and other risks associated with Internet Banking as well as liabilities, roles and responsibilities of the customers and banks related to internet banking.

Internet Banking has become an important delivery channel for banking services enabling banks to offer traditional banking services like access to one or multiple accounts for fund transfers, bill payments and card payments etc through internet. The security of Internet Banking has become a major concern for the regulatory authorities because of increasing IT security risks which may lead to serious financial and reputation risks in case of any major security breach. These regulations, therefore, would help banks in Pakistan to develop a formal Internet Banking Security Framework containing administrative, technical and physical safeguards based on best international practices. The major components of the framework would be Security Risk Assessment (of threats, vulnerabilities to systems and customers information), Security Controls Implementation based on the Security Risk Assessment and Security Controls Monitoring. An effective customer awareness program is also necessary to mitigate the risks associated with Internet Banking. Banks, therefore, are encouraged to regularly update their customers about the identity theft and fraud techniques, enabling them to identify these techniques and take appropriate preventive measures.

SCOPE OF THE REGULATIONS

These regulations are applicable to all banks in Pakistan providing financial and/or non financial transactions through internet irrespective of software tool used by the bank and access devices used by its customers.

INTERNET BANKING SECURITY FRAMEWORK

Bank shall develop, implement and regularly review Internet Banking Security Framework based on the following key security objectives:

- Security and integrity of data and systems, to ensure that customers' information has not been modified and systems are free from unauthorized access;
- Confidentiality of customers' data in storage, during processing and in transit;
- Reliability and availability of Internet Banking systems to provide prompt access to systems for registered users and maintaining operational effectiveness;
- Accountability by designing SOPs, policies and controls to ensure traceability of all transactions;
- Proactive approach to detect unauthorized access and identification of potential fraudulent transactions.

While developing the Internet Banking Security Framework the bank should take into account the complexity of systems, applications and products /services offered while at the same time ensuring the ease of usage and customers' convenience. Further the framework should clearly define the roles and responsibilities of Board of Directors (Bods), senior management and employees with regard to its approval, development and implementation. This Framework and any reviews thereafter should be duly approved by the BoDs.

SECURITY RISK ASSESSMENT

The bank shall conduct and document a formal Security Risk Assessment for Internet Banking with a

SBP issues regulations for security of internet banking



“Banks under these regulations are required to implement two factor authentications and initiate a formal customer awareness program to increase awareness of the security threats and other risks associated with internet banking as well as liabilities, roles and responsibilities of the customers and banks related to internet banking”

view of identifying, estimating and prioritizing risks to which its operations are exposed due to Internet Banking. The BoDs should review the risk assessment document and any reviews conducted thereafter.

The Security Risk Assessment should be reviewed at least once a year; however, in case of a major security breach, significant changes to the infrastructure and introduction of a new product or service, an im-

SBP has taken this action in view of increasing usage of internet banking in the country, and to protect and safeguard the interest of its customers and users

mediate review of risk assessment should be carried out. Further, in case of a major security breach, risk assessment review should include a detailed analysis of the factors that cause such security breaches.

SECURITY CONTROLSIMPLEMENTATION

The bank shall ensure that appropriate security arrangements and security controls to protect IT assets (such as systems, applications, networks, data, and information and communication systems) are in place. Bank shall develop a set of controls based on the Security Risk Assessment document, commensurate with the risk levels to meet the control objectives. Bank shall define its set of minimum baseline Security Controls that include Access Controls (Access Rights Management, Electronic Authentication etc), Network Access Controls, Operating System Access Con-

trols, Application Access and Remote Access Controls.

SECURITY CONTROLS MONITORING

Bank shall develop and implement a formally approved mechanism for the monitoring of Security Controls. An analysis of the effectiveness of existing or proposed Security Controls Monitoring methods shall be part of this monitoring mechanism.

CUSTOMER AWARENESS

A formal customer awareness program regarding Internet Banking threats and safeguards to minimize frauds and Identity Theft risks should be developed and implemented by the banks.

Reporting requirements

All established security breaches should be reported to Payment Systems Department, State Bank of Pakistan. The incident and analysis reports of security breaches should be furnished on quarterly basis to PSD as per Annexure-I. Impact of security breach on institution's business, systems, applications and customers should also be submitted in detail.

Regulatory requirements

These regulations are subject to all relevant laws, rules and regulations issued by SBP from time-to-time including but not limited to the following: a) Guidelines on the Outsourcing Arrangements (BPRD Circular No 9 dated July 13, 2007); b) Guidelines on the Information Technology Security (BSD Circular No 15 dated September 29, 2004); c) Information Systems: Guidelines on Audits and System Switchover Planning (BSD Circular No 8 dated December 12, 2005); d) Compliance of "Guidelines on Business Continuity Planning" (BSD Circular No 13 dated September 04, 2004). ■



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PTA releases 3G/4G QoS survey results



“It is first QoS survey after the auction of 3G/4G spectrum. As per PTA, the results are based on Quality of Service survey that was conducted in different cities across Pakistan during 2015”

To gauge the Quality of Service (QoS), Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) has released the results of Quality of Service survey for cellular mobile operators 3G/4G services. It is first QoS survey after the auction of 3G/4G spectrum. As per PTA, the results are based on Quality of Service survey that it conducted in different cities across Pakistan during 2015.

Mobilink topped the charts for its 3G services with average download speeds of 4.04Mbps and average upload speeds of 3.17Mbps on its network.

The purpose of the QoS survey is to monitor licenced key performance indicators (KPIs) in the country

Zong remained second with average download speed of 3.66Mbps and average upload speed of 2.93Mbps across various cities of Pakistan.

Telenor scored average download speeds of 2.22 Mbps and average upload speeds of 1Mbps while Ufone's average download speed stood at 1.27Mbps and average upload speeds of 1Mbps.

Company	User Data Throughput (Threshold: 3G > 256 kbps)		Signal Strength Received Signal Code Power - 3G (Threshold: Minimum -100dBm)
	Data Throughput - HTTP Download (Threshold: 3G > 256 kbps)	Data Throughput - FTP Download (Threshold: 3G > 256 kbps)	
Mobilink	4044.57 kbps	3174.15 kbps	-72.89 dBm
Ufone	1271.33 kbps	1052.35 kbps	-72.88 dBm
Telenor	2226.53 kbps	1000.90 kbps	-74.41 dBm
Zong	3664.3 kbps	2932.25 kbps	-77.32 dBm

Presently, there are two 4G operators in country. Zong topped the 4G speeds with 9.4Mbps average download speed and 6.1Mbps of average download speeds.

Warid, the other 4G operator, managed to achieve 5.95Mbps of average download speeds and 2.9Mbps of average upload speeds for its 4G LTE

services.

2G services for all operators remained within the defined threshold levels, except for couple of instances. Overall 2G services remained above standard and almost all operators were closely ranked for majority of 2G KPIs.

Company	User Data Throughput (Threshold: 4G > 2Mbps)		Signal Strength Received Signal Receive Power - 4G (Threshold: Minimum -100dBm)
	Data Throughput - HTTP Download	Data Throughput - FTP Download	
Warid	5.95 Mbps	2.9 Mbps	-80.35 dBm
Zong	9.4 Mbps	6.1 Mbps	-85.69 dBm

• Mobilink topped for network uptime with a total of 0.23% of downtime experienced on its network.

• Telenor topped for “Grade of Service” with 0.55%



- Telenor remained most accessible network with 99.56% accessibility
- Mobilink scored best for call connection time with 5.04 seconds
- Warid remained best for call completion ratio with 99.54%
- Telenor's End to End Call quality remained best with 3.78 MOS (Read below note for more info on this)
- Ufone and Warid scored 100% for Inter System Handover of CS voice
- Warid topped for end to end SMS delivery time with 3.1 seconds

Company	Network Downtime (Threshold: < 1%)	Grade of Service (Threshold: < 1.2%)	Service Accessibility (Threshold: > 97% for 3 Years)	Voice KPIs			SMS KPIs		
				Call Connection Time (Threshold: < 6.5 Sec)	Call Completion Rate (Threshold: > 98%)	End to End Speech Quality (Threshold: > 3.8 for 3 Years)	Inter System Handover of CS Voice (Threshold: > 94% for 3 Years)	Success Rate (Threshold: > 99%)	End to End Delivery Time (Threshold: < 12 Sec)
Mobilink	0.23%	0.77%	99.34%	5.04 Sec	98.93%	3.51	95.63%	100%	9.25 Sec
Ufone	0.87%	1.06%	97.96%	6.16 Sec	98.77%	3.62	100%	100%	5.48 Sec
Telenor	0.45%	0.55%	99.56%	5.24 Sec	98.93%	3.78	87.50%	100%	5 Sec
Warid	0.53%	1.06%	98.72%	6.58 Sec	99.54%	3.61	100%	100%	3.1 Sec
Zong	0.26%	0.84%	99.28%	5.81 Sec	99.13%	3.50	66.67%	100%	4.28 Sec

All cellular mobile operators (CMOs) exceeded the minimum threshold speeds for 3G and 4G services with significant margins but failed to meet the minimum signal strength. None of the five operators was able to produce signal strength of 100 dBm, the minimum threshold for signal power set by the regulator, show survey results – dBm is shorthand for power in decibel relative to 1 milliwatt, measuring the signal strength for telecom network in this case.



The purpose of the QoS survey is to monitor licenced key performance indicators (KPIs) – network downtime, user data throughput (download speed), signal strength and service accessibility to name a few – of 3G and 4G networks to ensure that quality standards are met and users get the services at anticipated quality standards.

Citywise 3G QoS KPIs for Mobilink

City	User Data Throughput (Threshold: 3G > 256 kbps)		Signal Strength Received Signal Code Power - 3G (Threshold: Minimum -100dBm)
	Data Throughput - HTTP Download (Threshold: 3G > 256 kbps)	Data Throughput - FTP Download (Threshold: 3G > 256 kbps)	
Lahore	4000.7 kbps	3097.9 kbps	-72.67 dBm
ISB/RWP	3381.4 kbps	-	-73.4 dBm
Peshawar	2641.6 kbps	1150.4 kbps	-72.66 dBm
Overall	4044.57 kbps	3174.15 kbps	-72.89 dBm

Citywise 3G QoS KPIs for Telenor

City	User Data Throughput (Threshold: 3G > 256 kbps)		Signal Strength Received Signal Code Power - 3G (Threshold: Minimum -100dBm)
	Data Throughput - HTTP Download (Threshold: 3G > 256 kbps)	Data Throughput - FTP Download (Threshold: 3G > 256 kbps)	
Lahore	1842 kbps	1576 kbps	-76.53 dBm
ISB/RWP	1706.8 kbps	243.8 kbps	-73.01 dBm
Peshawar	2226.53 kbps	1000.90 kbps	-74.41 dBm
Overall	2226.53 kbps	1000.90 kbps	-74.41 dBm

Citywise 3G QoS KPIs for Ufone

City	User Data Throughput (Threshold: 3G > 256 kbps)		Signal Strength Received Signal Code Power - 3G (Threshold: Minimum -100dBm)
	Data Throughput - HTTP Download (Threshold: 3G > 256 kbps)	Data Throughput - FTP Download (Threshold: 3G > 256 kbps)	
Lahore	1057.5 kbps	1388.7 kbps	-72.69 dBm
ISB/RWP	903 kbps	-	-71.7 dBm
Peshawar	1195.3 kbps	746 kbps	-71.35 dBm
Overall	1271.33 kbps	1052.35 kbps	-72.88 dBm

Citywise 3G/4 QoS KPIs for Zong

City	User Data Throughput (Threshold: 3G > 256 kbps)		Signal Strength Received Signal Code Power - 3G (Threshold: Minimum -100dBm)
	Data Throughput - HTTP Download (Threshold: 3G > 256 kbps)	Data Throughput - FTP Download (Threshold: 3G > 256 kbps)	
Lahore	290 kbps	403.4 kbps	-73.01 dBm
ISB/RWP	400 kbps	-	-71.7 dBm
Peshawar	4007.3 kbps	1007 kbps	-81.15 dBm
Overall	3664.3 kbps	2932.25 kbps	-77.32 dBm

City	User Data Throughput (Threshold: 4G > 2Mbps)		Signal Strength Received Signal Receive Power - 4G (Threshold: Minimum -100dBm)
	Data Throughput - HTTP Download	Data Throughput - HTTP Download	
Lahore	2.8 Mbps	2.5 Mbps	-87.92 dBm
ISB/RWP	8.3 Mbps	-	-74.39 dBm
Peshawar	12.2 Mbps	4.8 Mbps	-84.77 dBm
Overall	9.4 Mbps	6.1 Mbps	-85.69 dBm

Citywise 4G QoS KPIs for Warid

City	User Data Throughput (Threshold: 4G > 2Mbps)		Signal Strength Received Signal Receive Power - 4G (Threshold: Minimum -100dBm)
	Data Throughput - HTTP Download	Data Throughput - HTTP Download	
Lahore	4.5 Mbps	3.3 Mbps	-83.52 dBm
ISB/RWP	7.5 Mbps	-	-71.4 dBm
Peshawar	5.9 Mbps	2.4 Mbps	-84.14 dBm
Overall	5.95 Mbps	2.9 Mbps	-80.35 dBm

Heavy taxes - imports of telecom products fall by 31%



“The government’s endeavour to get double revenues by increasing the taxes on mobile phone imports in Fiscal Year 2015-16 (FY16’s) budget seem to have failed, as the mobile handset imports fell by 8.49% by going down from \$115.159 million last year to \$105.378 million during the current fiscal year”

The imports of telecommunication products into the country decreased by 31 percent during the first two months of the current fiscal year (2015-16) compared to the imports of the same period of last year.

The overall import of telecommunication products stood at \$193.229 million in July-August (2015-16) compared to the imports of \$270.219 million in July-August (2014-15), showing negative growth of 30.80 percent, according to the trade data collected by Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS).

The government’s endeavour to get double revenues by increasing the taxes on mobile phone imports in Fiscal Year 2015-16 (FY16’s) budget seem to have failed, as the mobile handset imports fell by 8.49% by going down from \$115.159 million last year to \$105.378 million during the current fiscal year.

The government has doubled the custom duty on imported machinery including telecom equipment as the import duty on imported machinery is doubled from 5% to 10%. The taxes on mobile phones’ import has doubled too, as general sales tax (GST) that was earlier Rs 150, 250 and 500 on lower, middle, and higher end mobile phones respectively, is

now Rs 300, 500 and 1,000 for the same categories of handsets. However, on the other hand, Rs 200 import duty on every mobile phone was abolished.

Introduction of new generation technologies in the country last year bolstered the telecom sector, pushing imports of latest smartphones up; however,

The government has doubled the custom duty on imported machinery including telecom equipment as the import duty on imported machinery is doubled from 5% to 10%

the increased tax net by the government in latest budget has started dampening the growth of legal imports of cellular related items.

The imports of other telecom apparatus also witnessed sharp decline of 46.45 percent in imports during the period under review as the imports receded from \$164.060 million to \$87.851 million, the data revealed.

Meanwhile, on year-on-year basis, the imports of telecom products decreased by 25.26 percent to

114.945 million in August 2015 compared to the imports of \$153.802 million during August 2014.

According to the data, the imports of mobile phones decreased by 10 percent and other apparatus by 36.86 percent in August 2015 when compared to the imports of August 2014.

The mobile phone imports in August 2015 were recorded at \$60.008 million compared to imports of \$66.797 million in August 2014 whereas the imports of other apparatus were recorded at \$54.937 million compared to the imports of \$87.005 million.

On month-on-month basis, the import of telecom products decreased by 25.26 percent in August when compared to the imports of \$78.284 million recorded during July. As compared to July 2015, the imports of mobile phones decreased by 10 percent whereas the imports of other apparatus by 36.86 percent in August 2015. It is pertinent here that the overall imports into the country during July-August (2015-16) were recorded at \$7.194 billion compared to the imports of \$6.931 billion in July-August (2014-15), showing decline on 9.29 percent. On the other hand, the exports from the country were recorded at \$3.432 billion during the period under review compared to the exports of \$3.825 billion, showing decline of 10.27 percent.

Based on the figures, the trade deficit during the first two months decreased by 8.38 percent to reach at \$3.762 compared to the deficit of \$4.106 billion of last year. Mobile phone shipments will continue to show growth in an otherwise bleak outlook for the combined devices market in 2015, according to Gartner.

Shipments in the device segment, which combined includes mobile phones, tablets, PCs and ultra mobiles, is expected to contract by 1 per cent from last year (to 2.4 billion units), according to the research group, largely due to a lack of demand for replacements. The figure is also a decline from the group’s previous quarter’s forecast of 1.5 per cent growth, which it also cut from an expected 2.8 per cent increase in March. Gartner research director Ranjit Atwal believes the latest declining forecast is largely due to the fact “users are now extending the lifetime of their devices, or deciding not to replace



their devices at all”. Shipment device decline will occur in all but one category in 2015, with mobile phones expected to buck the trend and actually increase by 1.4 per cent by the end of the year, reaching 1.9 billion units. The growth is largely driven by smartphones, which will increase by 14 per cent in 2015, with Asia-Pacific, including India and Indonesia, showing the strongest increase globally at 43 per cent. According to data available, Gartner said mobile phone shipment growth will continue through to 2017. In contrast, the tablet segment continues to suffer, with shipments set to reach 192 million units in 2015, a 13 per cent drop from last year.

Zimmermann said “the tablet market is coming under increasing pressure”, with users of tablets with a screen size between 7 and 8 inches “increasingly not replacing their devices”.

Gartner added that its survey, which was conducted across six countries, indicated 44 per cent of tablet users would substitute their tablets with a different device, while the same was true for 54 per cent of laptop users.

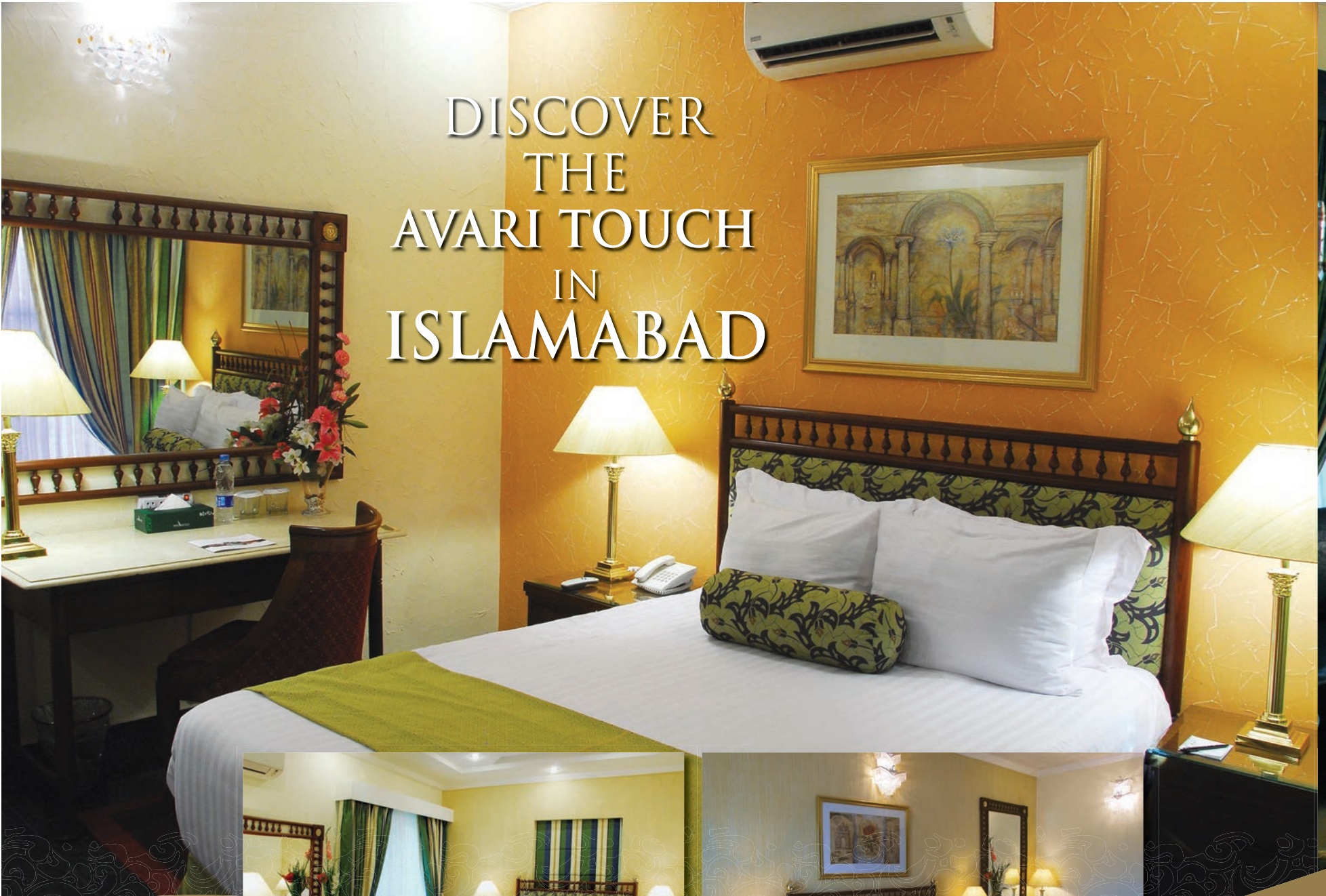
PCs, too, is expected to decline by 7.3 per cent year on year, totalling 291 million units in 2015, with forecasts suggesting flat growth in 2016. ■

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Flare: Tell us about yourself briefly regarding academic and professional life?

Imtiaz Nazir: I did MBA, specializing in Finance in the year 2000. I hold certificates of AHLA (American Hotel & Lodging Association), specializing in Food and Beverage Management & HACCP (Food safety managing with the HACCP system) from Cothm Lahore.

Flare: How did you start your career?

Imtiaz Nazir: After the completion of my education, I joined Opium Thai and now Managing Operations of Café Zouk Karachi branches & Opium Thai since last 15 years, apart from specialized area of financial budgeting, cost analysis/cost control, financial analysis, audits & feasibility reports for new projects. I also head of R&D Department of the company. My skills and expertise are in the application of the latest techniques in Business Development, public relations and the building of a dedicated team of professionals at both Café Zouk & Opium Thai.

I traveled extensively to UAE, Saudi Arabia, Thailand, Germany, France and Switzerland to apprise himself of the latest advances in the hotel industry and also, to explore and lineup supply of authentic ingredients. Many times I have to share my views for consultation by US aid, various TV channels & other educational programs pertaining to the hospitality Industry. Also entrusted with marketing and business promotion and has effectively coordinated and implemented mutual promotions with corporate sponsors such as Bank Alfalah, Citibank, Air Blue, Benson & Hedges, Coca-Cola, Faysal Bank, Standard Chartered Bank, Engro Pakistan and Unilever Pakistan.

Flare: What makes your restaurant special among its contemporaries?

Imtiaz Nazir: We are providing special that make us unique from others, Includes:

- A very unique interior
- Easy approach
- Modern techniques of staff training
- Authentic ingredients
- Product innovation
- Suitable location
- Personalize service
- Customer satisfaction

Flare: What are the future plans of your restaurant? Is any expansion underway?

Imtiaz Nazir: We are always searching new market to expand our business, right now we are planning to expand in Lahore, Faisalabad, Multan, Sialkot & Dubai. Another branch of Opium is under way at Nishat Emporium Lahore.

Flare: Where do you see your restaurant in 5 years from now?

Imtiaz Nazir: In next 5 years, we are expecting to take our brands to be the leading brand of the hospitality industry.

- Expecting to maximize values for our shareholders and associates.
- Become the most famous brand of this industry through our food, service and ambiance.
- Improve the quality of life of our employees and their families.
- Contribute our part in the collection of taxes for govt. of Pakistan.

Flare: What are the latest trends in restaurant industry?

Imtiaz Nazir: According to my knowledge, there are latest trends in restaurant industry includes:

- Chef specials
- Keeping update to your customers about your efforts
- Personal level interaction.
- Let not your customer feel boring at your place, give them best dining experience.
- Interaction with guests through different media.
- Fast order fast delivery and fast payment
- Service charges to retain your staff.
- Fulfill your Corporate Social Responsibility by donations and reducing pollution etc.

Flare: What potential do you see in Pakistan's hotel and tourism industry?

Imtiaz Nazir: I think potential of hotel industry in

Café Zouk & Opium Thai eyes leading brand in hotel industry



Muhammad Imtiaz Nazir
Director Operations
Café Zouk & Opium Thai

“Muhammad Imtiaz Nazir Director Operations, Café Zouk & Opium Thai shares his views during an exclusive interview to Flare who says I think potential of hospitality industry in Pakistan is huge as we see eating out habits of Pakistanis are increasing day-by-day”

Pakistan is huge as we see eating out habits of Pakistanis are increasing day-by-day, whenever we travel abroad we can see that growth of hospitality industry in Pakistan is not less from any other country but if we get and utilize our best resources and follow certain SOPs. No doubt, many outlets are closing every month but even then we can see all international brands showing their interest in markets and doing business successfully. If our government fully gets control on terrorism, I can see double growth of hospitality industry in coming years.

Flare: What are the challenges restaurant industries faces now?

Imtiaz Nazir: I think main challenges of this industry are:

- Few government policies.
- Terrorism
- Shortage of gas & electricity
- Inflation
- Lack of qualified staff
- Non availability of authentic ingredients
- Staff movement

Flare: How can we handle these challenges?

Imtiaz Nazir: First of all if our government fully gets control on terrorism, I can see double growth of hospitality industry. Qualified staff in the relevant fields and proper supply of basic utilities can overcome these challenges.

Flare: Are you satisfied with the quality of fresh graduates being trained by hotel schools in Pakistan?

Imtiaz Nazir: If we talk about hospitality staff, few years back we can surely say that we were always lack-

ing trained and qualified staff but during last few years we are in much better position and getting trained staff almost in every field but I think still we need universities for hospitality industry in Pakistan where we can get advance level of research and development or I suggest if we can at least have a separate hospitality departments in all existing universities.

Flare: What qualities make one suitable to serve in this profession?

Imtiaz Nazir: Dedication, passion, commitment, leadership, communication skills, time devotion and relevant education are few qualities which can be suitable for someone to serve in this profession.

Flare: What is the one thing that makes a guest really angry?

Imtiaz Nazir: I think if any guest is not being properly attended & listened his requirements it makes him angry as proper attention towards his requirements will solve too many problems.

Flare: Since restaurant business is a very demanding field, how do you maintain work-life balance?

Imtiaz Nazir: No doubt, restaurant business is very demanding, its my passion to work in this industry & I love to work for long time every day. I feel you have to be present physically & from your soul & mind on this business all the time, but I always spend holidays with my family, enjoy with them in different games and watching movies etc and also some time with my friends, especially when I am in town I myself drop my kids to school. ■

Landline's significance in the age of smartphones



“Not to mention that listing of a fixed voice number creates trust in the mind of customers as it shows permanency. Loss of signal while using mobile phones is another reason to also have a home or office phone as well. For businesses, every second and every minute is important and low reception quality of mobile networks and can lead to ambiguities or missing that one important customer”

Presence of a robust fixed voice telephony channel is imperative for businesses today. From small shops to startup firms and mid size businesses to large organizations all require a fixed connectivity medium which is reliable and cost effective. At the same time, with the popularity of mobile phones growing across the globe, we tend to forget the importance of our reliable landline phone service.

While mobile phones are at the forefront of phone communication these days, significance of landline service cannot be underestimated. Comparing to mobile phones, the overall, local and long distance calls through fixed voice telephony



are cheaper. The quality is higher and for businesses and organizations which require secured connectivity, the value is even more as landlines are more difficult to hack than mobile phones.

Not to mention that listing of a fixed voice number creates trust in the mind of customers as it shows permanency. Loss of signal while using mobile phones is another reason to also have a home or office phone as well. For businesses, every second and every minute is important and low reception quality of mobile networks and can lead to ambiguities or missing that one important

customer. One aspect of fixed line telephony which is largely overlooked is the trust that it arouses. People feel more assured while conducting transactions and deals with businesses which have a permanent landline number. At the same time, starts-ups and proprietorships also get the leverage during various verifications for which landline number is necessary.

In Pakistan as well, landline voice telephony is considered as the biggest and cheapest communication tool available to businesses

In Pakistan as well, landline voice telephony is considered as the biggest and cheapest communication tool available to businesses. PTCL's fixed voice telephony has particularly played a catalytic role in social, cultural, economic and financial growth of the country, as the service has remained the primary voice connectivity medium.

Businesses can tap into the various fixed line services of PTCL such as toll-free number and Universal Access Number (UAN) to increase profitability and provide corporate customers essential business continuity solutions. Toll-Free numbers enables organizations to create a toll-free service plan specifically tailored to their company's needs which is easily accessible from anywhere in the country, offers improved accessibility to the calling party and is cost-effective.

The 24/7 PTCL landline communication platforms offer businesses to connect and build relationships with their local and international customers, suppliers as well as vendors and extend reach. The significance and importance of landline number cannot be denied for organizations and for customers and business should focus on

maintaining alternative means of communications for customers other than just mobile connectivity.

Pakistan Telecommunication Company Limited (PTCL) is one of the most reputed and well known divisions in Pakistan.

This sector has been fully accountable for removing the distances and allows the people to get connected with the several miles away people through telephones. If we look back in the past then PTCL has always thought about their customer's convenience and easiness levels and for that reason they have so far highlighted many less rated packages and offers.



Recently, PTCL has introduced landline calls facilities on mobile through Smartlink App. The internet-based Smartlink application also allows the PTCL customers to watch 150 channels on SmartTV.

Before the introduction of Smartlink, the crystal clear landlines calling experience on mobile phones was neither as simplest nor smartest, nor were its landline tariffs such inexpensive. The app also enables the customers to enjoy high-quality and immaculate video calling experience, irrespective of what their location is. ■

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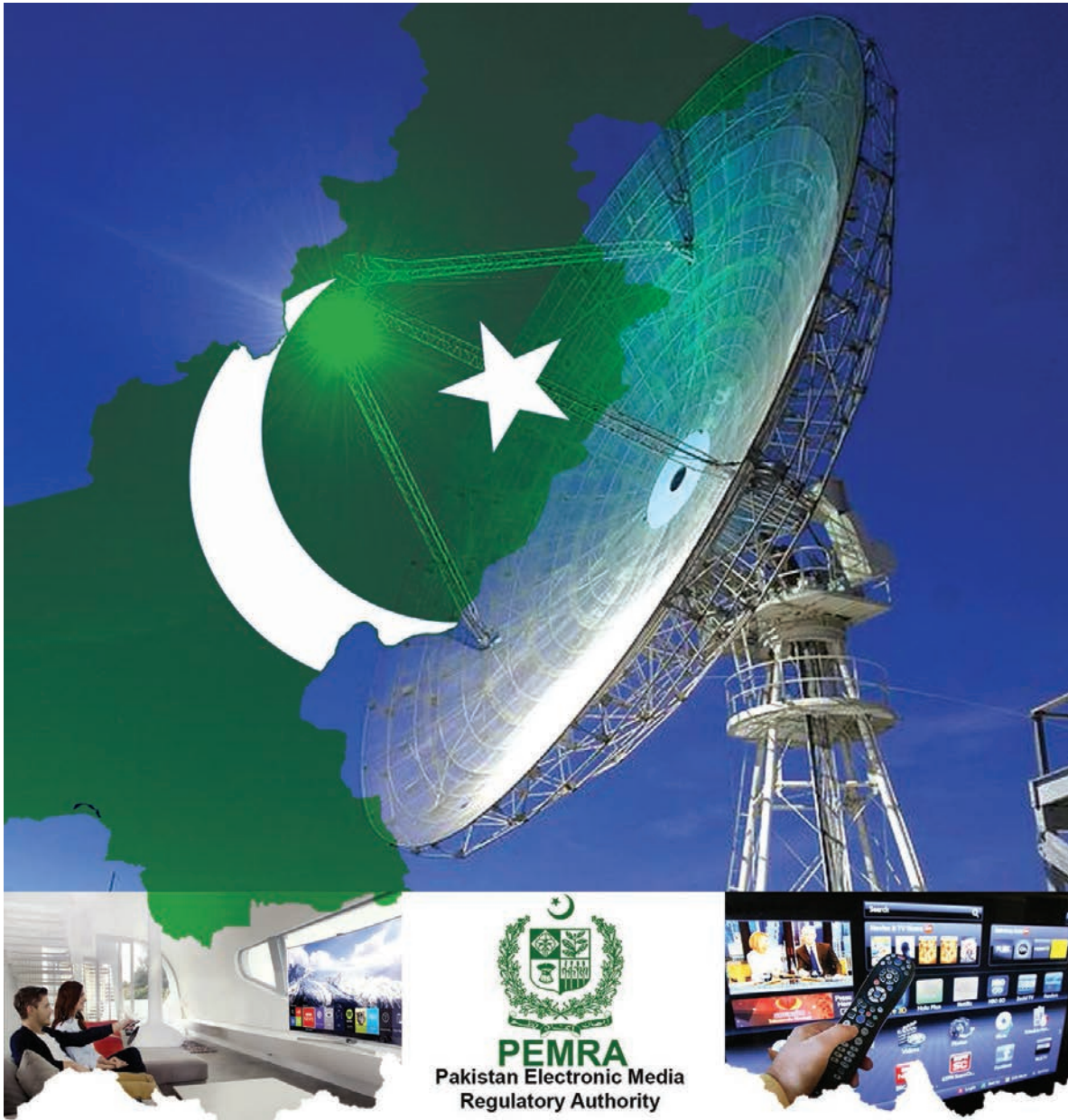
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PEMRA to award DTH licenses in December



“Acting Chairman PEMRA Kamal Uddin Tipu in his welcome address, informed the participants that PEMRA has initiated the licensing regime of Direct to Home (DTH) services in Pakistan which is an alternate mode of delivery of TV channels through satellite”

Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority (PEMRA) held pre-bid conference to award DTH licenses recently at Auditorium PEMRA Headquarters, Islamabad. A large number of potential investors, about 25 local companies, mobile network operators and international players including Chinese and Russian companies attend the conference.

Following companies representatives were participated in the PEMRA DTH pre-bid conference.

Netsat (Pvt) Ltd, Karachi, Rockville Technologies (Pvt) Ltd, DTH Pak Operations, Parus Media & Broadcast, Islamabad, PTCL, Mobilink, DTECH Pakistan, Unified Ventures (Pvt) Ltd, Islamabad, Classic Broadcasting (Pvt) Ltd, Ministry of IT, NTC, Paksat International, ABS Global Ltd (ABS Satellite), Ufone, Tech Access Pakistan (Pvt) Ltd, Telenor Pakistan, Multinet Pakistan Pvt Ltd, Virtual University Pakistan, Seven Sigma Technologies Pvt Ltd, Shahzad International Group of Companies, Pak Datacom Ltd, Army Welfare Trust, Concept Pvt Ltd and Seronic (Pvt) Ltd.

Acting Chairman PEMRA Kamal Uddin Tipu in his welcome address, informed the participants that PEMRA has initiated the licensing regime of Direct to Home (DTH) services in Pakistan which is an alternate mode of delivery of TV channels through satellite.

DTH is a digital satellite distribution platform

for delivery of television channels directly to viewers without the need for any intermediary. The service is state-of-the-art in broadcasting and distribution technologies and it has a number of advantages including enhanced channel carrying capacity, better quality of picture & sound, value added services such EPG (electronic program guide), parental control, VOD (video on demand), Push, VoD, PVR (personal video recorder), time scheduling etc.

He said that PEMRA had hired services of an international consultant like M/s Digital Strategy Consulting and Service Switzerland after a competitive bidding process to ensure transparency in award of DTH Licenses in Pakistan. The contract was awarded in March this year and the recommendations of Consultant were approved by the Authority in August, 2015.

Wakeel Khan Director General (Licensing) PEMRA, in his detailed presentation to potential investors explained about Information Memorandum (IM) for DTH Licensing.

The participants were briefed about the eligibility criteria, the bidding /auctioning methodology and other steps of the licensing process that will be followed for the grant of DTH licenses.

They were told that all the information regarding the licensing process has already been uploaded on PEMRA website and the information can easily be accessed by all prospective applicants.

This has been done in order to ensure that the whole licensing process is conducted in an open, fair and transparent manner. He informed that an advertisement inviting application was published in newspapers on September 10, 2015 while uploading the Information Memorandum (IM) containing eligibility criteria, License Terms and condition, application forms etc on the same day.

Participants were informed that the deadline for submission of applications is November 15, 2015. The bidding for the award of licenses would be conducted on December 7, 2015. While referring the relevant clauses of Information Memorandum (IM), he informed that three licenses of DTH would be awarded through bidding under Section 19 of PEMRA Ordinance 2002.

PEMRA efforts in curbing the menace of illegal DTH were also highlighted. Participants were told that an advertisement informing general public and warning cable TV operators to stop using illegal

DTH has been widely published in all leading newspapers. Crackdowns against cable operators who are using illegal DTH for further distribution of channels are also initiated. Participants were told that strategy to phase out illegal DTH has been crafted on Canadian model.

The DTH pre-bid conference concluded with note of thanks from the Acting Chairman PEMRA, Kamal Uddin Tipu who reiterated the fair and transparent award of Licensing Process for DTH under Rules and Regulations.

On the other hand, India continues to remain the most important market for DTH pay-TV in Asia Pacific, active direct to home (DTH) subscribers in the country are projected to touch 75 million by 2023 from 45.9 million in 2015.

Additionally, total Asia Pacific DTH pay-TV subscribers grew nine per cent in 2014 to more than 61 million in 2014 while industry revenue grew five per cent to top \$9 billion, according to the MPA research.

While India, Malaysia and the Philippines continue to remain strong DTH markets, Indonesia, Korea and Japan are coming under increased pressure. MPA projections indicate that total Asia Pacific DTH industry pay-TV revenue will grow at seven per cent CAGR to \$12.5 billion by 2019 and thereafter grow to reach \$15 billion by 2023, with significant upside coming from HD and VoD-driven value added services (VAS).

DTH's share of total pay-TV subscribers in Asia Pacific will grow from 12 per cent to 22 per cent over the next 10 years. In recent years, DTH has experi-

Wakeel Khan Director General (Licensing) PEMRA, in his detailed presentation to potential investors explained about Information Memorandum (IM) for DTH Licensing

enced a significant phase of growth in Asia, driven by the expansion of DTH pay-TV in India, South-east Asia and Korea. However, the growth of broadband, IPTV and OTT is placing a natural limit on future growth while macro concerns and aggressive competition are also challenging.

The Philippines has also emerged as a strong market for DTH growth in recent years, driven by Cignal and Gsat. Total DTH pay-TV subs reached 1.06 million in 2014 and will rise 3x over the next decade with future upside coming from significant HD growth and package upselling, which will help boost ARPU.

DTH will also play an important role in the growth of pay-TV in Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Malaysia and Vietnam but its growth remains capped in markets such as Indonesia and Thailand. However, in Indonesia there could be significantly more upside if leading operators convert the existing free satellite market to pay-TV (starting with a low cost offer) and programme more premium local pay channels. ■

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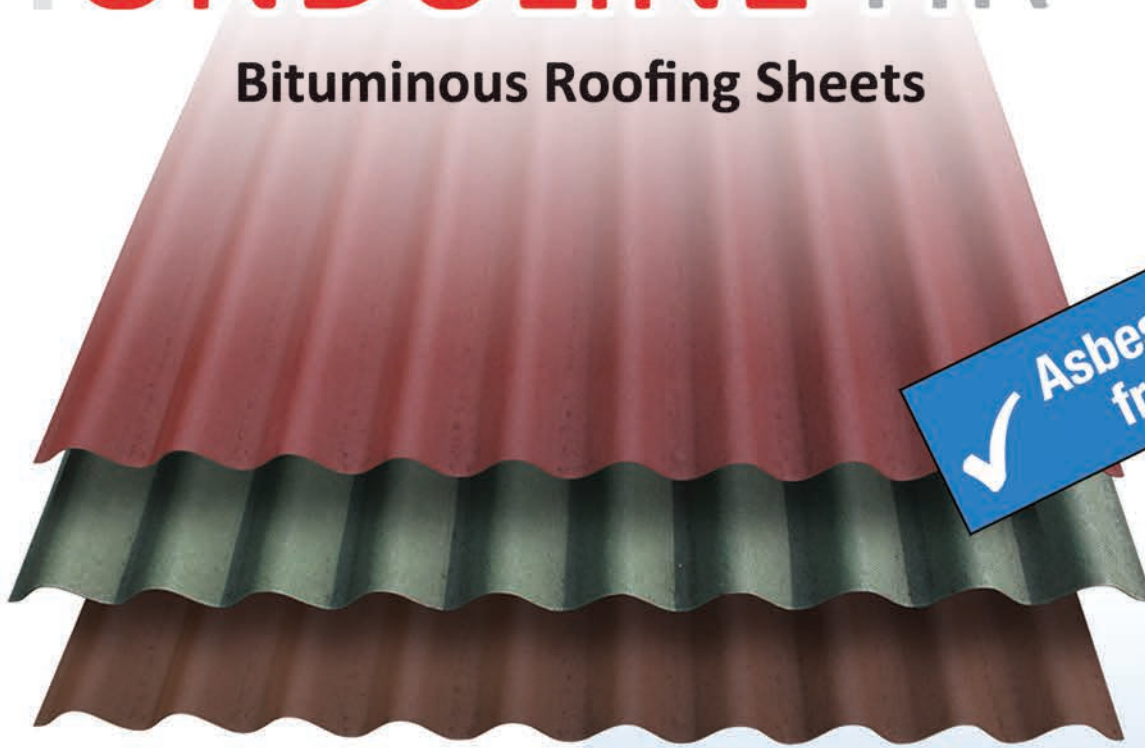
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EXTREMISM & EXPORTING TERRORISM INDIA IS AT WAR WITH ITSELF

Recently many reports and incidents exposed the tall claim of India as the biggest democracy in the world because it crushing minorities as government policy, sponsors terrorism, exports fake medicines, dishonor women, slain girls before or just after birth. Other than this she has the highest number of suicides in the world, slow economy, unhygienic food, pollution and much more. Moody government is just trying to create new issues to get attention and support from extremist groups.

The human right violations in India are worst in the world. The state does not respect minorities, women and girls the vulnerable segment of its society. Atrocities, molestation, female infanticide, dowry death and honor killings are a proof of India as a failed state in the region.

India is the most dangerous place in the world to be a girl, with females almost twice as likely to die before reaching the age of five, according to new UN figures. Global terror index: India ranks 6th on the Global Terrorism Index (GTI), ahead of even Yemen, Somalia, Russia and Egypt.

The latest incidents happened recently proof that India is terrorist country where nobody is safe even tourists avoid to visit India as a Japanese woman was raped in Jaipur. Another American tourist victimized gang-raped in New Delhi. A gang of robbers struck a Christian school and raped a 71-year-old nun. Australian couple threatened to 'skin him' and sexually abused his girlfriend. The number of rape cases registered has "dramatically" increased since 2013 which is a matter of "deep concern", government told Rajya Sabha.

Internet services suspended in Rajkot as a hard-liner Hardik Patel threatened to block the way of Indian and South Africa teams to Rajkot stadium, where the third ODI match of the Gandhi Mandela series was being held.

Jammu and Kashmir Independent MLA Engineer Rashid was blackened with ink and paint by three extremists, allegedly belonging to a Hindu extremist group, who were angry with him over his

'beef party', evoking condemnation from various quarters. Hindu community also committed blasphemy of the Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji (holy book for Sikhs).

If we talk about its economy, India's economic freedom score is 54.6, making it 128th freest economy in the 2015 Index. Its score is down by 1.1 points from last year, with modest improvements in business freedom, property rights, and freedom

The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) reckons that 75% of the world's total supply of fake drugs originated from India.

from corruption offset by declines in labor freedom and trade freedom. India is ranked 26th out of 41 countries in the Asia Pacific region, and its overall score continues to low in the regional and world averages.

India's level of economic freedom is unchanged over last five years. The state's presence in the economy remains extensive through state-owned enterprises and wasteful subsidy programs that cause chronically high budget deficits. In the absence of a well-functioning legal and regulatory framework, a weak rule of law exacerbated by corruption in many areas of economic activity undermines the emergence of a more vibrant private

sector. India remains a "mostly unfree" economy.

India accounted for the largest number of poor people in any country of the world, but its poverty rate was lowest among countries having large number of poor population, the World Bank said in a latest report, which uses a revised methodology for measuring poverty.

According to the report, the number of people living in extreme poverty around the world is likely to fall to under 10% of the global population in 2015, as it gave fresh evidence that a quarter-century-long sustained reduction in poverty is moving the world closer to the historic goal of ending poverty by 2030.

The Bank used an updated international poverty line of \$1.90 a day, which incorporates new information on differences in the cost of living across countries (the PPP exchange rates).

The new line preserved the real purchasing power of the previous line (of \$1.25 a day in 2005 prices) in the world's poorest countries. Using this new line (as well as new country-level data on living standards), the World Bank has projected that that global poverty will have fallen from 902 million people or 12.8% of the global population in 2012 to 702 million people, or 9.6% of the global population, this year.

Poverty line is an income threshold below which families are considered poor. India's official poverty line had snowballed into a major political controversy.

Recent strategic partnership between Pakistan and China has upset India that openly voiced its opposition and even PM Narendra Modi pressed



the president of China during a visit to Beijing to drop the plan of developing the corridor. However, China did not cave in to the pressure and vowed to push ahead with work on the project. This prompted India to find new strategic partners in the region, which took Modi to the United Arab Emirates (UAE). Modi had signed the agreement of \$75 billion UAE investments in India, but at present scenario, UAE government will not fulfill its commitment and postpone the investments in India.

The US business lobby questioned the reformist credentials of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The US Chamber of Commerce and 15 other US business associations representing sectors ranging from agriculture to movie making, pharmaceuticals and telecoms, called on President Barack Obama to press Modi to remove barriers to fair trade.

India is nefarious of largest exporters of fake medicines, the World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that one in five drugs made in India are fake and that fake pharmaceuticals are a global industry worth \$75 billion dollar.

India, the world's leading maker of generic drugs, is also a center for counterfeit and substandard medications. With authentic-looking packaging and labeled with the names of legitimate companies like GlaxoSmithKline, Pfizer and Novartis, the fake drugs are sold to Indian consumers and in developing nations around the world.

The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) reckons that 75% of the world's total supply of fake drugs surely traced to India. The World Health Organization (WHO) pegs the figure at 35%. Nigeria seized a large con-

signment of fake anti-malaria drugs with the label of 'made in India' but found out that the medicines were in fact produced in China and was imported into African countries.

India is No. 1 terrorist country as the latest report of US-based think tank Institute for Economic & Peace, owing to 624 terror incidents and 404 killings in 2013, India's terror quotient is 7.86 on a scale of 10 and is only marginally below Syria that clocked 8.12 with 217 incidents and 1,078 casualties.

IEP describes GTI as a comprehensive study that accounts for direct and indirect impact of terrorism in 162 countries, comprising 99.6% of world's population, in terms of lives lost, injuries, property damage and the psychological after-effects of terrorism.

The report observes that terrorism increased in India by 70% with the number of deaths increasing from 238 to 404, while the number of attacks increasing with 55.

Ex-Ambassador India has become the first self-declared terrorist state of the world, with its present defense minister publicly outlining the strategy of waging proxy wars in Pakistan as a state policy; a matter that Pakistan has decided to take up at the UN's Security Council.

This was opined by Pakistan's former representative in the UN, Ambassador (r) Masood Khan while addressing a seminar 'Pakistan's Nuclear Program: Context and Prospects', held at the Institute of Policy Studies, Islamabad. A number of security experts, officials, researchers and media personnel participated in the session, which was

also addressed by Director General-IPS Khalid Rahman and senior IPS associate and security analyst Air Commodore (r) Khalid Iqbal.

India has highest number of suicides in the world – one fifth of all global suicides. India yearly reports more than 17,627 farmer suicides. India has highest number of suicides in the world – one fifth of all global suicides. India yearly reports more than 17,627 farmer suicides.

India has by far the largest electricity access deficit; exceeding 300 million people out of the 1.2 billion people worldwide. India has the highest number of people practicing open defecation at 597 million (out of 825m people worldwide) or 47% of the national population.

India world's 2nd 'most racist' country, India with 43.5 percent of the population who would refuse to live next to someone of a different race was named the world's 2nd least tolerant country.

On the other hand, Pakistan is remarkably tolerant where only 6.5 percent of Pakistanis objected to a neighbor of a different race.

Cities in India among the Most Polluted, WHO says, India is now the world's most polluted country and Delhi city (3 times worse than Beijing) with the world's worst air pollution. 13 of the top 20 cities in the world with the highest levels of PM2.5 are in India, according to the pollution data released by the WHO, which included 1,600 cities.

In the global happiness ranking list, India stands at rank 111-much after Pakistan (rank: 81) and Bangladesh (108) according to 2nd annual World Happiness Report released by the UN General Assembly. ■

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Huawei launches Mate S & G8 at glittering event

Huawei Pakistan's CEO, Aragon Meng, opened the evening with a presentation, highlighting Huawei's successful journey in 2015. The event ambiance was alluring and the aura of it conveyed the matchless prestige of the Huawei brand



The much trending mobile phone brand Huawei unveiled its latest flagship smartphones, Mate S and G8 in the glittering and auspicious event held at Royal Palm, Lahore recently. The evening was star-studded; media personalities, famous celebrities, fashion icons and bloggers adorned the event with their presence. The launch event's Red Carpet was hosted by the talented Anoushey and Faizan ul Haq, who talked to the celebrities, singers, Jawani Phir Nahi Ani's cast members, Ayesha Khan, Ahmed Ali Butt about their views on the Huawei stunningly attractive Mate S launch event.

The event stage was hosted by Ali Safina and his wife, Hira Tareen. Huawei Pakistan's CEO, Aragon Meng, opened the evening with a presentation, highlighting Huawei's successful journey in 2015.

There was a series of thrilling music and dance performances by Ahmed Ali Butt with Humayun Saeed joining him later, as a mega surprise for his fans. Emerging Music icon, Sara Haider won over the audience with her sweet voice.

To add to the heat of the event, unique clothing line of Ali Xeeshan was presented on the runway by the stunning models like Cybil Chaudary and Rabya Chaudary and many others. The runway was enlivened with the performance of Uzair Jaswal and Nabeel Shaukat. A selfie booth, radiating Ali Xeeshan's matchless sense of style was also set up, along with the experience zone, which carried the innova-

tive, star of the evening smartphones, Mate S and G8. Music maestro, Mr. Rahat Fateh Ali Khan, created magic with his enchanting voice and left the audience spellbound for several minutes. The event ambiance was alluring and the aura of it conveyed the matchless prestige of the Huawei brand.



The gem of the evening, Mate S and Huawei G8 were put up on exhibit on the stalls, so that the honored guests could have a first hand experience of these, elegantly crafted smart devices. The launch event was further escalated with the series of entertainment programs and engaging activities. Mr. Fraz M Khan, Huawei's Head of Marketing, along with the sizzling model Mr. Waqar Ali Khan, gave out a

detailed insight to the audience about the exquisite wonders, wrapped in the Mate S and G8.

The innovative "Power of Touch", was the main highlight of the event. Huawei officials emphasized on how the technology world has been glorified with the "Powerful Touch" primarily launched through Huawei Mate S. Another exclusive and modernized feature being delivered through Mate S is the advanced fingerprint scanner, which has broken all the barriers of the conventional smart phone control by giving fool proof access to the main functions of the phone at the single touch and swipe of the finger.

"We have now, officially, introduced our premium smart phone, Mate S in Pakistan. This magnificent device is an excellent prodigy of Huawei, which exhibits our R&D team's expertise and ultimate finesse," said Mr. Shawn, who is now leading the devices division of Huawei in Pakistan. He further said: "The flourishing technology market of Pakistan is indeed very fertile and holds promising growth prospects which is why, we are quite hopeful that Mate S will receive an overwhelming response in Pakistan, making Huawei, the best-selling brand of the region."

Among the esteemed guests at the launching ceremony, CEO Airlink, Moazzam Paracha, Muzaffar Paracha, M&P CFO, Munaf, Xulfi, Maria B, Porche owner Abuzar Bukhari, Tricon village owner Asif Kamal and Farhan Masood CEO of Solotech were also there at the event.



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Samsung dazzles bridal fashions with Galaxy Note 5 & S6 Edge+



“The Managing Director of Samsung Pakistan J. H. Lee graced this fashion extravaganza and appreciated the community, for their overwhelming response to the latest Samsung smartphones and other innovations”

Samsung Pakistan collaborated with the Pakistan Fashion Design Council (PFDC) to orchestrate the ‘Bridal Couture Week 2015’ in Lahore recently. This brilliant show featured the latest trends in bridal fashions. A unique highlight of the event was an enchanting ‘Samsung Galaxy Lounge’, where Pakistan’s biggest creative icons, showbiz stars and accomplished designers could get a hands-on experience of the revolutionary new Galaxy Note5 and the S6 Edge+ devices, designed to nurture creative expression.



The Managing Director of Samsung Pakistan J. H. Lee graced this fashion extravaganza and appreciated the community, for their overwhelming response to the latest Samsung smartphones and other innovations. Lee stated; “As the eagerly-awaited Galaxy Note 5 is being introduced in Pakistan, we are pleased to provide this delightful opportunity to the top designers, creative artists, and fashion curators, at the BCW 2015 to experience the technological innovation these devices bring about.”

The new up-upgraded S-Pen is the most spectacu-

lar feature which sets the Galaxy Note 5 apart from all its competition as the most art-savvy device. It offers a suite of new functionality and creativity fea-

The ‘Samsung Galaxy Lounge’, was also graced the showbiz heart-throb Fawad Khan and singer Farhad Humayun

tures, to let users collect and clip images, capture & annotate webpages or documents through the “Air



Command”. Multi-tasking, Information-sharing and location-mapping also becomes much easier and faster with Multi-window.

The ‘Samsung Galaxy Lounge’, was also graced the showbiz heartthrob Fawad Khan and singer Farhad Humayun - the brand-ambassadors of Samsung Pakistan. The lounge was designed to portray technological breakthroughs with an Eco-friendly theme. It comprised of three ergonomic zones; One for Video-blogging and testimonials of the celebs, while the 2nd zone displayed the products and acces-



sories on raw wood, adorned with planters. The 3rd zone provided fascinating technological experiences with the feature-rich camera of Note 5, enriched with fascinating photo-editing capabilities and Samsung’s Augmented-Reality concept (Virtual Reality).

The celebrities thoroughly enjoyed the live caricatures of guests, the newest selfie tripod and Gear VR. For the first time in Pakistan, Samsung collaborated with Tagboard to curate and display all online conversations about the event on a live screen installed at Samsung Galaxy Lounge. ■



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Flare: Please share few words about yourself regarding education and professional life?

Ali Zubair: I am a business graduate with dual specialization, IT and marketing. Also further explored my potential in the field of Hotel Management and Development .

Flare: How did you start your career?

Ali Zubair: I started my professional career back in 1999 while I was doing my Bachelors Degree. During my career, I have been associated with Top ranking companies in the consumer, hospitality and real estate Industry.

Flare: Tell us a little about your experience in the hospitality sector, what drove you to pursue a career in hospitality?

Ali Zubair: Hospitality, to be very honest is fascinating for me, It all started when I stayed in PC Lahore when I was just around 11 years old and right then I knew what I wanted to do. During my Masters, I decided to join PC Lahore as an internee to pursue my dream. Since then have worked in different portfolios in Hashoo Group ; Regional Head at Cera-e-Noor, Regional Sales Manager for PC & Marriott Hotels , banquet operations & sales for PC Lahore and General Manager Development of Hotel One and Pearl City.

I was a team member when the idea was incepted for Pakistan's first Budgeted Hotel Chain in 2006 with the name of Fortalice and later the name changed to Hotel One.. I have been associated with Hashoo group for over 14 years now , the affiliation and respect for group is still going strong.

Flare: Tell us about the service of Hotel One

Ali Zubair: We are trying to "change the perception of customers and to make them believe that Limited Service Hotels can also excel in Service & Operational Brilliance".

Likewise Hotel One believes in excellent service quality and we ensure that each guest receives prompt, professional, friendly and courteous service with a limited yet quality menu.

Flare: Tell us about the philosophy of Hotel One?

Hotel One core proposition is to offer a great night's sleep at a great price.

Hotel One aims to cater to the lodging needs of the middle & front line management; as it gives to its customer's unique blend of comfort and tranquility,



while adhering to the quality standards set and achieved by the group. Housed in well equipped and furnished buildings, these hotels offer individual budget business travelers and backpackers "alternative, affordable and well kept lodging with warm personal service". Team is encouraged to provide good service adopting the "treat your guest as you would treat your best friend" approach.

Flare: The tourism industry in Pakistan has been affected by the political turmoil in recent years, how much potential do you see for hospitality industry in Pakistan and what are the challenges here?

Ali Zubair: Yes I agree, hospitality industry has been worst-hit due to political turmoil, law and order situation, last seven years were very critical. But in the last three years, situation has turned around and hospitality industry is on the right track and growing very well.

In my opinion, Hospitality industry will be on top of the other industries from the view point of in-

Law & order worst-hit hospitality industry



ALI ZUBAIR
General Manager Operations
Hotel One (Pvt) Ltd
Vice Chairman
Pakistan Hotels Association

“Flare panel talks to Ali Zubair, General Manager Operations Hotel One (pvt) Ltd. who says hospitality industry has been worst-hit due to political turmoil, law and order situation and last seven years were very critical. But in the last three years, situation has turned around and hospitality industry is on the right track and thriving very well.”

come and the largest part of international trade will be allocated to tourism. Lately, International brands are coming to Pakistan; Clothing, food and Hotel Chains fine example. At the same time, local brands are also growing and showing a lot of potential. "Hotel One (Pvt.) Ltd." is the best example of potential growth of hospitality industry in Pakistan.

Flare: What hopes and aspirations do you have for Hotel One?

Ali Zubair: Great hopes for Hotel One, a lot of opportunities and potential in Pakistan. People don't visit many cities due to lack of decent lodging facilities but once the accommodation is provided those Hotels do really well. Hotel presence is critical factor for any business to grow.

Our brand seeks to develop tourism potential in

the smaller cities of Pakistan too which will ultimately contribute to economic growth and the overall investment climate of our country. With this philosophy, we have recently opened our doors in Skardu and Abbottabad and are coming soon with new projects in Multan, Rahim Yar Khan, Sahiwal, Lahore, Islamabad, Karachi, Hyderabad, Sakkhar and other attractive resorts in the northern Areas.

Flare: How do you spend your leisure time?

Ali Zubair: I relish and enjoy contemporary food. Culinary Tourism is one of my favorite things that I usually prefer to do in my leisure time. And I believe "There cannot be good living where there is no good and ethnic food, especially when loving parents, ideal partner and my adorable kids are all around" ■

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“Deputy CEO Zong Niaz A Malik assured further investment worth billions of dollars in the days to come to provide finest voice and data services.”

Zong to invest more to enhance better 3G/4G services

By enhancing 3G and 4G network through further investment, Zong (CMPAK) is determined to contribute towards better technology, better lifestyle and improved experience for its valued customers.

This was state of by Deputy CEO Zong Niaz A Malik at the inauguration ceremony of state-of-the-art Experience & Service Centre in Islamabad recently. While talking to the media the Deputy CEO assured further investment worth billions of dollars in the days to come to provide finest voice and data services. “After 3G/4G revolution in Pakistan, Zong was the first one to launch 4G LTE services after getting the 4G license for \$210 million along with its 3G license, which totaled more than \$516 million.

We feel proud that Zong is the only operator in Pakistan that is providing unmatched 3G and 4G services for its customers. Our quality of services has been endorsed by PTA recently which is quite encouraging not only for us but for the industry too”, he added pleasantly.

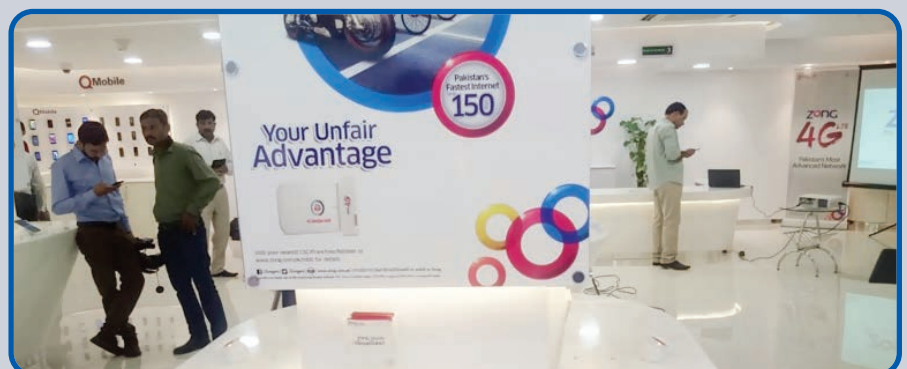
After the briefing, media was given a detailed visit of the Experience & Service Centre and Zong’s officials briefed about its functioning. A special corner was established at the centre where the media was brought to experience 3G and 4G internet speed itself.

For the first time in Pakistan, this Experience & Service Centre displays terminals exhibiting 3G/4G devices of leading mobile phone companies includ-

ing QMobile, Samsung, Microsoft, Huawei, Haier and Rivo. By visiting this centre, customers can now experience usage of various handsets or tabs with Zong’s superior network prior to its purchase.

Zong’s existing 4G sites stand at 2059 whereas 3G sites are 4591, the rapid increase in network will help better the customers experience on the Zong network.

“We have succeeded in maintaining the number one slot with 3,094,683 3G and 132,502 4G/LTE users by the end of July 2015. By increasing our investments we are quite hopeful that our quality of services will further be enhanced to provide best telecom services to our valuable customers”, he concluded. ■



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Mobilink & Banglalink both have growth potential despite regulatory challenges



“Moody's report compares the two companies in terms of their credit quality and the operating environments in Pakistan and Bangladesh. The two telecom operators share the same immediate parent - Egyptian telecom operator Global Telecom Holdings -- and ultimate parent -- VimpelCom.”

Moody's Investors Service says that Pakistan Mobile Communications Limited (Mobilink) and Banglalink Digital Communications Limited (Banglalink) exhibit similar growth potential, but that Banglalink faces greater challenges from potential spectrum auctions and sizeable foreign currency exposures. "Both Mobilink and Banglalink have significant potential for revenue growth, since wireless penetration and average revenue per user in Pakistan (B3 stable) and Bangladesh (Ba3 stable) are lower than in other emerging Asian countries," says Gloria Tsuen, a Moody's Vice President and Senior Analyst.

"Banglalink has an adequate liquidity profile before any new spectrum auctions. However if the government holds auctions in the next 12 months, it will need to obtain funds from its parents or banks," adds Tsuen. "In addition, about 84% of its debt is denominated in US dollars with no foreign-currency hedges, which means its interest payments could increase if the Bangladeshi taka depreciates against the dollar."

Tsuen was speaking on Moody's just-published report on Mobilink and Banglalink, entitled "Pakistan Mobile Communications, Banglalink Digital Communications - Peer Comparison: Similar Growth Potential And Regulatory Challenges", co-authored by Tsuen and Associate Analysts Carole Herve and Maisam Hasnain. Moody's report compares the two companies in terms of their credit quality and the operating environments in Pakistan and Bangladesh. The two telecom operators share the same immediate parent -- Egyptian telecom operator Global Telecom Holdings -- and ultimate parent -- VimpelCom.

Despite the strong growth potential for both telecom operators, evolving regulation in Pakistan and Bangladesh will prevent their subscriber numbers and revenues from rising as much as they otherwise would have. In June, Pakistan's government doubled the sales tax on various categories of imported mobile handsets to PKR300-PKR1,000 (\$3-\$10) from PKR150-PKR500 (\$1.50-\$5.00). Although the tax may seem low, it affects low-income cellphone users in Pakistan, who are more price-sensitive and represent a large proportion of Pakistan's cellphone users.

The higher sales tax follows the Punjab govern-

ment's imposition of a new 19.5% sales tax on Internet usage. Similarly, the introduction of a 3% supplementary duty on mobile usage in Bangladesh in July will likely weigh on revenue growth. Moody's updated Banglalink's rating by one notch on 13 October to reflect its improving operating performance. Mobilink's financials are also strong, but its rating is constrained by Pakistan's sovereign rating.

While both companies have received financial support from their shared parent companies, Moody's does not include any uplift for parental support in Mobilink's or Banglalink's ratings. This is because the credit profile of their shared immediate parent, GTH, is not strong enough to provide substantial support. In addition, Vimpelcom, their ultimate parent, has a stronger but still limited ability to provide support as

Despite the strong growth potential for both telecom operators, evolving regulation in Pakistan and Bangladesh will prevent their subscriber numbers and revenues from rising as much as they otherwise would have

indicated by its rating, which is only one notch above Mobilink's and the same as Banglalink's. As of August 2015, Mobilink had the largest subscriber market share of 29% among the five major operators in Pakistan, according to the Pakistan Telecommunications Authority.

At the same time, Banglalink was the second-largest player with a 25% market share among the six operators in Bangladesh, according to the Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission.

Meanwhile, decline in power producers' consumption of costly imported coal in India is a key credit positive for them as well as the entire sector, Moody's Investors Service said. The power sector however continues to face "persistent challenges, including uneven gas supplies, cost over-runs at some generating plants, and limited off-take demand for their electricity from financially weak distribution utilities," Moody's Vice

President and senior analyst Abhishek Tyagi said. Some IPPs are also locked into power purchase agreements (PPAs) that have become in-viable because they do not allow rising fuel costs to be passed through, he said.

"All of these factors will continue to weigh on the sector's credit profile," he said in a statement.

Coal India, which accounts for 80 per cent of domestic coal output, raised its production by 7 per cent in the financial year ending March 31 2015, and by a further 9.4 per cent in the first five months of the current financial year. Output rose after the government initiated a process of auctions and allotments for coal mines.

"The increase, if sustained, will be a key positive for IPPs, as it will reduce their dependence on costlier imported coal and improve their financial profiles," Tyagi said. The report further said that, assuming a compound annual growth rate of 7 per cent in domestic output, the power generators' dependence on imports would fall to 8 per cent by 2019-20 from 25 per cent currently, reversing the sharp rise in the sector's dependence on imports between 2011 and 2015.

However, if domestic output grows at a more moderate 4 per cent between 2015-16 and 2019-20, and if the ramp-up in production from the allocated mines is delayed by one year, the decline in import dependence will likely stall to 18 per cent by 2019-20. With the power sector's other challenges, Moody's is of view that the financial weakness of the state-owned distribution utilities has constrained their ability to enter into long-term PPAs with the generators. This scarcity of long-term PPAs has in turn undermined the IPPs' ability to secure binding fuel supply agreements for cheap domestic coal, as generators backed by long-term PPAs are given preferential access to such supply arrangements.

In this context, Moody's said that improving the financial profile will require consistent tariff revisions and reductions in distribution leakages.

In addition, the IPPs themselves also face other headwinds which include PPAs that have become in-viable due to rising fuel costs, uneven gas supplies, and average cost over-runs of 35 per cent for many generating plants under construction. ■



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Government takes concrete steps for internet governance in Pakistan

Participants of the workshop held under the initiative of Pakistan School of Internet Governance (PksIG), including government, academia, industry and civil society, have strongly recommended to devise a comprehensive strategy for internet governance in the country. The four-day event, organized by the Higher Education Commission (HEC) and National Textile University in partnership with Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), Asia-Pacific Network Internet Centre (APNIC), and Internet Society (ISOC), concluded at HEC Secretariat recently.

Ms. Anusha Rah-



fective internet governance in Pakistan in order to make internet a safe facility for each and every user.

The Minister said that MoIT was focusing on building infrastructure to enhance internet accessibility in the country, and development of an ecosystem to expand connectivity of internet. She said the Government was rapidly moving towards a paperless environment in the public sector, adding that initially 13 ministries will have 'less paper environment' by December this year.

Ms. Anusha Rahman underscored the Government's initiatives for promotion of IT sector and said that they are working on E-governance and E-commerce initiatives.

“Anusha Rahman appreciated HEC and NTU for launching the School on Internet Governance in partnership with ICANN, APNIC and ISOC. She stressed that the government is taking concrete steps to ensure effective internet governance in Pakistan in order to make internet a safe facility for each and every user”

man, Minister of State for IT and Telecom, was chief guest at the closing ceremony. Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed, Chairman HEC, Dr. Ismail Shah, Chairman, Pakistan Telecommunication Authority, Walid Irshaid, President and CEO PTCL, Dr. Arshad Ali, Rector NTU, Dr. Raza Bhatti, Executive Director HEC, and Anwar Amjad, DG (IT) HEC were also present on the occasion.

The workshop participants held brainstorming sessions on political, legal, economic, socio-cultural, technological and other dimensions of the Internet Governance within the context of the Pakistani national imperatives.

They agreed that stable and flexible functioning of internet is extremely important which is impossible in the absence of a well thought-out policy addressing numerous challenges associated with the internet management



The participants have given recommendations related to cybersecurity, cybercrime, cyber laws, internet taxation, privacy, national internet governance forum, e-public services, rural connectivity,

IPv6, public policy development platform, capacity building and awareness, digital economy, business opportunities in the domain name industry, web accessibility, censorship, net neutrality and zero rating, gender balance and participation, and improve ICT infrastructure. The speakers narrated history of Internet since 1950s and the story how it evolved over the years. The session covered Internet users statistics, infrastructure, Internet QoS, ISPs in the country, mobile operators, undersea cables, the ccTLD,



the IDN ccTLD, root-server instances, IXPs, stakeholder groups, IPv4 and IPv6, international involvement, mobile apps, 3G/4G, smart-phones, research and educational networks, role of academia in the Internet development, social media usage, local content and various other topics of the interest of Internet users.

Speaking at the occasion, Ms. Anusha Rahman appreciated HEC and NTU for launching the School on Internet Governance in partnership with ICANN, APNIC and ISOC. She stressed that the Government is taking concrete steps to ensure ef-

fective internet governance in Pakistan in order to make internet a safe facility for each and every user. She said the Government has launched various projects with mobile companies to connect people in far flung areas providing them with 3G and 4G facilities. She said state-of-the-art tele-centres are being established in far flung areas in order to ensure that people there benefit from modern facilities and technologies.

Syed Ismail Shah, Chairman PTA shared updates about development in the telecommunication sector, as well as different initiatives of PTA for advancement and regulation in different areas of ICT and telecom sector.

Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed, Chairman HEC briefed the Minister about HEC's journey for strengthening the IT environment of the higher education sector during the last 12 years. He described dif-

The participants have given recommendations related to cybersecurity, cybercrime, cyber laws, internet taxation, privacy, national internet governance forum, e-public services, rural connectivity

ferent initiatives of HEC including Digital Library, Video Conferencing, Pakistan Research Repository, Pakistan Education and Research Network, Anti-plagiarism Software, Scholarship portal, etc. He said HEC is now working on the concept of smart universities where students will have access to information wherever they want in their campuses.

The Chairman said HEC will hold more events on internet governance in future and will also encourage higher learning institutions to hold such events under the auspices of PksIG. ■

Wilshire Laboratories serves the humanity with highest quality of medicines



“Flare panel talks to Amjad Ali Jawa, Chairman, Wilshire Laboratories (Pvt) Ltd, who says during M. Pharm study, I applied for higher education in America because American government encouraged the foreign students for study and even released the special funds for them but my parents did not want me to go America for study. Later they agreed on condition of Umra before flying to the US”

Flare: Please share few words about your family and professional life?

Amjad Ali Jawa: Basically, I am self made person, started education from private school, passed Matric from government school and did FSc from Dyal Singh College, Lahore. I got admission in University of the Punjab and achieved degrees of B. Pharm & M. Pharm in 1970. Punjab University offered me lectureship because I achieved gold medal. I did job almost eight months and left for USA.

During M. Pharm study, I applied for higher education in America because American government encouraged the foreign students for study and even released the special funds for them but my parents did not want me to go America for study. My parents showed willingness on one condition to perform Umrah before flying to America for higher studies. I agreed and performed Umrah on May 25, 1971 and went America on June 30, 1971.

Flare: How did you start your career?

Amjad Ali Jawa: I started career as junior pharmacist at Cabrini Medical Centre, New York City,

USA and worked as junior pharmacist for two years and then they give me a license. I continued my job as Hospital Pharmacist (1973-1979). During job, I owned and managed Wilshire Chemist (retail pharmacy), Queens, New York, USA (1976-1979). During my job I did MS (Pharmacy Administration) from Brooklyn College of Pharmacy, Long Island University, New York, USA in 1976 and also got American nationality. I came back to Pakistan in 1978 because my father was seriously ill. He asked me to come back to Pakistan so I fulfilled the promise and came back in 1979. I wended up the business which I had established with hard working and struggle for my parents.

Flare: Tell us about your recognitions & affiliations?

Amjad Ali Jawa: I am registered Pharmacist, State of New York (USA) and also member of American Society of Hospital Pharmacists (ASHP), USA. Presently, I am affiliated as Member Curriculum Revision, Pharmacy Council of Pakistan (2004 to date), Member, Board of Management, Quaid-e-Azam Industrial Estate Management Company (2011 to date),

Member, Board of Management, Pakistan Drug Testing and Research Center (PDTRC), Sunder, Lahore (2012 to date) and Member Executive Committee, Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Lahore (2015 to date).

Flare: Tell us about Wilshire Laboratories (Pvt) Ltd?

Amjad Ali Jawa: In 1982, I established a laboratory with the name of Wilshire Lab at M-Block Model Town, Lahore, I suggested the name because I owned and managed Wilshire chemist at America and after that registered as Wilshire Laboratories (Pvt) Ltd. In 1986 Wilshire shifted to industrial area on directives of the government. With the grace of Allah Almighty, the Wilshire started from 5,000 square feet and now 1,00,000 square feet. Three brothers are partner of Wilshire at that time. Now each brother have his own industry but I owned Wilshire and my children are running this industry.

Flare: What kind of challenges did you face at Wilshire Laboratories (Pvt) Ltd?

Amjad Ali Jawa: I have faced so many challenges but the main challenge in Pakistan I ever face is lack of coordination in our government departments and policy makers.

Flare: What are the qualities of successful businessmen?

Amjad Ali Jawa: Our forefathers teach us that you must be positive about others and be honest to your work, you will be successful one day.

Flare: What is the mission statement of Wilshire Laboratories (Pvt) Ltd?

Amjad Ali Jawa: “We have to serve the humanity with the highest quality of medicines” we are now serving with a variety of sections of medicine and we enjoyed good reputation.

Flare: What role did key aspects play in the growth of your company?

Amjad Ali Jawa: We are progressive company because we try to invent medicines at Wilshire and bring in Pakistan. If government support, we provide international standard medicines in Pakistan, We don't compromise on quality. There is a basic problem in Pakistan. There is no availability of raw material and we are importing raw material from China and India.

Flare: Where do you see Wilshire Laboratories (Pvt) Ltd in the future?

Amjad Ali Jawa: Recently, we set a target to export medicines in 20 countries till 2020.

Currently, we are exporting Afghanistan and Vietnam and also apply to other countries to export.

Flare: What are the strengths of the Wilshire Laboratories (Pvt) Ltd?

Amjad Ali Jawa: First strength of the company is my children who are looking after all matters of Wilshire and I just here to advice and suggest. Second strength is our staff, we give decision making power to them and all the development during the past three years due to efforts of all team.

Flare: What is the role of your organization regarding CSR?

Amjad Ali Jawa: With the grace of Allah Almighty, we are working on health for the ailing masses. We donate generously medicines to more than 20 dispensaries and also running the dispensaries under the banner of Alfalah Trust.

Flare: What kind of incentives are being offered to your employees?

Amjad Ali Jawa: We give dedication of power to employees, employee of month award on the basis of performance and give projects. Incentive to best performers and serve employees full-fledged cafeteria and we also eat together and they feel proud.

Flare: Any tough decision you have taken in your career?

Amjad Ali Jawa: When I was leaving America, it was a turning point, if my parents were not there then I did not come back and 2nd target to raise my children's as Muslim and as some of my friends lost their children's next generation in America as Muslim.

Flare: How to project Pakistan's positive image across the world?

Amjad Ali Jawa: I think the most important is integrity, I shocked when people lose integrity for just wealth and this is the only way we can make better image of Pakistan. ■

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Top 10 worst Airport of the world



5- Caracas Simón Bolívar International Airport, Venezuela

According to voters in this year's survey, Caracas International Airport is chaotic, uncomfortable and dull. An absence of chairs and dirty bathrooms worsen the experience here – to say nothing of the low quality of food. Floor space is basically the only option for catching some shut eye during a layover, though the unsanitary conditions and nosey police officers will go out of their way to make this difficult.

6- Port au Prince Toussaint Louverture International Airport, Haiti

What travellers remember from time spent at the Port au Prince airport is the sweltering heat, the lack of chairs and a number of untrustworthy staff. Peace of mind and comfort are decidedly absent here, as are basic bathroom supplies in the washrooms that are cleaned sporadically at best. The baggage porters also collect their fare share of complaints for being overly aggressive and demanding.

7- Kabul Hamid Karzai International Airport, Afghanistan

Given the current political state of Afghanistan relative to other nations on this global list, we're reluctant to criticize Kabul's international airport too harshly. Kabul's international terminal has undergone a number of renovations over the last decade, making it a little more friendly to travellers. The domestic terminal does however leave much to be desired. Voters complain about overall cleanliness, a lack of comfort and the accountability of staff – but again, given the violence that often affects the airport directly, we understand that there are more significant concerns.

8. Ho Chi Minh City Tân Sơn Nhất International Airport, Vietnam (SGN)

Ho Chi Minh City Airport's rating has deteriorated in recent years thanks to allegations of corruption. Numerous survey respondents reported that customs officers ask for bribes in order to move through the process faster, and those that declined paying quickly faced problems or delays with their paperwork. Other complaints include poor Wi-Fi signals, dirty bathrooms and limited selection of restaurants.

9- Islamabad Benazir Bhutto International Airport, Pakistan.

Ranked the world's "Worst Airport of 2014," Islamabad has seen improvements in facilities and services over the past year. The airport was working to improve the 'guest experience'. Since then they have upgraded the bathrooms, opened a new lounge and increased the number of check-in and immigration counters. The airport has also been working away on a much anticipated and much needed new terminal, which is set to be open towards the end of 2016. Until then, the existing terminals are still in need of a good scrub, and crowd control continues to be a problem. Staff has a ways to go in terms of providing a welcoming experience to guests, and improvements might begin with cracking down on corruption.

10- Paris Beauvais-Tille International Airport outside Paris, France

By global standards, Paris Beauvais' airport could be considered an upgrade in comparison to other airports on this list. Located in what is plausibly a sparsely furnished converted factory with prefabricated "temporary" 10-year old extensions, BVA was voted this year to be the worst airport in Europe. Grievances from voters are detailed and far-reaching, but generally revolve around the absence of chairs, kind staff, sufficient toilets and hygienic standards. ■

The Benazir Bhutto International Airport in Islamabad is now the 9th worst airport in the world, according to a 2015 list of the world's worst airports. Every year, Sleeping In Airports conducts a survey asking travellers to rate their airport experiences based on the services and facilities available within the terminal, cleanliness, customer service, comfort and their overall airport experience.

1- Port Harcourt International Airport, Nigeria

Ranked as the worst airport in Africa and one of the worst in the world, voters suggested Port Harcourt Airport should also win the title of most corrupt airport in the world. The terminal's unpleasant and unhelpful staff helps to earn it this trifecta of atrocious awards.

2- Jeddah King Abdulaziz International Airport, Saudi Arabia

Jeddah's International Airport elicited fervent responses from voters who were annoyed by the chaotic, crowded, unclean airport, particularly within the Hajj terminal. From smoking in non-smoking areas to the bathroom odour wafting out into the lounges, few people sang praises after spending time here. Multi-hour immigration queues with distracted and absent officers further aggravated

travellers.

3- Kathmandu Tribhuvan International Airport, Nepal

Though Nepal's only international airport gathered ample criticism over the past year, it is important to remember that the country itself has been under considerable pressure. In March 2015, a Turkish Airlines flight overshot the runway and skidded off the tarmac, closing the runway for several days. More severely, in April 2015 a devastating earthquake hit the country. The airport struggled to repair their sole runway and restore a flight schedule amidst a national emergency in an already struggling nation. Given this, voters had understandably poor experiences at the airport, particularly within the domestic terminal.

4- Tashkent International Airport, Uzbekistan

Tashkent International Airport acts as the primary airport for Central Asia. In spite of a few recent upgrades to the departures area, the queues and crowds at TAS continue to be a frustrating experience. Though queues at security are to be expected, TAS boasts remarkable queues at all stages of the airport experience. Worsening the situation is that these queues are often chaotic-verging-on-aggressive, and lack any form of crowd control.



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“Flare panel talks to M. Abbas Badar, General Manager, Rachna Pearl Hotel, Gujranwala who says things are quite acceptable, lot of people are getting into this business in these days. Even few gigantic business groups are showing their interest in this industry which is a good sign for all of us. I sincerely hope that the future of the hospitality sector would be a good one. Especially in Gujranwala, people are food lovers and have sense about good food.”

Flare: Please share few words about your education and professional life?

Abbas Badar: After completing my SSC, I moved to Lahore not for further studies but for job, so my professional life started when I was just 15 years old. However, this city inspired me to continue study and I got Bachelor Degree in 1996. I have chosen hotel industry as my future and as my preferred job. There is long story of commitment and dedication and sacrifices to reach this post which is a dream for every aspiring candidate now.

Flare: How did you start your career?

Abbas Badar: As an ordinary employee who aim to grow. I am like most of the Pakistanis, a professional by default not by design. During my study, I work in the evening shifts in hotels to meet my needs and that time I fell in love with hospitality industry with new hope and renewed commitment.

How to meet people” should be your strength in life and one must learn this art as quickly as possible. You do not find a place like a hotel where you are paid to meet people. Remember, there is no harm to be a professional by default as long as you do not believe in short cuts.

Flare: Have you had to face any challenges in your career to get to where you are today?

Abbas Badar: Yes, lots of, in comparatively smaller property, as a General Manager you would have more challenges in terms of availability of resources and guest traffic volume. Yet, guest expectations are just as high as in any five-star property.

Flare: What do you like the most about your job?

Abbas Badar: I feel that the General Managers’ office should be a university for workers and a good General Manager should listen. When staff come to me, I try to teach them and guide them for better results.

Flare: What are the biggest achievements in your career for the last few years?

Abbas Badar: From the business point of view, assigning as a General Manager in Rachna Pearl Hotel, Gujranwala was unforgettable moment for me. I never worked with any of the superstar of the hospitality industry. I joined media as TV and stage compere and I have conducted many stage and TV programmes as a compere with the name of Abbas Roy.

“How to meet people” should be your strength in your life and one must learn this art as quickly as possible. This has been my strong believe and my strong base for my success in the business so far.

Flare: How do you see future of hospitality sector in Pakistan?

Abbas Badar: Well, things are quite acceptable, lot of people are getting into this business in these days. Even few gigantic business groups are showing their interest in this industry which is a good omen for all of us. I sincerely hope that the future of the hospitality sector would be a good one. Especially in Gujranwala, people are food lover and have sense about good food.

Flare: The tourism industry in Pakistan has



RACHNA
Pearl Hotel

M. ABBAS BADAR
General Manager
Rachna Pearl Hotel
Gujranwala

been affected by law and order situation in recent years, how much potential do you see for hotel industry in Pakistan and what are the challenges here?

Abbas Badar: There are great potential to develop tourism industry but the law and order situation needs to be improved. Unfortunately, tourism has never been a preference for our governments. Though, all of us travel abroad but never get together for the development of this important industry in Pakistan. Most of the time, we are concentrating on the local tourism and not any of the international one.

Flare: What hopes and aspirations do you have for Rachna Pearl Hotel?

Abbas Badar: I am highly thankful to Dr Faiz Muhammad, Chairman of Rachna Pearl Hotel for providing me opportunity to serve as General Manager. I am very committed to make this hotel more acceptable at the corporate level. Our reputation as an organization is far better than our competitors.

Flare: How does Rachna Pearl Hotel keep its competitive edge while providing services to other companies in the country?

Abbas Badar: Of course through the quality of the services and expert staff, now is an era of competition everywhere. The modern executives should not be more worried about learning check-in check-out or serving the guests, though it is very important but they should learn how to handle their people who will create competitive edge for them in the market.

Flare: How do you define good manager?

Abbas Badar: I have good command on staff and actively coach my staff on being better all the time and do the right things. I would like to have more interaction with team.

Flare: How do you spend your leisure time?

Abbas Badar: As I have already told that media has become my passion too along with this industry. Mostly free time I try to host such TV shows like Quiz, Nilam Ghar, etc., from Gujranwala. Recently, I have hosted few farewell parties of very famous universities here in Gujranwala.

Flare: How to project Pakistan’s positive image across the world?

Abbas Badar: In my opinion, our movies and dramas are the true medium to build a soft image of Pakistan as I have already told you that media has become my passion and recently I contracted with most famous personality of film industry Syed Noor for upcoming film Bhai Wanted as police officer. Pakistan should work hard to establish film industry to show the world that we are a soft country. We should invite teams to Pakistan and organise few events and matches instantly to show a soft image of Pakistan.

Flare: Any message for the readers

Abbas Badar: If you want to be successful in your life in any field always keep two things in your mind.

- * Punctuality
- * Honesty

Suspension of mobile & internet services effects economy



“People have faced hardships as most of the subscribers are using mobile internet for trades, works and to remain in touch with friends across the world. Due to shutdown million of people had affected and loss billion of rupees of cellular operators and national exchequer as well”

Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) has suspended mobile phone and wireless internet services in different parts of country, including Karachi, Lahore, Quetta, Peshawar, Muzaffarabad, Gilgit-Baltistan, Abbottabad and Haiderabad and many others cities in the wake of Ashura processions. The mobile phone and internet have been suspended in 68 districts on requests of all provincial governments. Out of the 68 districts, 34 are in Punjab, 8 in Sindh, 15 in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, 3 in Balochistan, 1 in Gilgit Baltistan and 7 in Azad Kashmir. On the partially suspension of mobile phone services in two days, the cellular operators incurred loss of Rs one billion during the 9th and 10th Muharram.

The officials of cellular companies talking to Flare informed that an estimated 100 million mobile phone customers deprived of voice and data services during the service suspension of 9th and 10th of Moharram. Based on telecom ARPUs (Average Revenue Per User) and service suspension duration, telecom experts said that mobile phone companies lost at least Rs one billion during two days.

Additionally, Rs 300 million was recorded as losses for government under the head of various taxes that couldn't collect due to service suspension. The government should focus on alternate arrangements rather than suspension of mobile phone and internet services. People have faced hardships as most of the subscribers are using mobile internet for trades, works and to remain in touch with friends across the world. On August 14, mobile phone services partially suspended in majority areas of the federal capital and Rawalpindi due to security reasons on Independence Day celebrations.

According to Interior Ministry sources the mobile phone service suspension was part of security measures for Independence Day celebrations planned in the federal capital.

Keeping alive the tradition of previous regime under the command of former interior minister Rehman Malik, the PML-N led government follows the footsteps and suspended mobile phone services in many occasions like on the martyrdom day Hazrat Ali (RA), Eids, Eid Miladun Nabi and protest rallies. This was the first time that mobile phone services were blocked after the Pakistan Muslim League (Nawaz) government came into power following the May 11, 2013 general elections. On the sit-in of Tahirul Qadir in Islamabad, cellular services suspended in parts of Pakistan owing to reports of attacks on Tahirul Qadri and the long march participants.

Due to security threats, the mobile services were shutdown on the 11th of May 2013 in Pakistan. Ishfaq Ahmad who was the Secretary ECP informed earlier that mobile services would not face suspension on the Election Day. But he provided a hint that due to security threats, the mobile services shutdown temporarily. People should get the information of their electoral area via sending SMS to 8300 prior to the Election Day. This way if the mobile services were suspended on the Election Day, they already had the required information.

The use of mobile phone has rapidly become a necessity element of every one and has become the source of economic development and job opportunities at the country level

Rehman Malik who was the former interior minister, used to suspend the cellular services on certain occasions. Making used of Rehman Malik's formula, the interim government made use of suspension of cellular services to counter the security threats. Rehman Malik faced a lot of criticism from

the general public but it vain.

During the sits-in of Imran Khan and Tahirul Qadri, the mobile service in twin cities remained partially shutdown. People in Islamabad including diplomats and high officials remained indoors owing to a sit-ins called by Imran Khan and Tahirul Qadri. What has become a norm on such events, all mobile and internet services were suspended across Islamabad during the sit-ins. However, the service providers once again bowed down on the directive of government and subscribers faced hardships.

People have faced hardships as most of the subscribers are using mobile internet for trades, works and to remain in touch with friends across the world. Due to shutdown million of people had affected and loss billion of rupees of cellular operators and national exchequer as well. However, many subscribers of internet and cellphone services were irked by the administration's directive to the cellphone companies asking them to shut down services.

The use of mobile phone has rapidly become a necessity element of every one and has become the source of economic development and job opportunities at the country level. Pakistan is also in line with the rest of the world in development of mobile cellphone industry. Development of mobile cellphone industry in Pakistan is as marvelous as in western world and especially in Asian countries.

However the point which our government took to make it possible is to save our country from terrorism activates on such occasion. According to them they stop many activities by blocking this service on such occasion and it is for the benefit of the country people. Some people also think that mobile services and internet services only bring criminal activity and aggressive in Pakistan, the earlier government postpones and clogged both solutions during non-peak hours during daytime and evening time is better for Pakistan and all Pakistanis. ■

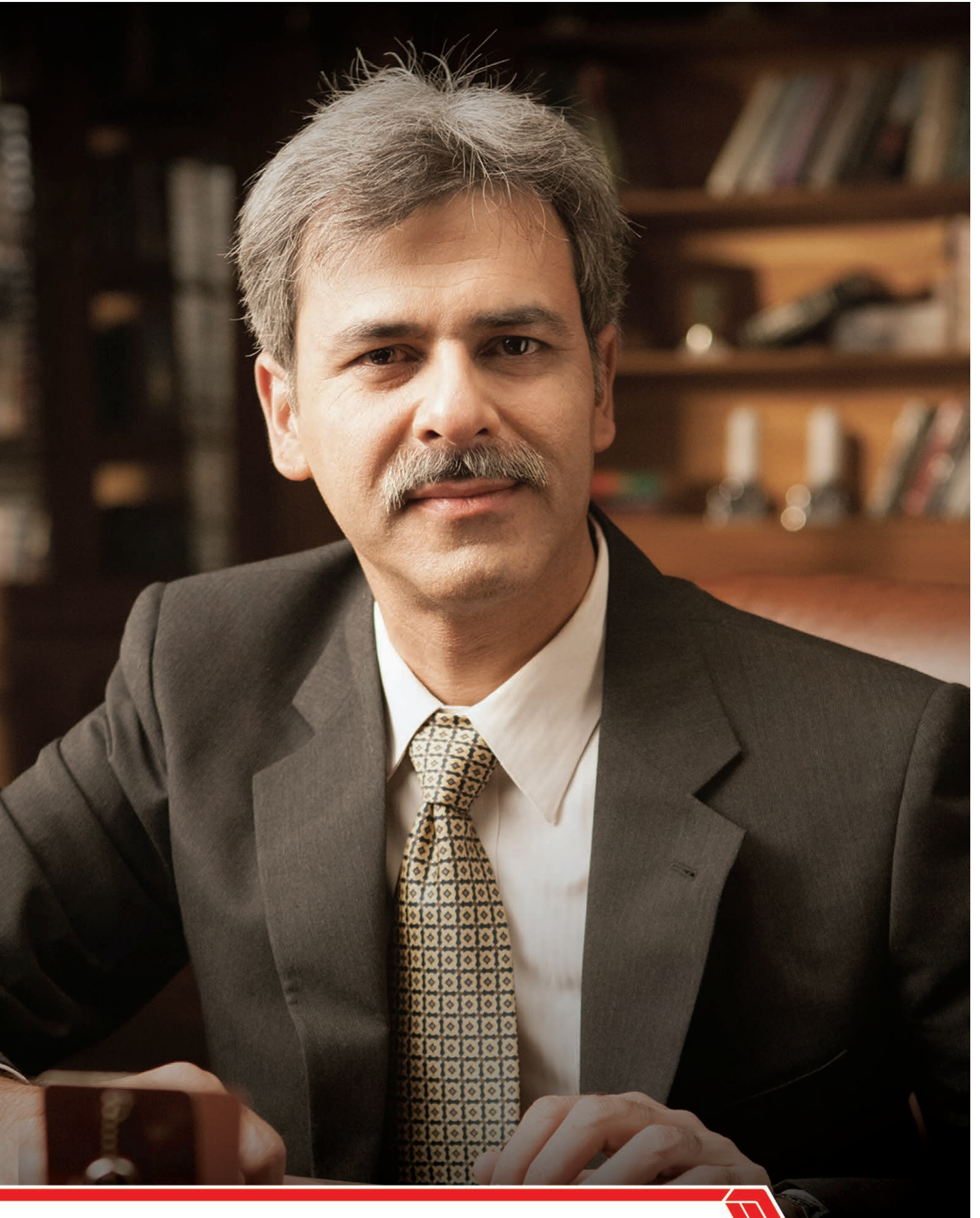
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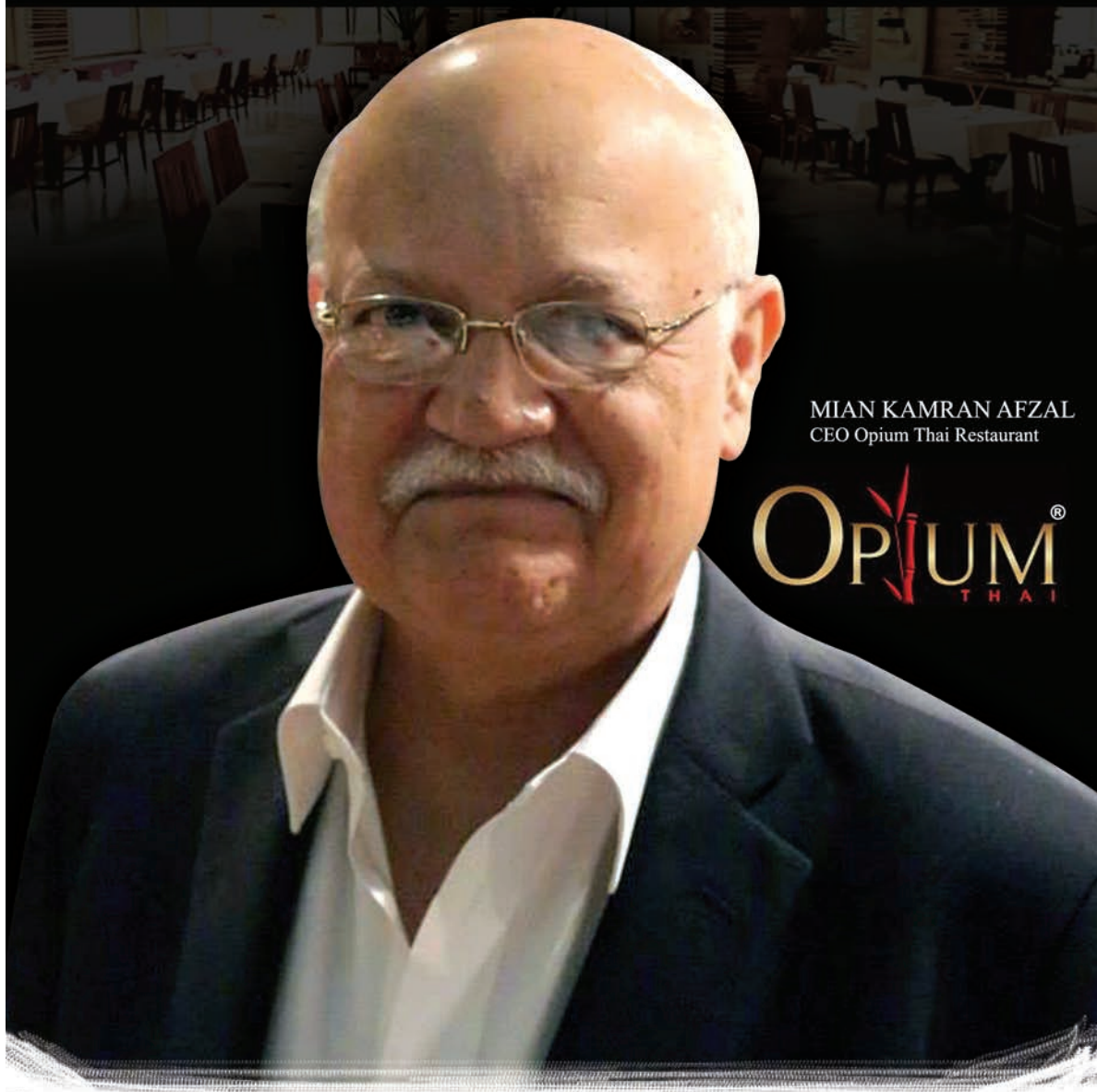
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MIAN KAMRAN AFZAL
CEO Opium Thai Restaurant

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“Mian Kamran Afzal, CEO Opium Thai Restaurant gives an exclusive interview to “Flare” he says that the qualities of a successful businessman are hard working, creating a team of talented and committed workers, emphasis on quality of the product and most importantly treating every customer as a VIP”

Flare: Please share few words about your family, education and professional life?
Mian Kamran Afzal: I did A-Level from Aitchison College Lahore and obtained Business Administration degree from California, United States. I am married and have three daughters.

Flare: How did you start your business?

Mian Kamran Afzal: I have started business in 1976 and faced many challenges but my spirit and struggle made me a successful man. I like to take risks and that is why I keep doing new things. Every new business is a learning process. One makes new contacts and friends. One travels to different countries. Since, I represent a Swiss company in Pakistan, it enables me to travel to Europe and also China where I have made many friends and developed business contacts.

Flare: Would you like to share your success story?

Mian Kamran Afzal: One has to start from zero with deep thinking about a new business, then make a feasibility study and take a plunge. One has to have a strong heart as every business is a risk but if one believes that success is because of Allah and failure too, then one does not mind. One should show hu-

mility in success and think of every failure as a lesson learnt and a positive thing.

Flare: What are the qualities of successful businessmen?

Mian Kamran Afzal: In my opinion, qualities of a successful businessman is hard working, creating a team of talented and committed workers, emphasis on quality of the products and the most importantly treating every customer as a VIP.

We offer Thai, Chinese and Continental cuisine in the garden and event hall. We also offer fantastic Pakistani foods and BBQ

Flare: How we turn around the economy of Pakistan from the current crisis?

Mian Kamran Afzal: The economy of Pakistan can be turned around very easily. First we have to get rid of corruption leadership and dishonest ruling elite then depend on ourselves rather than begging other countries all the time. We have many examples like China, Singapore and so on who had honest and sincere leadership who performed miracles in a short time. We need to rationalize the tax-

ation system with low rates but collect from everyone who earns an income. For that we have to first establish transparency, accountability and honesty in all walks of life with a zero tolerance for corruption, nepotism and inability.

Flare: How you ensure quality of food?

Mian Kamran Afzal: At Opium, we work as a family. Every person is like our family member and a team. We offer Thai, Chinese and Continental cuisine in the garden and event hall. We also offer Pakistani food and BBQ. We take extra care in terms of hygiene. Every raw material is labeled regarding expiry date. All our staff in the kitchen has to follow strict SOP's like wearing gloves and caps during their duties in the kitchen. So we are not worried from any action by the government any time. Me and my manager are very conscious about hygiene in food, kitchen and even at other cooking places.

Flare: What kind of challenges did you face at Opium Thai Restaurant?

Mian Kamran Afzal: When we started the Opium, we faced many obstacles such as constant harassment by government departments and utility companies, the fact that we were not on the main MM Alam Road etc but we kept on working hard, not compromising on the quality of our people as well as products and with the grace of Almighty Allah, gradually created a niche market for ourselves. Now we are completing our 4th year successfully. We have 14 bedroom suites and an Event Hall where corporate and private functions are held. The Opium garden is another venue where lunch, Hi-Tea and dinners are held.

Flare: Tells us about Opium Thai?

Mian Kamran Afzal: The meaning of the word Opium Thai has many associations but the sensual is more related to the cuisine the divine taste of Thai and Chinese. Its addiction is what makes it one of the best cuisines of the world. Opium is a brand owned by Universal Hospitality Pvt Ltd. Flare: How do you define culture at Opium Thai Restaurant?

Mian Kamran Afzal: 'Opium', the restaurant, was inaugurated on November 28, 2011. It is the only restaurant offering authentic Thai cuisine in Lahore. Every ingredient is carefully selected, only imported Thai herbs and spices are used and standards of hygiene are strictly adhered too.

Flare: What kind of unique products and services are offered to customers by Opium?

Mian Kamran Afzal: The menu has been designed to offer a wide choice of Thai and Chinese soups, salads, curries, stir-fry, desserts and a choice of herbal teas. The food is prepared in a variety of sauces and offers a delightful culinary experience to our guests. Japanese Tapenyaki and Teriyaki add variety to the menu. The Continental section also offers a large variety of delicious menu items.

Flare: Where do you see Opium Thai Restaurant in next five years?

Mian Kamran Afzal: Opium is expanding. Our first expansion is in Emporium Mall by Nishat at Johar Town, Lahore. We plan to open branches in other cities of Pakistan like Karachi and Islamabad, etc.

Flare: How do you manage your anger?

Mian Kamran Afzal: Anger has no place in the hospitality business. One has to stay pleasant and welcoming as that is the key to a good customer service.

Flare: Do you have a message of hope for the youth?

Mian Kamran Afzal: My message to the youth of Pakistan. Work hard and never give credit to yourself for your success and be humble. In adversity, keep your head high and start all over again. Always count your blessings and stay positive. Negativity breeds negativity. It is a waste of time. Pakistan has come a long way and has many challenges to overcome. Insha Allah, soon we will come out of the current crisis and the dream of prosperous Pakistan will come true. ■

Falettis Hotel arranges Musical Evening to its employees



Falettis Hotel recently held a Musical Evening followed by a Hi-tea for the employees and department heads where they celebrated and enjoyed the day and food together. Mr Irshad B Anjum Director Operations Falettis Hotel Lahore cut the cake with employees who had their birthdays

Speaking on the occasion, Irshad B Anjum appreciated his team efforts and hard working. He said my team is my key to success and I am nothing without my team



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Reham marries Imran to destabilise PTI



“Former high official of intelligence agency warned Imran Khan before marriage with Reham Khan. He clearly warned Imran Khan about Reham's links with intelligence”

Pakistan Tehreek-in-Insaf Chairman Imran Khan was warned by an ex-high official of intelligence agency before marriage with Reham Khan. He clearly warned Imran Khan about Reham's links with intelligence, the official even asked Imran Khan to bring Reham with him and to ask her on her face about her links, & how she was planted with Imran Khan to know his personal life & then leak his secrets. During Imran Khan meeting with intelligence agency former official, was also in the room and he many times advised Imran Khan to not to marry a woman who will never even get cleared security from intelligence agency.

Its means Reham married with Imran on the preplan to damage his party and create rift in its leaders. It is good decision of Imran Khan given divorce to Rehman to safe the party.

Before marriage, Reham was not given permission for more than one & half year to have an interview of Imran Khan, the only link through which she reached Imran Khan was Arshad Sharif.

All these tensions were started when Imran Khan's sons Qasim and Suleman visited Pakistan & went to Nathia Gali, as they totally refused to even meet with Reham.

All the stories about financial adjustments with Reham are false, but one is true & that is about keeping the mouth shut on Imran Khan's personal life & party matters which can destroy party's image.

Keeping the party image as first priority, one of the female PTI leader constantly advised Imran Khan to not to give free hand to Reham & previously she advised IK to keep distance from people like Dr. Ejaz Hussain.

Other stories like IK bought a gold ring for Reham & then warned her to not to ask for anything that much costly again ever in life, are true.

Reham Khan took part in political campaign of PTI's candidate in by election of Haripur. She attended the political gatherings of Raja Amir Zaman but after he lost the election, Imran Khan announced that Reham Khan will not take part in any political activity.

Couple of days back, Reham Khan faced another

ban as her twitter account was banned on the request of Imran Khan.

Reham Khan is facing too much controversy after she tied knot with Imran Khan.

Recently, Imran Khan and Reham Khan have mutually agreed to part ways after a 10-month long marriage.

“We have decided to part ways and file for divorce,” Reham Khan, who is currently in London, has tweeted.

The news of the breakup of one of the most wanted and loved couples of Pakistan has fallen just like a thunderbolt upon the cricket fans and followers of the ‘skipper’. Shortly after the news of Reham Khan divorce with PTI chairman splashed into the mainstream media, it became the most talked event on social media websites including Twitter and Facebook than any other news stories currently clutched the country, the earthquake and LG polls in Sindh and Punjab.

Around 2:50 pm on Friday, the hashtag #RehamKhan was the second most tweeted keyword in

“This is a painful time for me and Reham and our families. I would request everyone to respect our privacy,” Khan tweeted

the world and had reached over 2.8 million people.

The overwhelming response to the news clearly has shown the eagerness of the followers of the ‘skipper’ who want to know more about the background of most talked breakup story in the country of the recent past.

The social media has so much flabbergasted by bitter, heartbreaking and some negative responses posted by the users from all walks of life which ultimately forced the ‘Skipper Khan’ to jump into the arena of social media and requested the users to spare his private life of their multicolor responses. He termed the timing of the divorce and responses on social media painful and requested the people to respect his and Reham's private lives.

“This is a painful time for me and Reham and

our families. I would request everyone to respect our privacy,” Khan tweeted.

Imran, 62, married 42-year-old Reham Khan, a journalist, in January this year in a simple ceremony at Bani Gala. Politicians have also jumped into the ring and joined the chorus of those using social media and want to have their say and heard in every nook and corner of the country.

Commenting on the divorce, Sindh Information Minister Nisar Khuhro Nisar Khuhro said, “If I was PPP Punjab leader, I would have immediately invited Reham Khan to join our party.”

“Regardless of whether a woman is from the east or west, she cannot survive with a person like Imran Khan,” he added.

Further, Punjab Law Minister Rana Sanaullah echoing Khuhro's statement said, “No woman can stay with Imran Khan.”

PTI leader and singer Abrarul Haq, however, appeared in the media with a different mantra, and said, “More women will vote for PTI now after Imran's divorce.”

Observing the nature and overwhelming responses on social media regarding the news of much talked divorce, Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif has issued a special directive in which he urged all Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz leaders to refrain from commenting on Imran Khan's personal matters.

“PML-N leaders should refrain from making any comment over the divorce news,” Nawaz maintained. Reports regarding collapse of their marriage were circulating in the media for a while.

While both former wives of the cricketer-turned-politician – Reham Khan and Jemima Goldsmith – were the talk of the town on Twitter-sphere, Khan's second wife, now ex-wife, became the most talked about person across the world on Twitter.

Both Imran and Reham are social-media-savvy, and they both sent out Tweets confirming their divorce and urging followers and the media to refrain from speculation and rumors. “We have decided to part ways and file for divorce,” tweeted Reham Khan, who is currently in London. ■



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The number of billionaires in the Chinese mainland has surpassed that of the United States, according to the 2015 Hurun Rich List. Dalian Wanda Group Chairman Wang Jianlin beat Jack Ma, Alibaba Group founder and executive chairman, for the title of the wealthiest person in China. The Shanghai-based Hurun Research Institute adds that China has an additional 242 billionaires so far in 2015 for a total of 596. The US has 537.

Mr Wang also overtook Li Ka-shing, the Hong Kong tycoon, as the richest person in Greater China. Hurun values Mr Wang, 61, at \$34.4 billion, up 52 per cent from a year earlier, versus \$32.7 billion for Mr Li and \$22.7 billion for Mr Ma. Mr Wang topped the mainland list in 2013 but lost the title to Mr Ma last year.

China added 242 billionaires in 2015, bringing its total to 596, against 537 in the US, according to the annual ranking of China's wealthy. If Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan are included, the Greater China total reaches 715.

Much of this wealth is on paper and comes from vast stakes in companies the billionaires founded. The value of these stakes has been hugely volatile as the Chinese stock market whipsawed earlier this year.

Mr Wang's Dalian Commercial Property listed in Hong Kong in December, while his cinema chain debuted in Shanghai in January. Growth in his cinema empire accounted for the bulk of Mr Wang's wealth gains, Hurun said.

As China's property market cools, Mr Wang has diversified into media, tourism, and finance. Hurun said that only half of his wealth came from property in 2015, versus 90 per cent five years ago.

Mr Ma's wealth fell 2.2 per cent in 2015 as Alibaba's New York-listed shares slumped but gains in the value of Ant Financial Services Group, which includes Alipay, the online payment platform, helped buffer losses.

Despite the slowing economy, the number of people on the overall rich list — which claims to track anyone with at least Rmb2bn (\$315 million) in wealth — rose by 680 to 1,877 in 2015, the largest yearly increase on record and up from a gain of 343 names last year. The cut-off to make the top 10 was \$10.2 billion, up 44 per cent from last year. For the top 100, the cut-off was \$3.2 billion, triple the level of five years ago.

IT was the fastest-growing source of wealth, with the number of related names rising 43 per cent over 2014 to 210

IT was the fastest-growing source of wealth, with the number of related names rising 43 per cent over 2014 to 210. But manufacturing and real estate remain the biggest sources of wealth for the super-rich, accounting for 28 per cent and 16 per cent of names respectively. Real estate also accounts for five of the top 10, including Mr Wang.

Excluding inherited wealth, six dollar billionaires were born in the 1980s, including Frank Wang, 35, of DJI Innovations with \$3.4 billion. Pony Ma, 44, founder of Tencent Holdings, the social media group, is the youngest in the top 10, with \$18.8 billion. Women accounted for 21 per cent of the list's members, and are led by Zhou Qunfei, founder of Lens Technology, the touchscreen maker, who ranks 17th with \$17.8 billion.

Meanwhile, Chinese e-commerce giant Alibaba made a multi-billion-dollar offer to buy the outstanding shares of online video company Youku Tudou — the country's equivalent of YouTube — the firms said, in its latest push into entertainment.

Alibaba, often described as China's eBay or Amazon, is king of e-commerce in the Asian country, but is making a string of acquisitions as it seeks to develop beyond its traditional transaction platforms into a broader Internet company.

Chinese billionaires outnumber Americans



“Dalian Wanda Group Chairman Wang Jianlin beat Jack Ma, Alibaba Group Founder and Executive Chairman, for the title of the wealthiest person in China. China has an additional 242 billionaires so far in 2015 for a total of 596. The US has 537”

The firm, which already owns 18.3 per cent of the New York-listed target company, is offering \$26.60 in cash per American depository share (ADS), a Youku Tudou statement said, without giving a total value for the deal.

Alibaba had offered \$3.6 billion for the remaining stake in Youku Tudou, Bloomberg News reported, quoting a person familiar with the matter. The deal valued the entire Internet television company at more than \$4.0 billion, it said.



The offer represents a 30.2 percent premium over the stock's closing price on Thursday, said Youku Tudou, which described the "going private" proposal as preliminary.

But the statement added that Youku Tudou's chairman and chief executive officer Victor Koo and other major shareholders supported the deal, making it likely to go through.

Founder Jack Ma has sought to reassure investors.

"I do not agree with the notion that consumption will decline as economic growth slows," he said in a letter to shareholders earlier this month.

"It is inaccurate to think that the slowdown of the Chinese economy means that Chinese people are unwilling to spend."

In a statement announcing the offer for Youku Tudou, Ma said his company aimed to develop the firm as China's leading digital entertainment platform. Most of Youku Tudou's online video offerings are professionally produced content licensed from copyright holders. "Youku Tudou's high-quality video content will become a core component of the digital products of Alibaba's e-commerce (business)," Alibaba chief executive officer Daniel Zhang said.

Alibaba's Taobao platform holds more than 90 per cent of the consumer-to-consumer market in China, while its Tmall platform is believed to command more than half the Chinese market for business-to-consumer transactions.

But Alibaba has also invested in its first Hollywood film, "Mission: Impossible - Rogue Nation", acting as promotional partner in China with Paramount Pictures for the movie.

Last month, Alibaba also set up a new company to focus on professional sports, including media, events and ticketing. ■

AbacusConsulting & SAP jointly launch “SuccessFactors”



AbacusConsulting

“AbacusConsulting, a correspondent of Mercer for Pakistan, the leading global HR consultancy firm, is building on its Gold Partnership with SAP to offer a unique combination of HR advisory and technical implementation of SAP SuccessFactors”

Today’s business challenges present a new wave of HR, talent and organization priorities. One of the key success factors of high-performing organizations is putting their

unique combination of HR advisory and technical implementation of SAP SuccessFactors, the complete HCM suite which is a complete set of tightly integrated talent management solutions, robust workforce analytics and planning, plus a next generation core HR solution.

system seen in the global context. Its core methodology of standardizing and simplifying HR is amazing to say the least! It certainly creates a ‘wow factor’ for any HR professional.”

The notable speakers from SAP, including Aamir



people first. Given this emerging need of the market, AbacusConsulting together with SAP launched SuccessFactors: the complete HCM suite at Movenpick Hotel, Karachi recently.

AbacusConsulting, a correspondent of Mercer for Pakistan, the leading global HR consultancy firm, is building on its Gold Partnership with SAP to offer a

Abbas Ali Khan, Partner AbacusConsulting opened the event providing a brief introduction of Abacus and its “long-standing relationship with SAP” and how that puts Abacus “in the best position to deploy SuccessFactors”. During the ceremony, Ms. Fatima Asad Said, Executive Director AbacusConsulting reinforced the importance of HR transformation, as she stated: “The future of business must leverage on redesigning talent management systems that are driven by technology, and are flexible enough to support different business models and strategies. With our extensive HCS experience, and

Abbas Ali Khan, Partner AbacusConsulting opened the event providing a brief introduction of Abacus and its “long-standing relationship with SAP”



AbacusConsulting’s Gold Partnership with SAP, we offer a unique and strong combination of strategic HR advisory and technical implementation. As the world’s leading organizations are already investing in the ‘HR on Cloud’ transformation model, the business case for the transition is strong, compelling business leaders to take speedy decisions, thus accelerate people competitive advantage and high business performance.”

Dr. Sitwat Husain, Group Head of Human Resources at Habib Bank AG Zurich, also attended the event. He said “SuccessFactors appears to be, perhaps, the most comprehensive and extensive HR delivery



Shah (Head of Business Development for Pakistan) and Basel Alshawa (SAP HCM Lead for Pakistan), and AbacusConsulting provided their valuable insights about benefits and the future need of SuccessFactors in the launch ceremony which was held in Karachi. ■



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Flare

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Tokyo Motor Show revs up with self-driving cars & futuristic fuel cells



The Lexus LF-FC fuel cell concept car is unveiled onstage during the Tokyo Motor Show in Tokyo



The Daihatsu Tempo small catering concept vehicle display at the Tokyo Motor Show in Tokyo



Japan's auto maker Toyota Auto Body introduces the "Coms Connect" concept electric personal mobility vehicle during the Tokyo Motor Show



Japan's auto parts maker Toyota Gosei introduces the "Fresby" prototype vehicle which has a body covered with urethane foam and airbags during the Tokyo Motor Show in Tokyo



Jaguar's new F-Pace SUV is seen on display at the Tokyo Motor Show in Tokyo



BMW's new "Mini Convertible" is seen on display at the Tokyo Motor Show in Tokyo



Mercedes Benz head of Smart Annette Winkler displays the new "Smart Forfour" during a press preview at the Tokyo Motor Show in Tokyo



Honda Motor Co President and CEO Takahiro Hachigo speaks next to its FCV Clarity Fuel Cell car during a presentation at the 44th Tokyo Motor Show in Tokyo, Japan

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From its controversial efforts to hook the unconnected billions on its carefully gated online community to its attempts to control media content, Facebook is committed to creating an online ecosystem so expansive that, if things go right, you'll never have to leave the firm's social network to do everything you'd like to do online.

Over the last year, Facebook launch its global Internet.org platform (now called 'Free Basics by Facebook') in an effort to bring a select number of helpful apps to the unconnected billions, knowing that if people start to associate free Internet with Facebook, they're less likely to ever want (or need) to venture beyond Facebook's digital walls. So to Facebook took significant steps to corner the media market, by enticing media content providers to allow the social network to host their news stories directly, instead of simply providing external links to them.

Now Zuckerberg and Company have taken things one step further, looking to move further into e-commerce in hopes of developing a platform that would allow users to easily and efficiently shop directly from the Facebook mobile app, hoping to compete with the likes of Amazon for your e-commerce dollars.

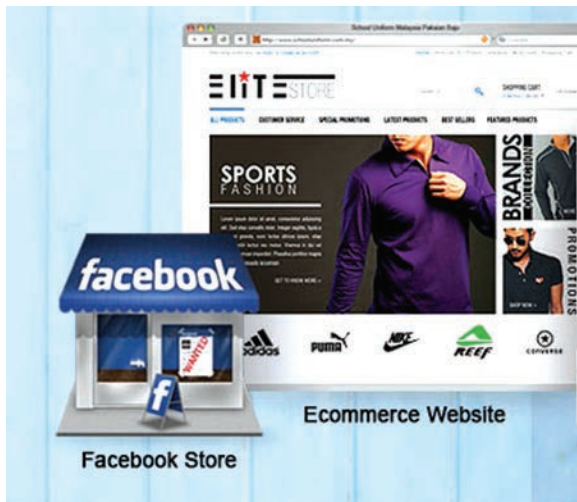
Granted mobile e-commerce is not overly popular these days—accounting for less than 2% of retail sales—predominantly because the process is slow and cumbersome. But that's exactly where Facebook thinks it can entice people to use the social network for online shopping, promising to smooth out the entire process for both consumers and businesses.

"We're looking to give people an easier way to find products that will be interesting to them on mobile, make shopping easier and help businesses drive sales," said Emma Rodgers, Facebook's head of product marketing for commerce.

What that would look like would, in essence, be very similar to the company's attempts at directly hosting news media. Instead of seeing an advertisement on Facebook, clicking on it, and being redirected to the advertiser's external website to possibly purchase the item, users may soon be able to click on a 'Buy Now' button, making the purchase directly on Facebook.

Of course with everything else Facebook does, the goal here is simple: By keeping people using Facebook for longer—that is, by keeping people trapped inside the social network's ecosystem—the more likely those users are to get their eyeballs on advertising, which in turn increases Facebook's ad revenues.

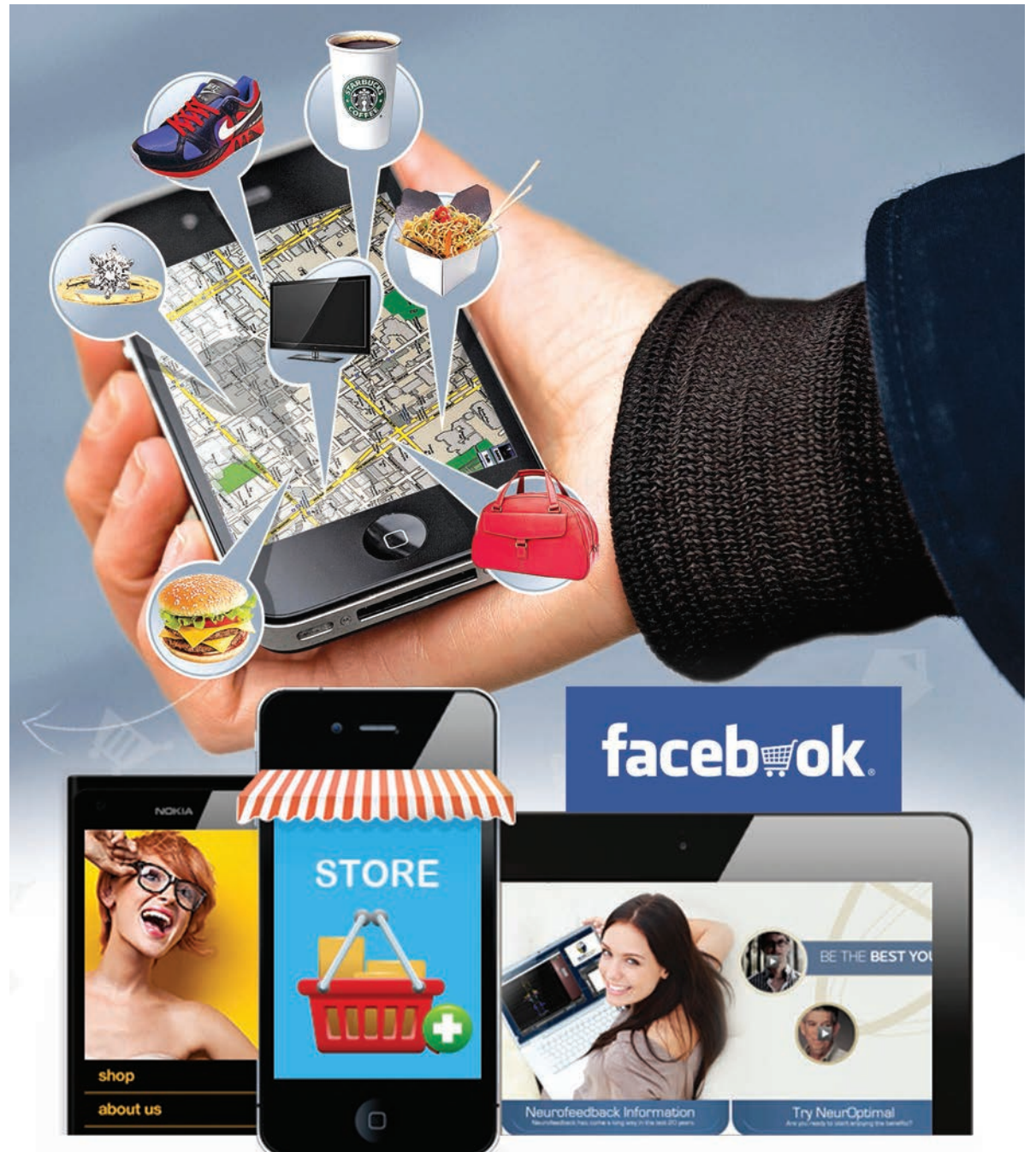
"From Facebook's perspective, they're addressing a pain point for retailers," said Catherine Boyle, an analyst at eMarketer. "They will attract serious ad dollars with this offering."



It's for that reason, I believe, that Facebook will thrive in the e-commerce market, because very much like Amazon, Facebook cares nothing about its retail profits, using this as simply yet another platform for keeping users and businesses suckling from its social networking teat.

On the other hand, Facebook users will have the opportunity to explore and express a wider gamut of nuanced emotions on the social network, certainly more nuanced than the ubiquitous thumbs-up 'Like' button at least. The social network officially began the testing phase of its new "Reactions" feature, icons that allow users to express love, laughter, happiness, shock, sadness and anger, finally adding some much needed

Facebook delves into mobile e-commerce



"Now Zuckerberg and Company have taken things one step further, looking to move further into e-commerce in hopes of developing a platform that would allow users to easily and efficiently shop directly from the Facebook mobile app, hoping to compete with the likes of Amazon for your e-commerce dollars"

texture to the fairly monolithic emotional interactions previously available.

While the change may seem superficial and long overdue, consider for a moment just how profound a shift this is for Facebook, as the 'Like' button has become so enmeshed in the social network's culture that it servers as its de facto moniker, even gracing the lobby of the company's corporate headquarters in Menlo Park, California.

"We're looking to give people an easier way to find products that will be interesting to them on mobile, make shopping easier and help businesses drive sales," said Emma Rodgers, Facebook's head of product marketing for commerce

But for years Facebook users have been clamouring for more, with most wishing a 'Dislike' button would be added, but the social network long resisted this change, not wanting to avoid turning the social network into a lawless flame wars platform. With Reactions, clearly Facebook is taking a different tack,

hoping that by adding more complex emotional responses that the social network will be able to connect us all through all the different seasons of life, the good ones and the bad.

Last month Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg hinted that a more nuanced approach would soon be coming to the social network, acknowledging that the 'Like' button often failed to adequately convey proper emotions, particularly given the fact that "not every moment is a good moment." The Reactions feature will solve that problem, finally allowing us a different response than a thumbs-up when someone shares a tragic or unfortunate event.

"What they really want is an ability to express sympathy," Zuckerberg said. "If you're expressing something sad...it may not feel comfortable to 'like' that post, but your friends and people want to be able to express that they understand."

In order to post a reaction to Facebook content, mobile users will have to long-press the 'Like' button, while PC users will have to hover over it, resulting in an array of reaction images in a pop-up menu. Any given post will then display a counter over each reaction posted, a subtle feature that will somehow be turned into a marketing scheme in the near future no doubt. ■



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For years, privacy advocates have pushed developers of websites, virtual private network apps, and other cryptographic software to adopt the Diffie-Hellman cryptographic key exchange as a defense against surveillance from the US National Security Agency and other state-sponsored spies. Now, researchers are renewing their warning that a serious flaw in the way the key exchange is implemented is allowing the NSA to break and eavesdrop on trillions of encrypted connections.

The cost for adversaries is by no means modest. For commonly used 1024-bit keys, it would take about a year and cost a "few hundred million dollars" to crack just one of the extremely large prime numbers that form the starting point of a Diffie-Hellman negotiation. But it turns out that only a few primes are commonly used, putting the price well within the NSA's \$11 billion-per-year budget dedicated to "ground-breaking cryptanalytic capabilities."

"Since a handful of primes are so widely reused, the payoff, in terms of connections they could decrypt, would be enormous," researchers Alex Halderman and Nadia Heninger wrote in a blog post published. "Breaking a single, common 1024-bit prime would allow NSA to passively decrypt connections to two-thirds of VPNs and a quarter of all SSH servers globally. Breaking a second 1024-bit prime would allow passive eavesdropping on connections to nearly 20% of the top million HTTPS websites. In other words, a one-time investment in massive computation would make it possible to eavesdrop on trillions of encrypted connections."

MOST PLAUSIBLE THEORY

Halderman and Heninger say their theory fits what's known about the NSA's mass decryption capabilities better than any competing explanation. Documents leaked by former NSA subcontractor Edward Snowden, for instance, showed the agency was able to monitor encrypted VPN connections, pass intercepted data to supercomputers, and then obtain the key required to decrypt the communications.

"The design of the system goes to great lengths to collect particular data that would be necessary for an attack on Diffie-Hellman but not for alternative explanations, like a break in AES or other symmetric crypto," the researchers wrote. "While the documents make it clear that NSA uses other attack techniques, like software and hardware 'implants,' to break crypto on specific targets, these don't explain the ability to passively eavesdrop on VPN traffic at a large scale."

The attack, which was dubbed Logjam, was extremely serious because it required just two weeks to generate data needed to attack the two most commonly called prime numbers 512-bit Diffie-Hellman uses to negotiate ephemeral keys

The blog post came as Halderman, Heninger, and a raft of other researchers formally presented their academic paper detailing their findings to the 22nd ACM Conference on Computer and Communications Security in Denver on Wednesday. The paper, titled "Imperfect Forward Secrecy: How Diffie-Hellman Fails in Practice," received extensive media coverage in May when the paper was first released. Besides exposing the likely secret behind the NSA's mass interception of encrypted communications, the paper also revealed a closely related attack that left tens of thousands of HTTPS-protected websites, mail servers, and other widely used Internet services open to less sophisticated eavesdroppers.

The attack, which was dubbed Logjam, was extremely serious because it required just two weeks to generate data needed to attack the two most commonly called prime numbers 512-bit Diffie-Hellman uses to negotiate ephemeral keys. It affected an estimated 8.4 percent of the top 1 million Web domains and 3.4 percent of HTTPS-supported websites overall. E-mail servers that support simple mail transfer protocol with StartTLS, secure POP3, and IMAP were estimated to be vulnerable in 14.8 percent, 8.9 percent,



How NSA can break trillions of encrypted Web and VPN connections

“Researchers are renewing their warning that a serious flaw in the way the key exchange is implemented is allowing the NSA to break and eavesdrop on trillions of encrypted connections”

and 8.4 percent of the cases respectively. To exploit vulnerable connections, attackers used the number field sieve algorithm to precompute data. Once they had completed that task, they could perform man-in-the-middle attacks against vulnerable connections in real time.

The Logjam weakness was the result of export restrictions the US government mandated in the 1990s on US developers who wanted their software to be used abroad. The regimen was established by the Clinton administration so that the FBI and other agencies could break the encryption used by foreign entities. In the five months since the paper was released, most widely used browsers, VPNs, and server apps have removed support for 512-bit Diffie-Hellman, making Logjam much less of a threat. But a similar vulnerability can still be exploited by attackers with nation-state-sized budgets to passively decrypt the 1024-bit Diffie-Hellman key sizes that many implementations still use by default.

UNSETTLING CONCLUSION

Halderman and Heninger's team arrived at this unsettling conclusion in May, but it's likely the NSA reached it long before then. While that knowledge makes it possible for the NSA to decrypt communications on a mass scale, it gives the same capability to other countries, some of which are adversaries to the US. Halderman and Heninger wrote:

Our findings illuminate the tension between NSA's

two missions, gathering intelligence and defending U.S. computer security. If our hypothesis is correct, the agency has been vigorously exploiting weak Diffie-Hellman, while taking only small steps to help fix the problem. On the defensive side, NSA has recommended that implementors should transition to elliptic curve cryptography, which isn't known to suffer from this loophole, but such recommendations tend to go unheeded absent explicit justifications or demonstrations. This state of affairs puts everyone's security at risk. Vulnerability on this scale is indiscriminate—it impacts everybody's security, including American citizens and companies—but we hope that a clearer technical understanding of the cryptanalytic machinery behind government surveillance will be an important step towards better security for everyone.

Diffie-Hellman is the breakthrough that lets two parties that have never met before negotiate a secret key even when communicating over an unsecured, public channel that's monitored by a sophisticated adversary. It also makes possible perfect forward secrecy, which periodically changes the encryption key. That vastly increases the work of eavesdropping because attackers must obtain the ephemeral key anew each time it changes, as opposed to only once with other encryption schemes, such as those based on RSA keys. The research is significant because it shows a potentially crippling weakness in a crypto regimen widely favored by privacy and security advocates. ■

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PEMRA holds seminar on “Future of FM Radio in Pakistan”

Kamal Uddin Tipu, Acting Chairman PEMRA, in his welcome note, pondered light on FM radio broadcasting sector in Pakistan. He said FM Broadcasting is contributing positively in spreading the education, information and entertainment at grass roots level and are consequently creating awareness in society



PEMRA in collaboration with BBC held one-day Seminar on the topic of "Future of FM Radio in Pakistan" at its headquarters, Islamabad recently. A large number of stakeholders and panelists from private FM radios, Pakistan Broadcasting Corporation (PBC), advertising agencies, print and electronic media attended the Seminar.

Major emphasis of this Seminar was to share the views, experiences and knowledge of the panelists about the possible Future of FM Radio in Pakistan in terms of legal & regulatory perspectives, investment opportunities and growth keeping in view the value for money.

Kamal Uddin Tipu, Acting Chairman PEMRA, in his welcome note, pondered light on FM radio broadcasting sector in Pakistan. He said FM Broadcasting is contributing positively in spreading the education, information and entertainment at grass roots level and are consequently creating awareness in society.

This was the third Seminar that PEMRA has conducted on the subject of FM Radio during this year.

The FM Radio sector, unfortunately remained a neglected sector in past and even on part of PEMRA, no efforts were taken to bring the FM Radio stakeholders closer in order to sort out their problems and challenges. Major emphasis of last two workshops was to engage stakeholders to identify issues relating to the FM radio licensing e.g. tariff, renewal of licenses, operational issues and other hurdles being faced by FM radio licensees.

Other important aspect of the workshop was to create awareness about PEMRA laws, regu-

lations and Code of Conduct. FM Broadcasting is contributing positively in spreading the education, information and entertainment at grass roots level and are consequently creating awareness in society.

Panelists informed that the world is now moving towards Digital Audio Broadcasting (DAB) and Satellite Radios, however, FM Radio is still one of the most important, economical and widely accessible broadcasting service which has tremendous impact on people and listeners. Dusan Masic BBC Business Development Manager MENA & West Asia briefed about the significance of FM Radio Broadcasting and highlighted the role of PEMRA in providing platform to FM licensees to come closer and understand the FM radio sector in Pakistan.

The participants of first panel that included Head Legal PEMRA, Murtaza Solangi, ex-DG PBC, Imran Bajwa, CEO FM 103 and Najib Ahmad, CEO Power 99 Islamabad thoroughly debated on the topic of "Radio Today & Tomorrow - Legal Issues".

Farah Naz Shahid from PBC, Mirza Muhammad Naeem, CEO, FM 105 Gujrat, Ayesha Jameel from ITP FM Islamabad, Zubair Ahmad Kasuri, FM 99 Kasur, FM 100 Arifwala and Kamran Khawaja FM 100 Islamabad, then shed light on the very important topic "Radio Content - Serving the Audience".

Last panel discussion was held on "Radio Advertising - Value for Money". The participants, Fawad Hussein from Group M Advertising Agency, Mehdi Raza, Director Apna FM Karachi and Iftexhar Matloob (Research Con-

sultant) shed light of the role of advertising and ratings in the Radio sector.

Following salient recommendations were proposed during the Conference;

1. PEMRA FM Radio Licensees demanded level playing field as they have got licenses by investing millions of rupees, whereas, the revenue chunk is being shared by a number of state owned FM radios who are neither licensees of PEMRA, nor have invested huge sums of money.

2. Private Commercial FM Licensees demanded PEMRA to strictly enforce Non-Commercial FM licensees to operate within their ambit and scope.

3. Panelists proposed PEMRA and private FM licensees to jointly formulate a repository of content to overcome the shortage of content.

4. Panelists also proposed a regulated rating mechanism for FM Radio sector for fair distribution of advertising business on the basis of reach and listenership of FM Radios.

5. Panelists and participants also demanded to relax regulatory conditions so that they could broadcast some percentage of foreign content akin to the state run Radios.

Concluding the Seminar, Kamal Uddin Tipu, Acting Chairman PEMRA thanked all participants and learned speakers for making this Seminar a success.

He said that the view point and suggestions of learned participants would help PEMRA in future policy making. PEMRA assured all stakeholders to offer maximum facilitation to stakeholders and investors by considering their all acceptable demands.



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“The pilot of the aircraft made an emergency landing at Allama Iqbal International Airport after it developed a fault in its landing gears. While making an emergency landing the plane skidded off the runway after its tyres burst. Rescue teams rushed to the spot and offloaded the passengers through the emergency gate of the plane”

Over 120 passengers on board Shaheen Air had a narrow escape when the aircraft skidded off the runway of the airport after its tyres burst during landing, injuring 10 passengers. Shaheen Air flight NL-142 left for Lahore from Karachi with 121 people including seven crew members on board, Civil Aviation Authority spokesman Pervez George told Flare. He said the pilot of the aircraft made an emergency landing at Allama Iqbal International Airport after it developed a fault in its landing gears.

While making an emergency landing the plane skidded off the runway after its tyres burst. Ambulances and rescue teams immediately rushed to the



spot and offloaded the passengers through the emergency gate of the plane.

“All passengers have been rescued safely,” George said. The fuselage of the aircraft was damaged after the plane skidded off the runway. The pilot of the aircraft had given prior intimation to airport authorities regarding the fault in the landing gear before making the emergency landing.

A passenger of the flight said the aircraft was facing some problems even at the time of take off from Karachi's Jinnah International Airport (JIA). He said that the tyre of the aircraft had broken off on the impact of landing at Lahore and added that the turbulent landing had also caused luggage to fall upon some passengers.

Another passenger said everything was alright

and fine, even until two minutes before landing everything was alright. I am not sure what went wrong at the time of landing, whether it was fault with the plane or anything else.

Director General PCAA has ordered an inquiry to investigate the happening of incident and the safety investigation team has started investigation to find the cause of incident.

CAA asked Shaheen Air to stop using a 25-year-old aircraft after it was denied entry into Saudi Arabia's airspace

It is pertaining to mention here, this was not first incident happened with Shaheen Air. Some months back, a Karachi-bound Shaheen Air flight made an emergency landing at Benazir Bhutto International

airport as one of its engines caught fire soon after took off. In May 2012, the fuel tank of a Shaheen Airline plane set to depart for Karachi was found leaking, leaving passengers stranded at Benazir International Airport for over two and half hours. Shortly after the Bhoja Air crash, the fuel tank of another Shaheen Air plane began leaking as it was about to take off from Lahore airport.

The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) had fined the private airline for not maintaining its aircraft according to standards. Some months ago, CAA asked Shaheen Air to stop using a 25-year-old aircraft after it was denied entry into Saudi Arabia's airspace.

Saudi General Authority of Civil Aviation turned back Shaheen's Boeing 767 claiming it did not meet the kingdom's aviation regulations. “The aircraft was wet leased from Jordan and is around 25 years old,” the official said. The airline failed to produce the required documents leading authorities to bar it from landing in Saudi Arabia. ■



No harm to telecom infrastructure in deadly earthquake



“The cellular companies admitted that their networks performance affected after the earthquake hit Pakistan, but that was solely because of sudden traffic increase on networks”

All Cellular Mobile Operators (CMOs) operating in Pakistan have informed the Flare that no damage occurred to telecom infrastructure by deadly earthquake. Telecom companies have rejected the claims of TV channels that tremors of earthquake have caused infrastructural damage to the mobile networks.

The cellular companies admitted that their networks performance affected after the earthquake hit Pakistan, but that was solely because of sudden traffic increase on networks. Telcos explained that by the passage of time this increased traffic started getting back to normal situation within the capacity limits of the networks, and also stressed on using other means of communication such as internet chatting apps Whatsapp/Facebook to lessen the burden from network.

Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) spokesperson Khurram Mehran said this was due to congestion across networks because of heavy, unusual telecom traffic.

He said there were no reports about damage to transmission lines and cellular towers. PTA spokesperson Khurram Mehran said the regulatory authority had asked telecom operators to report any damage to telecom infrastructure or services from the earthquake so repair work could start immediately.

He said “so far we do not have any reports of damage.”

The people belong-

ing to worst hit earthquake areas of KPK have been advised to use networks only in case of genuine emergency and such messages are being shared on social and mainstream media for creating awareness.

Regulatory authority had asked telecom operators to report any damage to telecom infrastructure or services from the earthquake so repair work could start immediately

The immediate suspension of mobile phone service after the earthquake as people wanted to know about the safety of their near and dear ones.

Most of the people standing outside the buildings were seen with mobile phones in their hands, trying to talk to their relatives and friends. They heaved a sigh of relief after 35 minutes when the mobile phone service was made functional.

The disruption of mobile phone service caused difficulties in shifting the injured people to the hospitals as they were unable to contact Rescue 1122. Most of the people injured were shifted to hospitals by their relatives.

A powerful earthquake of 7.5 magnitude has struck major cities of Pakistan, leaving at least 276 people dead and injuring over 1300 people. The quake was also felt in the neighbouring countries of the region. Ration distribution centres have been set up by the military in Dir, Chitral, Bajaur and Timergara. The deadly quake has left

63 people dead in Afghanistan. The death toll is feared to increase. The US Geological Survey initially measured the quake's intensity at 7.7 then revised it down to 7.6 and later to 7.5. The closest major city to the epicentre would be Peshawar — around 200 kms south-southeast. Chitral, however, would be affected as well because it is quite close to the epicentre.

In fact, a close look at Google Maps showed that the epicentre was a mere 50-60 kms west of Tirich Mir, the highest mountain in the Hindukush at 7,708 metres, and which is around 10 kilometres from the border with Afghanistan. ■



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Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif meeting US President Barack Obama at the White House.



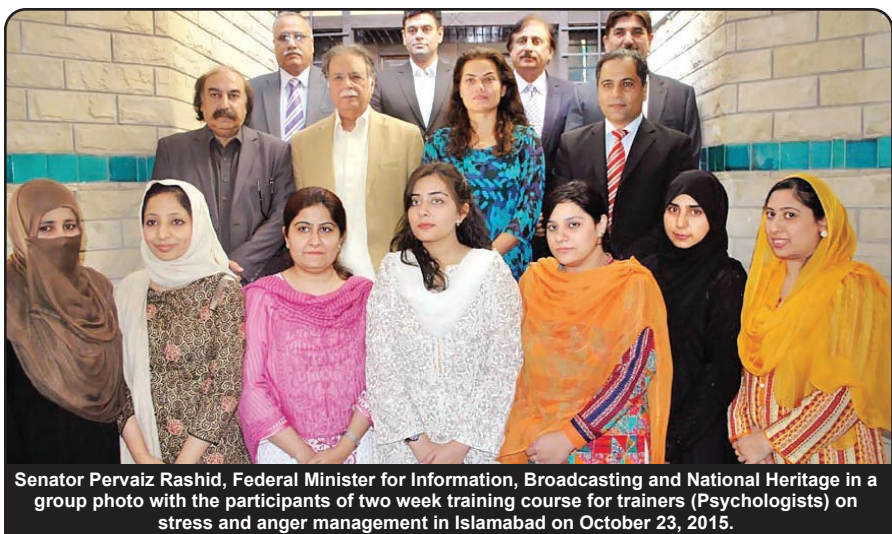
First Lady of Pakistan Kalsoom Nawaz and Maryam Nawaz in a group photo with American First lady Micheal Obama at White House.



Finance Minister Ishaq Dar witnessing K-Electric, OPIC signing ceremony for a US\$ 250 million financing to upgrade K-Electric Power System



Minister of State for IT & Telecom Anusha Rahman in a meeting with Secretary General ITU, Houlin Zhao at World Telecom Summit 2015



Senator Pervaiz Rashid, Federal Minister for Information, Broadcasting and National Heritage in a group photo with the participants of two week training course for trainers (Psychologists) on stress and anger management in Islamabad on October 23, 2015.



Aamir Ibrahim, Deputy CEO and CCO Mobilink presenting a golden helmet to Younus Khan for becoming Pakistan's number one test player.



General Raheel Shareef, Chief of Army Staff presents Prime Minister Open Golf Championship 2015 Trophy (2nd Net) to Imran Janjua GM Corporate Communications at PTCL.



UBank, NAVVTC and Ufone signed an Agreement to extend its Upaisa services to NAVVTC through which they will be disbursing monthly stipends to the students of NAVVTC.



Faletti's Hotel recently opened its first franchise Laundry & Dry Cleaning in Main Market Gulberg. Irshad B. Anjum Director Operations Faletti's Hotel Lahore inaugurated the shop along with his department heads.



AVP Communications Raheel Hashmi, Category Manager Refrigerator Ali Wahid and others Dawlance officials at the launch of new four door refrigerator.



Governor Gilgit-Baltistan Ch Muhammad Barjees Tahir inquires health of earthquake-hit people.



CEO General Electric Steve Bolze called on Chief Minister Punjab Shahbaz Sharif in Lahore



Secretary EAD, Saleem Sethi and ADB Country Director, Werner Liepach signing Loan Agreement of \$178 million for National Motorway M-4 Gojra-Shorkot Section Project in Islamabad.



Chairman National Accountability Bureau (NAB) Qamar Zaman Chaudhry cuts ribbon to inaugurate Forensic Laboratory of NAB established at NAB office, Islamabad.



Federal Minister for Commerce Khurram Dastgir Khan in a group photo with the participants of a seminar 'UN 70: Communications for Development Seminar' at Bahria University in Islamabad.



Sales and Marketing Head, Bahria Town, Shahid Mahmood and others at the opening of Street 99 Café in Rawalpindi.



Aslam Hayat, Chief Corporate Affairs & Strategy Officer Telenor Pakistan hands over the cheque Rs 29.05 million to Dr Saeed Elahi, Chairman PRCS to earthquake-hit people



MD PBM Barrister Abid Waheed Sheikh and CEO Roots International Schools Walid Mushtaq signing MoU to create a corporate linkage with PBM in Islamabad.



Students take selfie during festival at Jinnah University for Women Karachi.



A group photograph of members of Japanese Diet Task Force on Global Polio Eradication headed by Kenzo Fujisue, Member of the House of Councilors with Toshiko Abe, Member of the House of Representatives in Islamabad.

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NEWS BRIEFS

Telenor introduces Superload Offer.

Islamabd: Telenor Talkshawk has recently introduced an amazing Superload Offer. With this Talkshawk and djuice customers will avail 50 free offnet minutes by uploading or recharging Rs.100 or more. ■

Air China starts flights in Pakistan

Islamabad: Air China launched its new route connecting Beijing with Islamabad and Karachi. The airline operated three flights in a week on Monday, Wednesday and Friday connecting Beijing. Air China's new route to Pakistan is one of its four new routes connecting China with different countries in Asia. ■

Mobilink introduces Postpaid Executive

Lahore: Mobilink has introduced Postpaid Executive, a new postpaid solution built to cater the high-end communication needs of professionals with unrivaled standards. Postpaid Executive is a comprehensive plan loaded with unique features as unlimited SMS, data and voice packages, 1000 free minutes for one select friends and family number, substantial discounts for international roaming and international direct dialing, mobile device of your choice and much more. ■

Yahoo enters deal to display Google search results

Yahoo disclosed the details of a new search deal it's formed with Google after releasing its third-quarter earnings results today. Under the terms of a new arrangement effective October 1st and lasting until the end of 2018, Google will provide Yahoo with search ads, algorithmic search, and image search services for both desktop and mobile. And according to a regulatory filing, Yahoo will also get to decide which search queries to send to Google and will not have to meet a minimum requirement of queries. ■

Inov8 secures \$5.4 million in Series A Funding

“His Highness Sheikh Nahayan Mabarak Al Nahayan is the sole investor in this Series A round. Hasnain A. Sheikh said: “Inov8 is looking to scale and grow its world class team to be the number one mobile payments company in the world by 2020”

Lahore: Inov8 Limited, the region's fastest growing mobile payments company, has secured Series A Funding of \$5.4 million and achieved a valuation in excess of \$100 million. Inov8 is the dominant player in the Pakistan market, and is now expanding to Africa and the Middle East with its award winning products and services.

His Highness Sheikh Nahayan Mabarak Al Nahayan is the sole investor in this Series A round. On the occasion of the announcement, he said: “I have invested in multiple mobile payments and commerce initiatives and I find the depth of the management, the



product platform, and the vision of the founders to be the best I have come across. I look forward to being an integral part of their success story.”

Hasnain A. Sheikh, Chairman, CEO and Co-Founder said: “Inov8 is looking to scale and grow its world class team

to be the number one mobile payments company in the world by 2020. This round of funding is testament to the massive upsurge in the demand for Inov8 products and services across the region, which has been phenomenal over the last 18 months.”

Bashir Sheikh, Co-Founder and President, added “We will be utilizing our funds for our growth across the Middle East and Africa region with an expectation to raise a much larger Series B round in the near future. We will be looking to grow organically and via acquisition, for businesses, products and teams.”

It is interesting to note that while Inov8's headquarters have moved to the UAE, with a presence in the UK, this funding and post money valuation should help pave the way for investment in to the burgeoning Pakistan technology industry. ■

DWP appoints Philips as distributor for diagnostic imaging



Lahore: Asad Said Jafar, Chairman & CEO Philips Pakistan Limited and Farooq Naseem, Chairman & CEO DWP Group join hands on DWP's appointment as Philips' distributor for diagnostic imaging in the Punjab and Sindh regions.

Philips is the world's leading healthcare solutions provider and aims to deliver clinical and consumer innovation and targets huge opportunities along the converging health continuum, where consumer and clinical health solutions are delivered in the hospital and in the home. Philips is recognized globally as a symbol of innovation in the areas of health care informatics, ultrasound diagnos-

tics, cardiac care and home healthcare.

DWP is a leading business entity in Pakistan with core focus in Consumer Electronics (GREE ACs and EcoStar TVs), Power (UPS and batteries), System Integration (EMC and Lenovo), Networks (CISCO and Huawei), Document Technology (XEROX) and HVAC (GREE).

The Healthcare business within DWP will build its core competencies through its association with Philips which is a global health solutions brand to provide cutting edge products and services promoting its motto “Safe and Healthy Pakistan.” ■

SBP advises banks to implement Urdu

Lahore: The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) has advised all financial institutions, including banks, to take immediate measures for implementing Urdu as per the directions of the prime minister, said a circular.

According to Article 251 of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the national language is Urdu, and arrangements shall be made to use it for official and other purposes, the circular said. As per the plan, all the forms, policies and other documents those are to be used by the general public should be both in Urdu and English. The SBP also advised banks to display bilingual signboards in premises to guide the general public.

“In terms of Article 251 of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the Na-

tional language of Pakistan is Urdu, and arrangements shall be made for its being used for official and other purposes. In this backdrop, the Honorable Prime Minister of Pakistan has approved an action plan as per the spirits of the constitutional requirements. The plan initially requires: To print all the forms, policies and other documents that are to be used by the general public both in Urdu and English. To display sign boards both in Urdu and English for the guidance of general public in banks premises. In the light of above, all banks/DFIs/MFBs are advised to take immediate measures to implement the above action plan to comply with the provisions of Article 251 of the Constitution of Pakistan on urgent basis.” ■

Microsoft unveils 1st laptop, updated devices using Windows 10

Karachi: Microsoft Corp. unveiled new Surface, Lumia and Microsoft Band devices, taking advantage of powerful and versatile hardware to unlock new Windows 10 experiences, including fast and secured login with Windows Hello, new Cortana2 experiences that turn Windows 10 devices into a personal assistant. The improved touch and pen experiences on Surface and Continuum for phones, enables the new Lumia 950 and 950 XL phones to work like PCs. Showcasing the innovation possible with Windows 10, Microsoft also shared new gaming experi-

ences from Xbox and new details on Microsoft HoloLens, the first fully untethered holographic computer.

Now running on 110 million devices around the world, Windows 10 is off to the fastest start in history — seeing upgrades at three times the rate of Windows 7 in the same time period. With more than 1.25 billion visits to the Windows Store, Microsoft announced all-new universal apps for Windows 10, including Box, Facebook, Instagram, Candy Crush Soda Saga, Flipagram, Uber, and others. ■

Ufone to start pre-orders iPhone 6s and iPhone 6s Plus

Ufone will offer iPhone 6s and iPhone 6s Plus, the most advanced iPhones ever, beginning on November 13. Customers can pre-register iPhone 6s and iPhone 6s Plus beginning November 6 at www.ufone.com. Apple was partnered with local Ufone last year to introduce its iPhones in Pakistan. ■

Pakistan among most affordable Asian countries for used cars

Lahore: Carmudi analyzed hundreds of thousands of used car listings in order to find out how much consumers are spending on used vehicles globally. The study looked at used car models aged 2008 to 2013 to provide insights into price differences across Carmudi countries.

The average price of a used car in Pakistan is (\$15,056), as compared to the Philippines (\$16,719), Sri Lanka (\$27,966) and Bangladesh (\$33,692). This year, Pakistan has experienced positive economic growth, with the country's economy expected to expand by 2.6% in 2015. 2016 is forecast to see even higher growth at 3.8%. ■

Warid to launch iPhone 6s and iPhone 6s Plus

Lahore: Warid Telecom is officially launching the latest iPhones for its esteemed customers. Warid will offer iPhone 6s and iPhone 6s Plus, the most advanced iPhones ever, beginning from Friday, 13th November 2015. However, customers can pre-order the handsets online from Friday, 6th November 2015 onwards at www.waridtel.com/4G.

This new development will give both new and existing Warid customers access to two of the most popular phones in the global market today. Both devices are 4G LTE enabled which ensures connectivity to Warid's "Lightning Taiz" LTE internet. With advanced features such as high resolution cameras, fast-speed processors and large RAMs that run via Apple's popular iOS, Warid customers will be experiencing the internationally acclaimed technology coupled with the Warid's best quality network services. ■

Intel Pakistan announces winners of the Science Fair 2015

"Young scientists compete for opportunity to represent Pakistan at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair 2016 to be held in Phoenix, Arizona from May 8-13, 2016"

Karachi: Intel Pakistan concluded the Sindh Science Fair in the run-up to the Intel® International Science and Engineering Fair, one of the world's largest pre-college science competitions, will be held in Phoenix, Arizona from May 8- May13, 2016.

During the Sindh Provincial Science Fair, students from across the province presented research-based projects in the categories of biology, chemistry, computer sciences, mathematics and physics. More than 150 students and 50 teachers from all over Sindh participated in the fair, covering 72 projects. Randy L. Hatfield, Senior Policy Advisor and Manager, Sindh & Balochistan, USAID Pakistan, US Consulate General, Karachi was the chief guest for the Sindh Provincial Science Fair.

Winners of the Sindh Provincial Science Fair will be eligible to compete at the Na-



tional Science Fair*, which will take place in Islamabad early next year. Projects from all four provinces will be assessed by a panel of renowned judges, with winners eligible to compete at the 2016 Intel® ISEF.

"Intel has sponsored the International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) for almost 2 decades now," said Naveed Siraj, Country Manager, Intel Pakistan. "Each

year we witness tremendous talent flowing from all over the world. ISEF is a great platform for youth both academically and socially, as they interact with each other during mixers and ceremonies which help them gain confidence and valuable experience"

Speaking at the occasion regarding Intel's education efforts in Pakistan, Randy Hatfield said, "I am honored to be

invited as a guest to this venture supporting talented youth in Pakistan. It gives me great joy to witness talent emerging from all provinces." He further added, "Intel Pakistan continues the great work of bringing ICT in classrooms and giving students an unparalleled platform. It is through the maintenance of valuable initiatives like these that our country can prosper and we can hope for a brighter future for our youth."

OPPO premieres R7s at Gitex 2015 in Dubai



Karachi: The ever-evolving smartphone brand OPPO premiered the newest member of the R7 series, the R7s, at GITEX 2015 in Dubai.

Apart from its impressive 4GB RAM, the R7s inherits the metal unibody design of the R7 series, and is equipped with an ultra-large 3070 mAh

battery, an expansive 5.5-inch AMOLED 2.5D screen, and 32GB of expandable storage. By unveiling the R7s at GITEX, OPPO aims to improve its brand influence as well as market share in the MENA region, with the United Arab Emirates as a hub. ■

Telenor brings iPhone 6s and 6s Plus

Islamabad: Telenor Pakistan will offer iPhone 6s and iPhone 6s Plus, the most advanced iPhones ever, after 13th November 2015. Cus-

tomers can pre-register/pre-order their iPhone 6s and iPhone 6s Plus beginning on 6th November 2015 at www.telenor.com.pk/iphone.

UOL becomes first Pakistani institute to go live on SAP

Lahore: The University of Lahore (UOL) has successfully completed implementation of SAP ERP with help of Excellence Delivered (ExD) PVT Ltd. UoL hold "SAP ERP Go-Live Ceremony" at its Defence Road Campus, Lahore. Honorable Chairman PEC, Engr Javed Salim Qureshi presided the event while Chairman UOL Mr. Awais Raof, Pro-Rector Academics Mr. Nasir Mahmood and CEO ExD Mr. Sajjad Mustafa Syed guests of honor at the event.

University of Lahore prides itself for being at the forefront of many innovations and feats in the field of Higher Education in Pakistan. Starting from a humble beginning 14 years ago, UOL now has become one of the largest Private Sector Universities in Pakistan. In line with the vision of founding fathers of the University, UOL has been able to achieve all this success and aiming to achieve even further milestones. UOL has continuously invested in state-of-the-art technology and signed up with SAP AG and ExD for rollout of SAP ERP



and Student Lifecycle Management System. SAP is one of the largest technology companies in the world and ExD is the leading implementer company of ERP in Pakistan and MENA.

Chairman UOL, Mr. Awais Raof appreciated ExD and UOL teams who oversaw the deployment of SAP ERP. He said "With your support and understanding in this process, this implementation is made in short timeframe and in the best possible manner". Pro-Rector Academics, Mr. Nasir Mahmood added "SAP ERP makes us the first Pakistani University to deploy complete SAP system, This made UOL unique not only in Pakistan but the entire South Asian region". ■

Bank Alfalah earns Rs10.28b profit

“Bank Alfalah continues to grow consistently and deliver sound financial performance despite a challenging external environment. We continue to increase our profitability and for the first time in the Bank’s history, our profit before taxation has crossed the Rs. 10 billion mark”

Karachi: Bank Alfalah’s financial results for the nine month period ended September 2015 remained positive, with the Bank registering profit before taxation of Rs. 10.283 billion – a solid growth of 68 percent, as against the corresponding period last year. The Bank’s Profit after tax was recorded at Rs. 6.044 billion in September 2015 as compared to Rs. 4.015 billion in September 2014. Earnings per share improved to Rs. 3.80 at the end of the third quarter 2015 from Rs. 2.92 reported in

September last year.

“Bank Alfalah continues to grow consistently and deliver sound financial performance despite a challenging external environment. We continue to increase our profitability and for the first time in the Bank’s history, our profit before taxation has crossed the Rs. 10 billion mark. We are optimistic that we will continue to maximise shareholder value while creating innovative solutions to help our customers succeed,” said Atif Bajwa, President &



CEO, Bank Alfalah.

Expense management controls were further strengthened during the period and resul-

tantly the Bank’s cost to income ratio stood at 56 percent, a significant improvement from 67 percent

for the prior corresponding period. The Bank’s total assets at the Balance Sheet date stand at Rs. 789.413 billion, increasing by 6.2 percent from the year end position in 2014. The Bank’s lending activity remained healthy with Net Advances reported at Rs. 302.113 billion in September 2015 as against Rs. 290.597 billion in December last year.

As at 30 September 2015, the Bank’s Non-performing loans (NPLs) ratio at 5.8 percent, is better than the industry average. ■

Mobilink Torchbearers spend a day with students



Islamabad: Mobilink Foundation continued its initiative to support local educational institutes by visiting the Greenland Society of Special Education (GSSE), a non-commercial institute, in Lahore. A team of Mobilink Torchbearers aligned a host of activities including a poem recitation competition, storytelling and interactive sessions to make the day memorable for the students. Goody bags comprising of coloring books, coloring pencils, Ludo, toys, and edibles were distributed amongst the students at the conclusion of the activity.

Omar Manzur, Head of Corporate Communications – Mobilink, speaking about the activity and the Foundation’s association with GSSE said, “Education remains a high priority for us as we believe it directly impacts social change. For this purpose we look to improve education facilities in remote areas, through such events with participation of our Torchbearers. We have worked closely with Greenland Society of Special Ed-

ucation to improve the facilities on offer to the students, and we will continue to support them in the future.”

GSSE was established in 2000 for the development of special children and has branches in Garhi Shahu, Lahore and Kot Radha Kishan, Kasur district. It has professionally qualified and experienced team providing tailor made individualized educational program (IEP) as per the child’s need so that they utilize their potential and become independent. Mobilink Foundation has been associated with the institute since 2009 and has previously provided them with classroom furniture, playground equipment, along with conducting other activities to uplift the school premises.

Mobilink Foundation continues to work in the areas of education, environment and health to raise awareness, impart knowledge and contribute positively towards growth of the communities it operates within. ■

Samsung ranked 7th among “Inter-brand’s” Top-100 global brands

Lahore: Samsung Electronics Company has once again maintained its 7th position in the “Interbrand-2015” global ranking. This year too, Samsung’s ‘brand-value’ remained strong and steady at \$45 billion.

Interbrand’s Best Global Brands Report is voted to be one of the most influential benchmark studies by business leaders. It offers evaluative insights into how the best global organizations create and manage their brand value. Over the years, Samsung has been consistently securing a high stature in this annual ranking, as it nurtures a strong brand loyalty, by providing unmatched experiences for the consumers.

The Managing Director of Samsung Pakistan J.H Lee said: “Samsung considers its brand to be a strategic business asset and invests heavily on its brand-building func-

tions, along with consistent innovations and technological breakthroughs. This way, we are gaining on our intellectual-capital. Catering to all major segments of the population, Samsung ensures positive consumer-engagement through its vast network of outlets, while creating new interactive communication-channels for the customers.

Samsung fully realizes that the advent of modern telecommunications and hyper connectivity has transformed the art of brand management. An increasingly direct relationship with consumers has enforced a real-time approach to its brand responsiveness.

Samsung’s brand performance has been on the forefront of consumer-centric innovation and design, while increasing its presence in all markets, to achieve continuous sales growth and cus-

tomers-loyalty. Its diverse range of reliable products, delivers fascinating experiences to enrich the consumer’s lifestyle, empowering them to blend and compete in the modern world, with a feeling of pride for their favorite brand.

Interbrand annually evaluates the value of global brands against 10 principles of brand strength including; Commitment, Protection, Clarity, Responsiveness, Authenticity, Relevance, Presence, Understanding, Consistency and Differentiation. The brands selected for this study are evaluated on their truly global success, transcending geographic and cultural differences. The brand should have the potential to penetrate into the emerging markets of the future. It should reflect world-class financial performance and an immaculate public awareness profile. ■

PTA holds awareness session on cloud computing

Islamabad: Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) in collaboration with National ICT R&D Fund Co and PLUM grid arranged an awareness session on Cloud Computing/Openstack here at PTA Headquarters. Chairman PTA Dr. Syed Ismail Shah, senior officers of PTA, representatives from Industry and academia attended the session. Chairman PTA said on the occasion that PTA is focusing on creating awareness on upcoming technologies for the benefits of the economy. Cloud computing is being used to store large data in developed world hence providing new opportunities for



the young technology experts. CEO National ICT R&D fund Co Mr. Asif Roomi pledged support for the project.

On this occasion, Dr. Affan A. Syed, Director Engineering PLUMgrid gave a presentation to the participants on cloud computing. PLUMgrid is a leading SDN/OpenStack networking provider with experience in delivering Open-

Stack trainings. It arranged this session to create awareness for a set of training workshops to be conducted in Pakistan over the next 12 months in different cities.

Open Stack is a project that provides a suite of open-source software and APIs to manage cloud setup, orchestration of its components, dynamic monitoring and control of any private cloud. He said that this project takes an open-source view to allow innovation, and the OpenStack foundation pushes aggressively to support several different implementations of its core components to prevent vendor lock-in. ■

Pepsi Co brews smart phone biz in China

“The mobile phones under Pepsi brand will initially be available in China market only”

Global soft drink major PepsiCo Inc is testing waters in mobile devices market. The US-based food and beverage company is in the process of launching Pepsi branded smartphones in the Chinese market shortly. However, Pepsi doesn't make mobile phones but acts as a licensing partner to market mobile phones under Pepsi brand.

A gamut of mobile phone models and accessories will be launched under Pepsi brand in China over next few months. According to unconfirmed news, the mobile phone is called 'Pepsi P1'.

PepsiCo Inc didn't name the licensing partner, who manufactures mobile phones in China. The soft drink maker also didn't provide any further information on mobile

phones. According to a spokeswoman at PepsiCo, the soft drink maker has no plans to get into the mobile phone manufacturing business.

Without divulging further details about the licensing partner and products, the spokeswoman said: "Available in China only, this effort is similar to recent globally licensed Pepsi products which include apparel and accessories."

The Pepsi-branded smartphone Pepsi P1 is likely to be mid-range Android phablet with a 5.5-inch screen. The salient features of Pepsi P1 include 1.7 GHz CPU and 16GB memory. The retail price is expected to be \$200 in the Chinese market.

Market circles expect that PepsiCo may announce more



details on 20 October. Pepsi may not launch its branded smartphone in the US and Europe markets, predict analysts. Will its market rival Coca-Cola follow the suit? let's wait and see.

The news about PepsiCo

venturing into mobiles phone business is making rounds in the media circles ever since it was first posted by technology website Mobipicker on 11 October. The unconfirmed news reveals that mobile phone will be called 'Pepsi P1' in the Chi-

nese market. The features are expected to be decent, but not high-end specs, according to the media reports.

Pepsico hasn't gone into manufacturing smartphone nor designing the mobile devices. It just confines itself to licensing the brand as it did for other product companies. It's contracted an unknown phone manufacturer to make smartphones under Pepsi brand.

PepsiCo has many licenses for several categories of products. Pepsi partnered with Danish luxury stereo and TV maker Bang & Olufsen in 2014, and Del Toro, Italian shoemaker, for marketing a range of products under Pepsi brand. PepsiCo's stock closed lower 0.36 percent on Monday at \$99.11 in a sluggish trading. ■

PTCL provides medical relief and restores communication links in earthquake hit areas

Islamabad: Pakistan Telecommunication Company Limited (PTCL) has restored the communication services in earthquake hit areas of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

with the nation in this hour of grief and is fully cognizant of its responsibilities. Our doctors and medical staff are actively involved in examining the earthquake affectees and providing them complete



PTCL medical teams reaching out to earthquakehit areas, setting up free medical camps, providing free checkup and medication to affectees.

An earthquake with epicenter in Hindu Kush struck major parts of Pakistan and also affected technical infrastructure and communication links. PTCL responded proactively to this national calamity and its dedicated teams on ground through their round the clock efforts and hard work, restored most of the communication services in Shangla, Upper Dir and adjacent affected areas. Also, medical units were mobilized to facilitate the affectees by setting up free medical camps.

Syed Mazhar Hussain, Chief Human Resource Officer PTCL said "PTCL stands

treatment and medication."

Muhammad Nasrullah, Chief Business Operations Officer PTCL, while appreciating the quick restoration undertaken by PTCL teams said, "At PTCL our top priority was to restore communication services as soon as possible, to connect the affectees to the rest of the country and making relief and rehabilitation efforts more effective and smooth."

"Our dedicated teams are working round the clock to keep the vital communication links active in this natural calamity," added further by Mr. Nasrullah. ■

Huawei appears on interbrand's best brands

Lahore: Interbrand, the world's leading brand consultancy, recently released its 2015 Best Global Brands report. Following its debut on the 2014 list as the first mainland Global brand, Huawei appears on the 2015 list again.

According to Interbrand, "Huawei is once again a highlight in the 2015 Best Global Brands report released by Interbrand. Its brand value, approximated at \$5 billion, increased by 15 percent compared to a year ago. In the Interbrand's annual report, it is also one of the fastest rising brands in the technology sector, climbing from #94 to #88 in ranking.

Huawei's significant progress is not a result of luck. Everything has stemmed from the belief that customers always come first, and the persistence in providing value-driven products and services. Through their brand campaign, Huawei outlines 'a better connected world' and clearly illustrates how innovative ICT products, services and solutions

not only break the boundaries of time and space to create smoother connections, but also enable the transformative evolution of enterprises and industries to drive progress in the world."

As the Huawei's 2014 Annual Report indicates, the company maintained robust growth in all business segments. In 2014, it recorded \$46.5 billion in annual revenue, a YoY increase of 20.6pc. Net profits reached \$4.5 billion, a YoY increase of 32.7pc. Thanks to its robust growth worldwide and continuous innovation in products and services, Huawei's brand has grown steadily both in value and influence.

"Huawei has a strong customer centric approach and it has actually created value for customers as the foundation for the Huawei Brand. And here we are aiming to achieve even better position and even better records of higher revenue generation. For that it can be witnessed that Huawei is bringing high technological products satisfying its consumers' one

hand, while on the other hand boosting up its research and development capabilities to reach the ultimate technological creator in the global market.", said General Manager for Huawei devices in Pakistan, Shawn.

Over the past two decades, Huawei has connected one-third of the world's population, with its information networks covering more than 170 countries and regions. In order to utilize transformative trends in the future, Huawei is increasing investment in innovative technologies, such as cloud computing, Big Data, 5G, SDN, and NFV. By pushing the limits of technology, Huawei is well positioned to seize opportunities in the digital era. It strives to provide full connectivity between people, between people and things, and between things. It will also continue to deliver innovative products to individual users, businesses, and organizations. The recent best example that has caught hearts all around the globe, but especially in Pakistan is Huawei Mate S. ■

Mobilink offers "buy 2 get 1 free" for 3G enthusiasts

Islamabad: Mobilink has introduced a buy 2 get 1 free offer on its 3G 3-day bundle for its 3G centric subscriber base with an emphasis on providing more for less. This offer provides 3G enthusiasts an opportunity to utilize 300MB of Mobilink's exceptional high speed internet for free, after the first two subscriptions of the 3 day 3G bundle, for just PKR 41.83 per subscription. This

offer is valid for those subscribers only who opt for their third 3G 3 day bundle within seven days of their first subscription of the said bundle. The free third subscription under this new offer will have the same validity of three days (72 hours) and 300MB data as the 3G 3 day bundle.

To subscribe to the 3G 3 day bundle, subscribers have to dial *117*3#. Third subscrip-

tion of this bundle will be free of charge if they had opted for the first 2 subscriptions in a period of 7 days or less.

The 3G Buy 2 Get 1 FREE offer is in line with Mobilink's previous 3G centric offers, and looks to ensure maximum utilization of its exceptional high speed internet services by its subscribers in a bid to reduce the prevalent digital divide in the country. ■

Pakistan is potential hub of technology and innovation: Anusha

“We welcome the Microsoft’s foot print in Pakistan. This shall foster the culture of innovation and research in the country. That in turn shall nurture entrepreneurship and technology up lift for the socio economic betterment of our people”

High level delegation of Microsoft USA comprising of Frank McCosker GM affordable access and Mr. Sidney Roberts, head of Technology and Research called on Minister of State for IT Ms. Anusha Rahman. During the meeting, numerous areas of collaboration have been explored.

“We welcome the Microsoft’s foot print in Pakistan. This shall foster the culture of innovation and research in the country. That in turn shall nurture entrepreneurship and technology up lift for the socio economic betterment of our people” Anusha Rahman said. “Pakistan is steering towards an enabling eco system where the technology giants of world are looking at Pakistan as a potential hub of technology and innovation due to its highly talented and cost effective human capital” she said while elaborating the talent landscape and government’s prioritization to the delegation.



Minister of State for IT & Telecom Anusha Rahman in a meeting with Microsoft delegation comprising of Frank McCosker, GM Affordable Access and Sidney Roberts, Head of Technology and Research in Islamabad.

Minister shared with Microsoft delegates the resolve of the government to provide affordable connectivity to the people across the country with special focus on underserved and unserved areas through USF subsidy. Establishing tele centers at remote places of Pakistan is the corner stone of this plan where the unserved people would have a one point access of basic citizen services through broadband connectivity. The Microsoft delegation

showed their keen interest to partner with Pakistan through their technology centric CSR initiatives alongside help building the culture of innovation and research by training and up skilling the human capital of Pakistan. They have shared their numerous technology models. working at various parts of the world which result into the economic progress of the countries.

The Minister also apprised

the delegation about the government’s recently launched RFP for tech city project under the auspices of ICT R&D fund, as a solicited project where the start ups and incubation shall be nurtured from government’s platform. She informed the delegation that this government’s policy is to effectively use the USF and ICT R&D Fund for socio economic development particularly in the underserved and unserved areas.

Ms. Anusha Rahman urged upon the Microsoft team to put in place innovative and cost effective models to help broaden the technology base of the country, besides helping the under privileged segments of the society in the field of health and education. Microsoft offered to work with the Government of Pakistan on its “ICT for Girls” program. This recently initiated project of government is being launched to teach coding and programming skills to young women at Baitulmal. Further, it was agreed that Microsoft shall increase its technical base in Pakistan enabled with Global research and innovation and shall work in tandem with local industry to accelerate the digitization in the country.

The Minister of IT expressed her government’s support for all technology giants to broaden their foot print in the country with a facilitative environment. ■

Temenos chooses NDC to implement T24 R15 system at SAMBA Bank

Lahore: Temenos has inked an agreement with NDC for T24 R15 core banking system with Pakistan model bank to replace SAMBA Bank’s existing legacy system, across all its branches. Along with the core system, the Temenos-Connect Internet, Mobile Banking Platforms and AML will also be part of the new digital solution for the Bank. SAMBA Pakistan will be the 9th Bank to acquire Temenos T24 in Pakistan and the second bank in the country to deploy release R15 introduced only in June 2015 with the latest enhancements.

Speaking on the occasion, NDC President & CEO Ms. Ammara Masood said: “We are delighted to be partnering

with Temenos for the Implementation of T24 R15 core banking solution at SAMBA Bank Pakistan. We strongly believe that our deep domain expertise and broad experience of the local market which spans over 15 years in this segment will enable us to deliver most effectively”.

National Data Consultant (NDC) is a leading provider of IT solutions focused towards the banking and financial sectors in Pakistan, Middle East & Africa region. NDC is recognized for its outstanding performance and is the winner of Temenos “Partner Project of the Year” award in 2011 and 2014 and finalist of 2015 award. It is the only certified business partner of Temenos in Pakistan. ■

British Pakistani entrepreneur launches Kinnect2

Lahore: British Pakistani entrepreneur Amina Nabi launches new social media platform for brand consumer engagement, Kinnect2 at the Kalvingore Art Gallery and Museum Glasgow. Speaking on the occasion Amina Nabi CEO and founder of Kin-

nect2 said that identifying the shift of social media and the requirements of brands and businesses evolving are need of time, there are failing results from current social media platforms, where engagement has fallen to below 1 percent. ■

Brighterlite Pakistan conducts Franchise & Retail Convention



Picture shows Chairman Brighterlite Group Dr. Erik Saur, Brighterlite Group CEO Stein Eitheim, Brighterlite Pakistan MD Mohammad Omer, Program Manager for IFC of WB Group Liam Grealish along with business partners of Brighterlite Pakistan.

Islamabad: Brighterlite Pakistan has recently conducted its first Franchise & Retail Convention in Islamabad. Brighterlite Pakistan is a wholly owned subsidiary of Brighterlite AS, a Norwegian Group, commencing business in Pakistan since year 2015 with a team of highly motivated professionals each having an extensive experience in different fields. Our business is to bring urban living standards to rural population around the globe by delivering our state of the art Solar

Systems to the people with lower incomes.

Our systems are a combination of excellent thoroughly tested solar and battery technologies with advanced electronic payment systems. With a prior focus on healthy environment, we assist our subscribers to produce green energy at lowest cost imaginable. We provide systems on perpetuity basis, letting our subscribers have the ease of no maintenance of the equipment, while charging extremely low

monthly subscription fees starting from only Rs.490 per month, round the clock call centre support and convenient methods of payments. This is why Brighterlite Pakistan is at its pace of development and has been able to stand serving around 6,000 individuals within 9 districts in a very short time. We are keen to serve as more as possible families by upholding our corporate values of being honest, making it easy and keeping our word to our subscribers. ■

Mobilink exclusively brings Siachen

“Anwar Maqsood is one of our most stimulating playwrights, said Aamir Ibrahim, Deputy CEO and CCO Mobilink. “We are thrilled to be partnering with Kopykats Productions for a satirical take on the standoff between Pakistan and India on the world’s highest battle ground”

Islamabad: The renowned Islamabad-based theatre group, KopyKat Productions has once again collaborated with veteran playwright Anwar Maqsood and Director Dawar Mehmood to bring to audiences a play on Siachen. Exclusively sponsored by Mobilink, the play narrates the story of soldiers posted on the highest battleground in the world. The Islamabad premiere of ‘Siachen’ showed on October with the last show scheduled for November 19.

Based on the lives of soldiers posted upon the disputed glacier, ‘Siachen’ is set in 2016, a time when tensions between the two neighboring countries has dwindled away

and peace might be on the horizon. The play is a compilation of multiple short stories experienced by the soldiers over a period of six months. These stories include an entire unit waiting for their goat on Eid-ul-Adha, a love triangle between a Captain, soldier and the journalist, a Behari soldier made prisoner of war by the Pakistani camp, and anticipation between the two groups of soldiers for the upcoming Indo-Pak T20 cricket match on the radio. Legendary playwright, Anwar Maqsood has penned this play to depict the much lighter side of the conflict between two nations usually known for excessive hostilities towards each other



across mainstream media.

The preparations for ‘Siachen’ are probably the most intense for any theatre play Pakistan has ever witnessed, and with a 3D set, the house arrest and a huge number of cast members, this play is the biggest local theatrical production ever.

“Anwar Maqsood is one of our most stimulating playwrights,” said Aamir Ibrahim, Deputy CEO and CCO Mobilink. “We are thrilled to be partnering with Kopykats Productions for a satirical take on the standoff between Pakistan and India on the world’s highest battle

ground. Supporting ‘Siachen’ is a part of Mobilink’s commitment to promoting the local culture as we believe that theatre is an integral part of our society. We will continue to support such initiatives in the future and will look for ways to promote our local talent and culture.” ■

PTCL introduces winter offer for broadband customers

Islamabad: Pakistan Telecommunication Company Limited (PTCL) is offering its 2Mbps and 4Mbps broadband internet at discounted rates with free SmartTV through ‘Winter Offer’ for the convenience of valued customers.

The new offer by the company enables customers to avail 2Mbps unlimited package for just Rs. 1,299 per month and 4Mbps unlimited package for Rs. 1,750 per

month. Customers also get free Wi-Fi router and free SmartTV along with payment of installation charges in easy installments. The limited time offer is designed to provide more convenience and affordability for customers nationwide. PTCL ‘Broadband Pakistan’ is the most popular Broadband internet service provider in the country, serving over 2000 cities and towns nationwide. ■

Huawei G8 presents incredible features in an exquisite body

Lahore: The descendant of Huawei G series, G8 has proudly taken the high expectation mark set by G7. As G7 was an extraordinary feature rich smart phone, G8 has taken the legacy forward by presenting even more enhanced software and hardware features. G8 has recently been launched in Pakistan and it has an incredible range of specifications to offer to its users. The appearance plus the material inside, makes G8 a treat, for high efficiency smart phone seekers.

Huawei’s G8 runs on Android 5.1 Lollipop operating system and Emotion 3.1 user interface, which is highly enhanced to offer extensive customization options. The processor installed in G8 is Qualcomm Snapdragon 616, Octa-core 1.5 GHz, which is supported by 3GB RAM, 32 ROM (up to 64 GB). The bat-



tery, integrated in this smart phone is also commendable, with 3000 mAh power; G8 will keep the user on the go for long seamless functional hours.

Huawei Marketing Country Head, Fraz M Khan has stated that “G8 is undoubtedly one of the most supreme products of Huawei because of the exciting features it offers in comparison to the price range. We want the modern technologies to reach our valuable customers in the ultra cool packaging and G8 is quite an example of what we aim, when manufacturing smart phones.” ■

Warid launches G’Five LTE handsets with one-year free internet

Lahore: Warid Telecom has exclusively partnered with G’Five launched two LTE handsets G’Five LTE 2 and LTE 3 at very reasonable prices with 15 months guarantee and one year free internet.

“Speed” will now be accessible to everyone with Warid LTE. Not only will you be able to download, stream & surf the internet at Lightning Taiz LTE speed but with this offer you will also be entitled for a free Warid LTE SIM and lightning speed LTE internet for 1 whole year @ 2GB/month!

Customers can visit nearest Warid business center and G’Five sales center or order here online and get on with speed, right here, right now! Insert your Warid LTE SIM in any of the SIM slots and offer will be automatically activated within 15 minutes. For Warid customers without an LTE SIM and who wish to retain their current number, visit any Warid Business Center and/or franchise for LTE SIM replacement or call 321 for free SIM replacement at your doorstep. ■

PTA to auction wireless local loop in AJK, GB

Karachi: Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) issued an information memorandum (IM) for auction of wireless local loop (WLL) licences in Azad Kashmir (AJK) and Gilgit Biltistan (GB), which would be held on December 4.

According to the IM, PTA is planning to undertake an auction to award licenses/rights to use spectrum in the 1,900 MHz and 3.5 GHz bands with the mandate to establish, maintain and operate WLL services across AJK and GB.

The process of award is titled “Auction of available frequency for WLL in 1,900 MHz and 3.5 GHz for existing and new entrants.” PTA invites all the existing FLL, WLL, LDI, mobile and CVAS licensees in Pakistan.

PTA sets Rs 55.81 million base price for 1,900 MHz in TR-I Mirpur for 2 slots of 5 MHz, Rs 11.96 million in TR-II Muzaffarabad for 2 x 5 MHz and Rs 7.98 million in TR-III Northern Areas (GB) for 2 x 5 MHz. Similarly, the base price for 3.5 GHz spectrum band with available quantity of 30 MHz, PTA sets Rs 7.98 million in TR-I Mirpur, Rs 3.19 million in TR-II Muzaffarabad and Rs 3.19 million in TR-III northern areas (GB) while PTA mentions that no lots would be sold at a price lower than the above said prices. If the overall spectrums demand from the sealed pre-bid deposit form can be accommodated within the offered spectrum, PTA would award the spectrum rights to the qualified applicants directly on the base price. ■

Zong offers free call, SMS in quake-hit areas

Islamabad: Keeping in mind the recent earthquake that had jolted most of the regions of KP and FATA, Zong, being a responsible corporate entity, is offering 20 minutes, 20 SMS and 20 MBs data absolutely free to its valued customers in the 20 devastated districts of KP and FATA. Zong customers that are residents of Bajaur Agency, Khyber Agency, Shangla, Barikot, Swat, Lower/Upper Dir, Chitral, D.I.Khan, Gilgit, Hunza, Lakki Marwat, Kohat, Malakand, Mardan, Takhtbai, Nowshera and Tank will get 20 free minutes of call time, 20 SMSs and 20 MBs of data ab-

solutely free on a daily basis from November 01 till November 10.

Niaz A. Malik, Deputy CEO Zong said: “We are in deep pain as Pakistanis across the country faced one of the worst earthquake. This 8.1 magnitude quake has taken many lives and a number of people have been injured. Being a responsible corporate company, Zong has decided to come forward and play its role”. “We know that we have to go a long way ahead, but this small token to our valued customers will definitely ease up their communication needs,” he added. ■

iNew opens first Customer Service Center in Lahore

“The opening ceremony was presided over by the Alan Chen, CEO iNew Pakistan. Several other partners and executives were also present at the inauguration. The center located in the heart of Lahore on the ground floor of Hassan Tower, near Hafeez Center, Gulberg”

Lahore: After launching 5 Android smartphones in Pakistan, iNew Pakistan continues to expand its presence by opening the first Customer Service Center to provide after-sales support for all users in the provincial capital. The premise is strategically located in the heart of Lahore on the ground floor of Hassan Tower, near Hafeez Center, Gulberg.

The opening ceremony was presided over by the CEO of iNew Pakistan. Several other partners and executives were also present at the inauguration, this semi-formal event began with a welcome speech by Alan Chen, CEO iNew Pakistan. He mentioned in his speech that the Service Center will also act as a platform of direct two-way communication between customers and the brand. With that, it will help the brand to enhance various aspects of its value chain.



CEO iNew Pakistan, Alan Chen along with Managing Director Mobile Masters, Mian Irfan at the opening ceremony of Customer Service Center in Lahore

iNew is trying to earn better brand loyalty from customers and also add to its customer base in a nation where companies offering al-

ternative devices of questionable quality can easily shake the order of things by selling products at affordable prices. The Customer Service Center

is designed to offer a complete support starting from product demos to servicing of gadgets to answering of consumer queries amongst other things.

Meanwhile, in an effort to maintain its promise and commitment to provide the best quality of products at affordable rates, iNew have further reduced the prices of all smartphones introduced in Pakistan.

iNew has launched 5 Android smartphones in Pakistan with the recent addition of the iconic L4. The highlight of this phone is the 5000mAh battery, which is biggest in the market to date. iNew L4 also packs a 64-Bit processor, 2GB of RAM and runs on the Lollipop 5.1 Android. All of this comes with a dual 4G LTE network option.

iNew, in a press statement, said that it doesn't only want to create a huge customer base but is aiming for maximum customer satisfaction. To achieve this goal, iNew has dropped the prices of all smartphones, so more and more people can sample the company's products. ■

Ufone signs Managed Services contract with Huawei



Islamabad: Ufone, a leading telecom operator in Pakistan has signed a managed services contract with global telecom giant, Huawei, to increase network efficiency for a better customer experience. Earlier last year, a formal Request For Proposal (RFP) was floated to invite telecom vendors of repute to present their proposals on how they could help Ufone achieve its objective. Huawei, is a global leader in providing managed services to the entire Middle Eastern region, and was shortlisted after several deliberations that involved stakeholders from telecom vendors, Etisalat Group and Ufone, after which it was selected for this contract.

Regarding this new development, Jafar Khalid, Chief Technical Officer Ufone said, “Huawei has managed non-

telecom maintenance of Ufone's network for many years now, keeping that in view, we shall capitalize on the merits of having a well-established relationship and economical pricing - elements that allow us to enhance focus on our competitiveness as a major telecom player in the market, and above all continue working on our top priority – providing even better service to our users.”

Aragon Meng CEO Huawei Technologies Pakistan said: “We have expertise in providing managed services to 23 out of 30 top global telecom operators; that critical knowledge and global experience would be put to use in Pakistan to increase and further enhance Ufone's network efficiency and we are really excited about this partnership with this dynamic Pakistani operator”.

As a truly global service provider Huawei is currently managing 150+ networks in more than 80 countries, their managed services centers are located in 16 countries across three continents of Asia, Africa and North America. ■

Mobicash digitizing movie ticket purchase with Mandviwalla Entertainment



(R-L) Aamir Ibrahim CCO & Deputy CEO - Mobilink & Nadeem H. Mandviwalla, MD - Mandviwalla Entertainment along with their respective teams at the signing ceremony between Mobicash & ME for the digitization of cinema ticket purchase through Mobicash.

Islamabad: Mobicash and Mandviwalla Entertainment (ME) signed an agreement, whereby customers will now be able to purchase their movie tickets through Mobicash. This cinema ticketing solution allows moviegoers the convenience of skipping the physical ticket purchase process altogether, and purchase their tickets by paying through their phones or nearby Mobicash outlets with a pre-generated cinema ticket ID.

The signing ceremony, held at Mobilink House, Islamabad, was attended by the following Mobilink representatives in Aamir Ibrahim - Deputy CEO & CCO, Aniq Afzal Sandhu - Head of MFS, Asif Aziz - VP Marketing, Shahbaz Maqsood Khan - Director Brands and Syed Jaffar Abbas Shirazi -

Senior Manager MFS Corporate Segments, while ME was represented by Nadeem H. Mandviwalla - Managing Director.

Speaking on the occasion, Ms. Aniq Afzal Sandhu stated, “This deal is certainly a game changer for the industry. Not only will this make going to the movies more enjoyable for audiences, but it also delivers enormous value to our product and our partner, Mandviwalla Entertainment. This is yet another innovation that supports our commitment to providing customers with a convenient way of making purchases through a streamlined process demonstrating ease and security.”

“The comfort and convenience of our customers has always been Mandviwalla

Entertainment's top priority and this agreement with Mobicash is a testament to that very commitment. Currently, our customers have the facility of buying movie tickets from our cinemas' booking offices, and a home delivery system through our website booking system. This new facility not only expands to better facilitate our valued customers with just one touch of a button on their mobile phones, but will also help us in selling more tickets by reducing the hassle of buying from the box office,” added Nadeem H. Mandviwalla.

A move, which looks to revolutionize the age-old cinema ticket purchase procedure is completed in four simple steps: Customer visits ME's website or contacts their call center to book a ticket, customer upon booking receives a unique cinema ticket ID, they then use this unique cinema ticket ID to make payments through their mobile accounts or visit the nearest Mobicash outlet to do the same, and upon payment customers receive a confirmation SMS signaling the successful end of the procedure. ME and Mobicash will also provide users a 24/7 helpline support system for bill payments and bookings. ■

PTA arranges awareness session on Big Data Analytics

“Chairman PTA Dr. Syed Ismail Shah said that Business Analytics and big data are transforming the way businesses and governments operate”

Islamabad: Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) recently arranged an awareness session on Big Data Analysis. Chairman PTA, Dr. Syed Ismail Shah, Member (Compliance & Enforcement) Abdul Samad, Director Generals (DGs) of Different Divisions of PTA, representatives from Industry and academia attended the session. Chairman PTA Dr. Syed Ismail Shah said that Business Analytics and big data are transforming the way businesses and governments operate. Competing on analytics is the new norm where the competitive advantage is defined by turning proprietary and other data sets into insights using advanced algorithms. The advances in big data analytics present a great opportunity for Pakistan.

Technological advances in storage and computations have enabled cost-effective capture of the informational value of big data in a timely



Chairman PTA Dr Syed Ismail Shah presents memento to Prof Dr Murtaza Haider after presentation on "Big Data Analysis". Member C&E PTA Abdul Samad is also present.

manner. Consequently, one observes a proliferation in real-world adoption of analytics that were not economically feasible for large-scale applications prior to the big data era. The constraints of money, location, and time matter no more.

While being in a small

town in Pakistan, and with a decent internet connection, the youth can receive training in advance analytics from the likes of IBM. Instead of preparing an expat workforce to work the minimum wage jobs in other countries, governments could train their workers in big data and ana-

lytics to be part of the global network of analytics talent, Chairman further added. Chairman PTA emphasized the role of PTA by providing training with partners in industry, academia and international universities. Majority of population is youth so it is a big opportu-

nity for trainings in skilled programmes.

On this occasion, Professor Dr. Murtaza Haider gave a detailed presentation to the participants on what institutions in Pakistan can do to benefit from the growing demand in analytics. He also introduced the participants about bigdatauniversity.com, an IBM-led university that is offering free training in big data analytics. It may be added that Dr. Murtaza Haider is an associate professor at the Ted Rogers School of Management, Ryerson University, in Toronto. Dr. Haider specializes in applying analytics and statistical models to find solutions for socio-economic challenges. His research interests include applied analytics, data science, forecasting housing market dynamics, transport/infrastructure/urban planning, and human development in Canada and South Asia. ■

Grab your “60 seconds of Glory” through Huawei Float campaign



Lahore: Huawei is all set to hit the roads of different cities of Pakistan to engage with the interesting people on the streets and in famous educational institutes. On this journey Huawei would take with it, an eye-catching vehicle, the Float. It would trail along two pre-decided tracks running through numerous cities. The Brand activators would set out on two routes on two separate vehicles and along with their Float crew would make stops in different cities, ranging from Sheikhpura to Kohat and from Okara to Hyderabad, to

interact with the people on the way.

The Float would be adorned with a customized Kiosk, Huawei's latest gadgets etc and during the Float's visits to the various cities, different fun filled and entertaining activities would be conducted for the people. They would have to mount up the Float and either Act, sing, Crack a joke or make a speech. The participant's data would be collected and later, they would be given exciting gifts such as Huawei smart phone or Bluetooth speakers, etc through a lucky

draw. The winners would be selected by young generation's heart throb and music sensation Mr. Amanat Ali. He would be accompanying the Float during its visit to educational institutions and enchant the music lovers there, with his melodious tracks.

Huawei has arranged this super-thrilling activity to develop a one-on-one interaction platform with the native people, so that maximum brand awareness can be generated. Huawei aims at earning the trust of its current and prospect customers and this Float Campaign would certainly help Huawei tremendously, in achieving its goal. With the constantly growing mobile market in the country, it is now a need of time that technology companies strengthen their relations with the customers and deliver them, the best of technology with the perfect accessories. Huawei has been successful so far, in delivering excellent products and now it's focusing on developing strong customer-relations. ■

Solar tubewells can turnaround the agricultural sector

Lahore: The government recently announced a relief package of over Rs 341 billion for the agricultural community. One aspect of the policy calls for interest-free loans for farmers willing to convert their diesel run tube wells onto solar energy.

Pakistan is located in a region with ample sun energy that makes it suitable to utilize solar power technologies. The conversion of tube wells onto solar energy shall help reduce long term costs for the farmers; provide a predictable supply of electricity, and a hedge against market fuel price volatility. This shall further help mitigate harmful emissions. According to an estimate, per hour cost of running an average-sized tube well on electricity is Rs. 138, on diesel it is Rs. 173 and on solar energy it is Rs. 83. Farmers who have tube wells with less than 50 feet water table can save Rs. 131 per hour and hence Rs. 314,400 per year with solar tube wells compare to diesel-run tube wells.

Inam ur Rahman, CEO, Reon Energy Limited states, “The electricity supply to the rural communities remains negligible due to the enormous energy supply-demand gap in the country. Solar tube wells are now becoming in-

creasingly affordable and can be deployed for both Open Flood Irrigation and Drip Irrigation methods. Through its solar tube well solutions, Reon has already initiated change in the agricultural sector.” Reon Energy Limited is the renewable energy division of Dawood Hercules Limited - the single largest private sector energy provider in Pakistan.

Inam also said that conservative estimates by experts have indicated that the agricultural yield in Pakistan can be increased more than 20% only by having timely availability of water. Of course, if farmers have water supply in their own control, through the use of solar tube wells, they could further invest in yield enhancing technologies like; drip-irrigation, green-houses, and tunnel farming. In order to ensure a steady food supply for generations to come, it is imperative to improve on water management practices.

The solar tubewell is among the most effective tools which can help curb the rising irrigation costs for the farming community. Such focused policies by the Government, supported by strict technical guidelines by the solution providers, can help make a self-reliant agricultural sector.

PTCL introduces helpline customer services in Pashto

Lahore: Pakistan Telecommunication Company Limited (PTCL) has introduced customer services helpline in Pashto language. PTCL has just added another language to its Customer Services Helpline which aims to facilitate the customers in Pashto. Pashto is mainly spoken in Khyber Pakhtoonkhwa, FATA and other surrounding areas.

tomer Services Helpline which aims to facilitate the customers in Pashto. Pashto is mainly spoken in Khyber Pakhtoonkhwa, FATA and other surrounding areas.

EcoStar & GREE opens grand showroom

“The showroom was inaugurated by Rizwan Butt, COO, DWP Group – CE division. EcoStar & GREE showroom is a 1050 square foot facility, which displays all latest EcoStar & GREE products range in Lahore.”



Rizwan Butt, COO, DWP Group inaugurates the showroom along with CE Division, Rohail Bashir, COO, DWP Tech, Kaleem Khan, DGM Product, Waqi-ul-Haque, GM After Sales, Shoab Younus, Marketing Manager & Rizwan Siddiqui, Manager Displays.

Lahore: The EcoStar & GREE Shalimar Link Road Showroom ribbon cutting ceremony held on 5th October, 2015 evening with lot of guest and media persons.

The showroom was inaugurated by Rizwan Butt, COO, DWP Group – CE division. EcoStar & GREE showroom is a 1050 square foot facility, which displays all latest

EcoStar & GREE products range including GREE split air conditioners, EcoStar LED TV with vast range and sizes including regular, 3D and smart 3D LED TVs,

EcoStar UPS/inverters, batteries and solar solutions including water dispensers and much more.

Rizwan Butt, COO, DWP Group – CE Division at cer-

emony said: “Our new showroom will revolutionize the buying and selling journey for our customers in the area. We are passionate about providing our clients with the best product, amazing prices, service and quality. We’re extremely excited to bring EcoStar & GREE Showroom to Shalimar Link Road market which will cater the buying need for the residence nearby and they don’t have to go far places for buying. It’s a milestone for series of showroom to be opened all over Lahore in first phase and expanding to country level providing genuine EcoStar & GREE products right in your local area” ■

Huawei promotes Shawn as GM Devices for Pakistan



Lahore: It has been announced by the officials at Huawei that for devices department in Pakistan, Shawn has replaced Fanhong Bruce, as General Manager Devices. Fanhong Bruce began his journey with Huawei in 2008 and he was designated as the General Manager for Huawei Devices Pakistan in 2011. The credit for the success of Huawei devices in the local market majorly goes to Bruce. Now he will be serving his company as Regional Head in North Africa, managing around 20 countries.

Shawn would take hold of

the devices division in Pakistan immediately. He primarily began working as the Account Manager in Huawei Pakistan in 2012. Now he will be leading the Huawei devices division, which has achieved commendable significance, in a short span of time.

Shawn in his statement, related to his deposition, said: “Huawei has undoubtedly developed a strong market hold in Pakistan. Our smart devices in this region make great contributions in our gross sales, which are why; Huawei gives utmost importance to its business structure here.” He further said that, “We will continue to provide excellent devices and after sales services to our valued customers, as we have been doing in the past. The diverse and growing market of Pakistan holds great business prospects and Huawei will further strengthen its business ties in this region, as our purpose is to bring advanced technologies and innovations in the easy access of the people.” ■

PTCL signs LMS accord with Iqra University



Islamabad: Pakistan Telecommunication Company Limited (PTCL) has inked an agreement with Iqra University and The Academy School System to provide fully managed Learning Management System (LMS), ‘Blackboard’. Iqra University is the first university and school system of Pakistan, which will be using Blackboard LMS, designed to facilitate teachers, students and staff digitally. Blackboard (LMS) is world’s leading software for automating the administration, documentation, tracking, report-

ing and delivery of e-learning education courses and blended training programs for universities, vocational institutes and high schools. Companies also use this application for providing training to their employees. Kamal Ahmed, Chief Digital & Corporate Services Officer PTCL and Hunaid H. Lakhani, Chancellor Iqra University signed the agreement in the presence of senior officials from both the organizations at Iqra University Islamabad campus. PTCL is the exclusive provider of Blackboard (LMS) in Pakistan. ■

i2 Pakistan offers iPhones

Lahore: iPhone available on i2 Pakistan retail networks across Pakistan especially in Karachi, Lahore and Islamabad with official warranty and very competitive prices.

i2 Pakistan retails partners are iRaffels, iStore, & iTech and also pre-booking commenced on November 5.

i2 Pakistan offer iPhone 6s and iPhone 6s+, the most advanced iPhone ever, beginning on November 13 on selected retail outlets across Pakistan.

i2 Pakistan, is committed to supplying the highest quality products & providing the best-in-service experience to its customers. ■



SBP allows trade settlement in Chinese currency

Karachi: The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) has allowed ICBC Bank of China to settle import and export bills in Chinese currency Yuan. Now,

ICBC Bank can open accounts of other banks as well for their transactions/operations in Chinese currency, confirmed SBP. ■

Microsoft opens first flagship store

Microsoft is opening its first-ever flagship store in New York City, with a vibrant retail space that showcases the best of Microsoft products and services.

An opening six years in

the making, the Microsoft Flagship Store blends the world-famous retail experience of Fifth Avenue with innovative technology that is part of Microsoft’s DNA. ■

Warid presents “Go Global” for new postpaid users



Lahore: Warid has the largest postpaid customer base in Pakistan and has always been a pioneer in customer satisfaction by offering subscribers the latest technology and best offers. Keeping in mind the needs of customers, Warid has ensured excellence in communication

with unmatched connectivity both within Pakistan and internationally. “Go Global Offer” is a key example of this forward-thinking and customer-centered approach. New Warid postpaid customers can avail free on-net calls and free international calls for first three months by subscri-

ing to this offer without any charges. In addition to the convenience of a postpaid connection with 1000 Warid calling minutes for local connectivity, this exciting new development also allows hassle free 100 calling minutes to multiple international destinations in the US, Canada, China, Italy, France, Germany and UK. “Go Global Offer” is a complete calling solution, ideal for both locally and globally connected customers. It is suitable for businessmen who are looking to stay in touch with their suppliers, or parents who want connectivity with children living abroad or expats living in Pakistan who want a reliable connection with their families back home. ■

Mobilink Torchbearers take up Student Mentorship

“Jeffrey Hedberg, CEO - Mobilink, was also part of the volunteer team and dedicated his time to a book reading activity with the students”

Islamabad: Mobilink Foundation officially launched its ‘Teach to Transform’ (T2T) program by conducting a 90 mins mentorship session at Master Ayub’s Park School located at F-6, Islamabad. Under the program’s guidelines, Mobilink’s employee volunteers spent their time at the school by providing teaching support to students who were struggling academically, and required additional tuition. Jeffrey Hedberg, CEO – Mobilink, was also part of the volunteer team and dedicated his time to a book reading activity with the students. The activity was concluded after the distribution of necessary course books, self-help reading materials and stationery amongst students.



Jeffrey Hedberg, CEO Mobilink and Torchbearers with students of Master Ayub's Park School at the launch of Mobilink Foundation's student mentorship project 'Teach to Transform'.

T2T is a student mentorship program that assigns Mobilink Torchbearers to under privileged schools across the country. Launched in 2013, it is yet another innovative corporate social responsibility initiative by the Mobilink Foundation. The pilot phase of the project was launched at the

DSRA School in Karachi where 46 students benefited from the teaching assistance provided.

Commenting on this student mentorship program, Omar Manzur, Head of Corporate Communication - Mobilink stated, “Teach to Transform aims to academi-

cally assist students who are in need of slight guidance to remove their weaknesses, while also helping them realize the plethora of professional opportunities a sound education provides them with. For the past two years, we have expanded the reach of this initiative to impart education to students

from deserving communities across Pakistan through our dedicated team of Torchbearers, and this year we will continue to expand its outreach.”

Following the initial success of this program, Mobilink has decided to include it in the annual CSR activities of the Mobilink Foundation. Through T2T, Mobilink Torchbearers tutor students in Math, English and Science, while also making them aware of the professional opportunities around them through higher education. Mobilink Foundation continues to work in the areas of education, environment and health to raise awareness, impart knowledge and contribute positively towards growth of the communities it operates within. ■

Warid launches Mahana Offer



Lahore: Warid Telecom has launched an amazing, hassle free Mahana Offer for its prepaid customers allowing them to enjoy 1500 calling minutes from Warid to Warid numbers, 50 minutes from Warid to other mobile networks, 1500 SMS and 1500 MBs of Lightning Tez LTE Internet, all this for just Rs. 499, inclusive of all taxes.

All customers will have to

do is dial *99*33# to activate this offer and stay connected for the entire month.

Warid has always excelled in providing customers with easy access to a variety of affordable deals and packages. With the launch of Mahana Offer, valuable prepaid customers will be able to access an offer that has great value for money and simultaneously ensures convenience as well. ■

Samsung launches next generation Tizen smartphone Z3

Lahore: Samsung Electronics announced the Samsung Z3, an advanced Tizen-based smartphone that offers powerful performance and easy customization via exclusive, localized features including “My Galaxy” for easy access to nearby rewards and benefits.

Built with a crisp 5-inch HD resolution display, the Samsung Z3 delivers the ultimate viewing experience with its Super AMOLED technology for clearer and deeper images, along with an advanced 8 megapixel Bright Lens camera to capture more detailed and higher quality images. In addition, the Samsung Z3 features an ‘Ultra Data Saving

Mode’ that minimizes mobile data usage as well as ‘Ultra Power Saving Mode’ for continuous performance with low battery life.

“As a pioneer of Tizen platform, we have continuously introduced Tizen-based mobile devices, including Samsung Z1 and Samsung Gear S2, in our commitment to develop the Tizen ecosystem”, said JK Shin, CEO and Head of IT & Mobile Business at Samsung Electronics. “We developed the Samsung Z3 to provide the features that will help consumers capitalize on the growing Tizen ecosystem and make the most out of their personal mobile experience.” ■

Mobilink & PIP join hands to marked Global Handwashing Day

Islamabad: Plan International Pakistan in collaboration with Housing, Urban Development & Public Health Engineering (HUD&PHED), Government of Punjab, Water Aid and UNICEF organised Global Handwashing Day on 13th October, 2015 in Lahore. The event was attended by children, policy-makers and civil society to mark the 8th commemoration of the event. Global Handwashing Day was first celebrated in 2008. Since then October 15 has become synonymous with the Day.

Minister HUD&PHED Punjab, Malik Tanveer Aslam was the chief guest and the event was attended by members of the provincial assembly and representatives from provincial government departments, local government and NGOs.

Speaking at the event the Minister said: “We, as a developing country, face a number of challenges, for which we all have to work together to resolve. Poor hygiene practices like the simplest of all; not washing hands with soap, has a direct effect on everyone’s health, especially that of children.” He went to say: “Every day we lose 110 children under five years of age because of diarrhoea, a disease that can be prevented by practicing washing hands with soap before eating and after using the toilet.”

Finance Minister, Punjab Dr. Ayesha Ghaus Pasha, also a chief guest, in her speech said: “We cannot deny the importance of hygiene practices in our lives as this is one of the

basic teaching of our religion. In this era of development and progress there is an urgent need to collaborate our efforts to inculcate improved hygiene behaviours in our future generations. This can only be done by providing an environment in schools and communities where children can learn and practice good hygiene. This

standards are met. Mobilink recognizes the need to educate masses, especially children, about benefits of the simple hygienic act of Hand Washing. We are committed towards the cause and continue to spread awareness about the ‘Global Handwashing Day’ through frequent messaging and on ground activities.”



will not only bring prosperity to the nation but will also help us to tread the path of development.

Representatives from Mobilink, a program partner of Plan International Pakistan, were also present at the event. Speaking on behalf of the telco, Omar Manzur, Head of Corporate Communications said, “Pakistan has a high mortality rate linked to diarrhoea, which is a preventable disease provided the basic hygiene stan-

Country Director of Plan International Pakistan, Rashid Javed said: “I want to thank the Government of Punjab, Water Aid, UNICEF and academia for their efforts to highlight the importance of hand washing. It is heartening to see that we are formalising our efforts more consistently to give our children a healthy environment, and this cannot be done without practicing hygiene, access to clean drinking water and improved sanitation.” ■



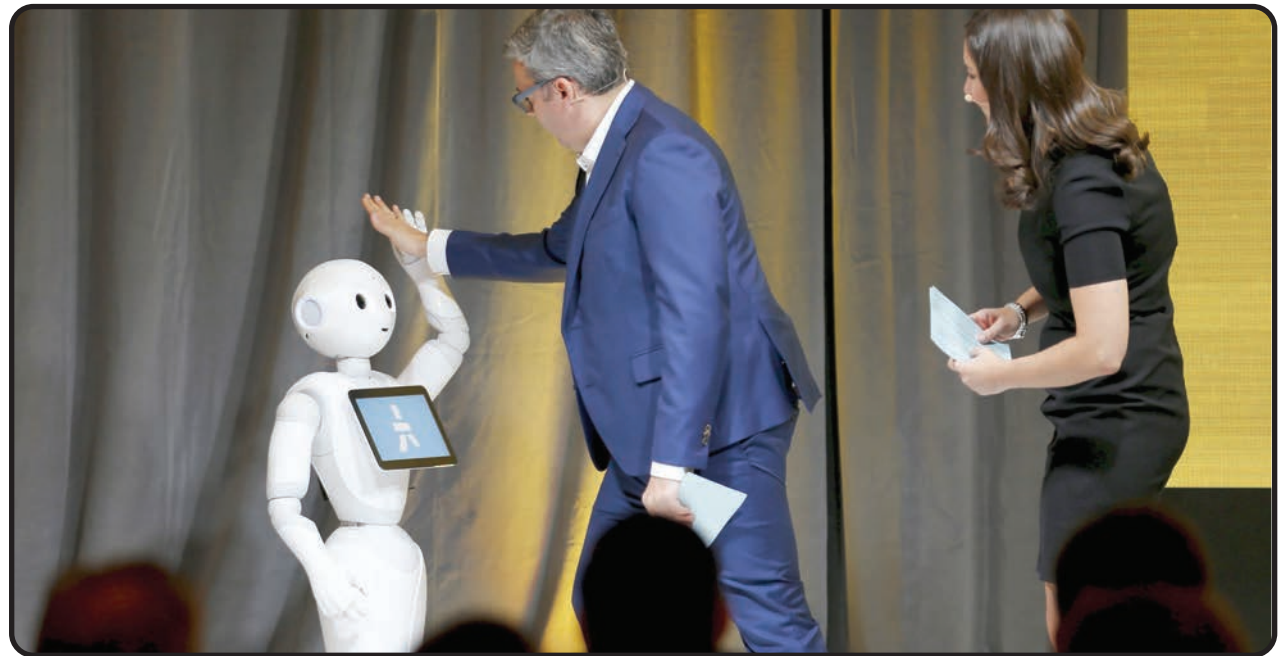
Automatic laundry folding machine

A model demonstrates a prototype of an automatic laundry folding machine during Ceatec, Asia's largest electronics trade show in Chiba, suburban Tokyo. Japan's Panasonic, Seven Dreamers and Daiwa House expected to commercialise automatic washing, folding, and clothes-sorting machines in 2017.



Emotional robot named "Pepper"

Geoffrey A. Fowler, a personal technology columnist at the Wall Street Journal, interacts with an emotional robot named "Pepper" during the Wall Street Journal Digital Live (WSJDLive) conference at the Montage hotel in Laguna Beach, California.



Ferrari starts trading in NYSE

A line up of Ferrari cars are displayed outside the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) as Ferrari starts trading in New York. The Dow clung to a modest gain, but the Nasdaq fell as traders weighed big technology deals, mixed earnings and Ferrari's roaring debut on Wall Street.



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“ Gold violin

A model poses with a 14-kilo-gram gold violin during a press preview at the Ginza Tanaka Jewellery shop in Tokyo. The gold violin made by Ginza Tanaka, based on the Yamaha musical instruments company's "YVN500S Stradivarius-type" violin, is valued at 150-million-yen (1.25 million USD).



“ A model takes selfie

A model takes selfie with mobile phone as she presents a creation from the Dolce & Gabbana Spring/Summer 2016 collection during Milan Fashion Week in Italy.



“ India Beach Fashion Week

Indian model and Bollywood actress Puja Gupta poses during the Gionee India Beach Fashion Week (GIBFW) 2015 in Mumbai.



“ Winter-summer model mobile telephone handsets

Models show off NTT DoCoMo's 2015-2016 winter-summer model mobile telephone handsets, (L-R) Galaxy Active neo, arrows Fit, Xperia Z5 Premium, Aquos Zeta, Disney mobile on docomo and Xperia Z5 during a press preview in Tokyo. NTT DoCoMo announced 13 models of smartphones, mobile phones and a tablet computer.



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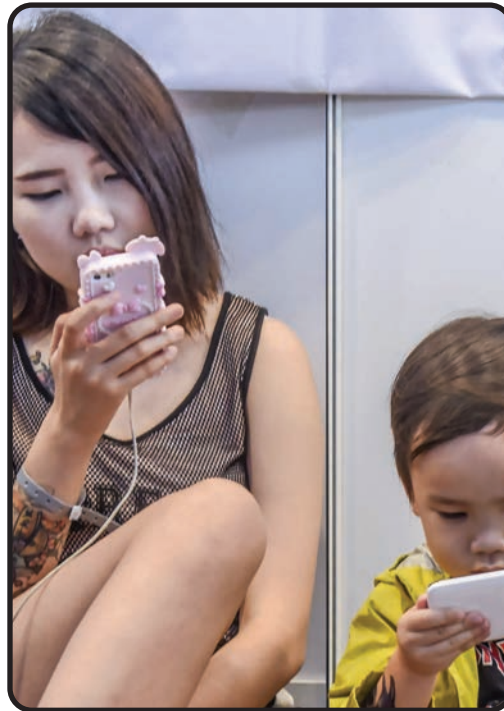
Chinese President meets Huawei chief in UK

Chinese President Xi Jinping (C) poses with Huawei Technologies President Ren Zhengfei (L) and members of staff as he is shown around the offices of the Chinese tech firm in London during his state visit to Britain.



Humanoid robot shaped smartphone

Japan's electronics giant Sharp unveils the humanoid robot shaped smartphone "Robohon" at a preview of Asia's largest electronics trade show Ceatec in Chiba. The Robohon, designed by Japan's famous robot creator Tomotaka Takahashi, can walk, speak, dance and make phone calls, will go on sale early next year.



Woman, son use mobile phones

A woman and her son use their mobile phones as they sit in front of their stall at the China TATTOO convention in Nanning, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, China.

US President Barack Obama poses for a selfie

US President Barack Obama poses for a selfie taken by veteran star player Abby Wambach as he welcomes the United States Women's National Soccer Team to the White House in Washington to honor their victory in the 2015 FIFA Women's World Cup



Melinda Gates speaks to conference

Melinda Gates, co-founder of Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, speaks after taking part in the opening plenary of the Global Maternal Newborn Health Conference in Mexico City. The foundations of the two of the world's richest men are stepping up efforts to use innovative data and mobile technology to end easily preventable deaths of mothers and newborns in the poorest pockets of Mexico and Central America.



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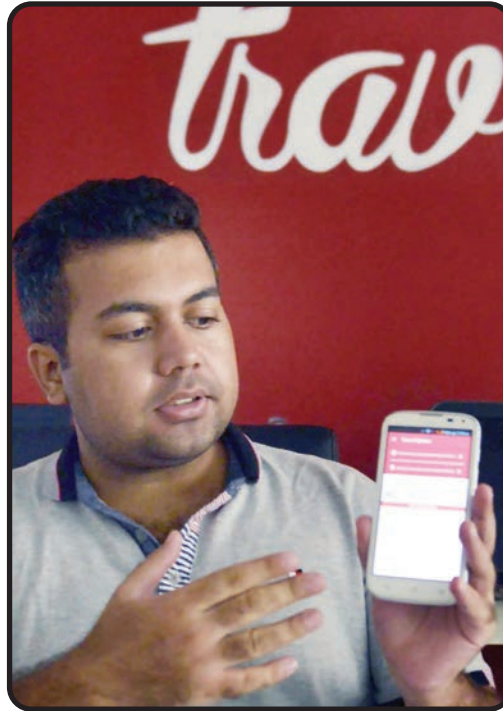
Scotland's First Minister takes a 'selfie'

Scotland's First Minister and leader of the Scottish National Party (SNP), Nicola Sturgeon, takes a 'selfie' with SNP Ministers after address delegates on the final day of the SNP conference in Aberdeen, north east Scotland.



Microsoft unveils laptop & smartphone

Microsoft Corporate Vice President Panos Panay introduces a new tablet titled the Microsoft Surface Pro 4 at a media event for new Microsoft products in New York City. Microsoft also unveiled a virtual reality head set titled the HoloLens, a phone titled the Lumia 950, a laptop titled the Surface Book and a biometrics wristband titled the Band 2.



Rickshaw app service in Lahore

CEO of Travely, Shahmir Khan shows an order from a customer for a rickshaw app service on his mobile phone in Lahore. A group of young Pakistani entrepreneurs have launched an Uber-like rickshaw app service that is quickly growing popular with commuters struggling to find transport in the teeming eastern city of Lahore.

Health parameters from a user's breaths

An employee of Japan's electronics giant Kyocera demonstrates a prototype device and a smartphone that can analyse health parameters from a user's breaths during Ceatec, Asia's largest electronics trade show in Chiba, suburban Tokyo. Some 500 companies and organisations exhibited their latest products and technology.



Smart card to change the language of menus

Japan's electronics giant Sony unveils a new smart card for a new service which can change the language of menus or other information for foreign visitors during the Felica Connect event in Tokyo. Sony displayed various shaped smart devices such as rings, bracelets and key chains that can be used instead of payment cards.

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Road Safety Information and Services Available at **car4u**

Driving in Bad Weather 	Driving on Motorways You should only use the outer lane to overtake slower moving vehicles when the left-hand and middle lanes are occupied with slower moving traffic.	Road Signs 	Car Import Policy Important Forms Car4u Route Planner
Advanced Used Car Search Try our new advanced used car search form. Find the right car for you by choosing from 16 different search criteria from make and model to colour and body type.	Safe Driving Practices 	Safety & Security Car Finance Car Breakdown	Useful Numbers
Accident & Emergency 	Driving Schools Car Parts & Accessories Car Rentals	Terrorism Alerts 	Car4u Insurance A Car4u motor insurance policy gives you the maximum coverage with greater benefits, innovative features and hassle free post and pre insurance processing
Government Policies Current Fuel Prices Traffic Updates	Take Our Quick Test 	Dealing With Car Breakdowns Get your vehicle off the road if possible and warn other traffic by using your hazard warning lights, particularly if your vehicle is causing an obstruction.	Seasonal Advice

Road Safety Facts

1. Today, approximately 3000 people will die in road accidents. That represents roughly ten aircraft crashes every day.
2. Globally, road traffic crashes have become the leading cause of death for young people aged 15-29 years.
3. Low- and middle-income countries account for more than 85% of global deaths from road traffic crashes.
4. Nearly half of those dying on the world's roads are pedestrians, cyclists and motorcyclists. Millions more people often remain disabled for life.
5. The global financial cost of road traffic injuries is US\$518 billion each year – we are losing an economy the size of Switzerland every year.
6. The cost to low- and middle-income countries is US\$ 65 billion, more than all incoming development aid.
7. Road crashes take up much-needed health care resources in communities that often suffer from other severe health issues.
8. By 2020, unless action is taken, road traffic injuries are predicted to rise overall by about 65 per cent.

for reference visit our statistics page

Avari Hotels & car4u - a Joint Effort

In an attempt to reduce the needless loss of life on the roads of Pakistan, Car4u have created a state of the art Road Safety and Driving Education website. With advice and instructions covering all hazardous driving situations, we are addressing this national cause as our number one priority.

Avari Hotels are proud to offer full support and assistance to ensure the Car4u road safety initiative reaches the largest audience. Road safety is everyone's responsibility. The more people know and understand the hazards is a step closer to safer roads. We encourage you to take the Quick Test at the **car4u** website.



Join **car4u** in this noble cause and help raise awareness of Road Safety in Pakistan

For your feedback please contact us at info@car4u.com.pk

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MODEL RATE

Q1000 QTAB	21000
Q1100 QTAB	22500
Q400 QTAB	11900
V6 QTAB	10900
A1{3G}	11500
A115{3G}	5500
A290{3G}	7800
B170	2700
B255	2050
B260	2100
B33	2050
B40	1890
B500	2800
B65	1800
B80	1990
C10	1950
C12	1825
C6	2290
E11	3450
E16	3600
E4	2750
E50	2650
E739	1850
E875	3650
E995	3500
F1 (4Sim)	2375
G103	1650
G400	2750
H50	1850
H52	1860
H54	2050
H60	2050
H63	2025
H64	2050
H67	2300
i4{3G}	7250
i5{3G}	8800
i5i{3G}	9500
i5i(classic)	7775
i6i{3G}	8250
J2500	2750
J5500	2999
L1	1490
L2	1550
L3	1525
L4	1500
L6	1575
L7	1650
LT150	10900
LT250	13900
M100	2200
M125	2350
M150	2250
M225	2400
M250	2450
M30	2200
M50	2150
M70	2500
M82	7950
M82i	6900
M85	2690

M88{3G}	8800
M90{3G}	13500
M95{3G}	10500
N100	2150
N150	2200
N175	2200
N250	2275
N90	2075
Power 1000	3200
Power 3	2600
Power 4	2275
Power 6	2350
R100	2050
R1000	2750
R200	1700
R2000	2650
R220	1750
R240	2050
R250	2550
R300	1825
R3000	2950
R360	2600
R370	1875
R380	2100
R390	1990
R395	2250
R400	2250
R440	2150
R450	2250
R480	2650
R500	2290
R550	1925
R650	2700
R700	2000
R720	2090
R740	2475
R750	2500
R800	2625
R900	2600
R950	2450
R990	2950
S1{3G}	10950
S150	2075
S5 {3G}	14900
S50	2050
T2 {3G}	3650
T200{3G}	5350
T250{3G}	5600
T300{3G}	7250
T400{3G}	7990
T480{3G}	6500
T5 {3G}	3650
T50{3G}	4990
T500{3G}	8990
W1	5990
W20	2200
W200	3800
X10{3G}	4650
X14{3G}	6600
X150(1GB)	10500
X2(music)	4100
X2{2G}	3850
X20{3G}	6800
X2i{3G}	3990
X30{3G}	5490
X34{3G}	6650
X350{3G}	9800

X37{3G}	5850
X4	2450
X40{3G}	6990
X400{3G}	10500
X450	10500
X5	4000
X6{2G}	3900
X600{3G}	14900
X6i{3G}	4500
X7	2850
X700 {3G}	12000
X700i {3G}/2GB	12900
X80{3G}	6900
X90{3G}	8300
X900-16GB/2GB	14900
X950 {4G}	26500
XL10	2750
XL20	2850
XL30	2875
XL40	2890
XL50	3250
Z7 {3G}	23500
Z8 {4G}	16990
Z8 Plus {4G}	20999
Z9 {4G}	22500
LINQ L10	13500
LINQ L15	12900
LINQ X100	8150
LINQ X300	12500
LINQ X70	7050
3G Bar Phone	3990



MODEL RATE

P10i	8700
P12i	10900
P15i	12800
P9i	4950
T20i	10500
T30i	11500
X100	1650
X102	1850
X400	2475
X660	2675
X770N	2975



MODEL RATE

A10i {3G}	17000
M7i {3G}	6300
M8i {3G}	10500
V7s {3G}	19000

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MODEL	RATE
DESIRE 200	16,500
DESIRE 300	22,700
DESIRE 600	35,500
DESIRE U	22,000
DESIRE V	21,000
DESIRE X{Brightex}	25,500
HTC ONE	60,500
Htc one mini	42,000

SAMSUNG

MODEL	RATE
A3 {4G} LTE	29000
A5 {4G} LTE	40000
A7 {4G} LTE	43000
A8 {4G} LTE (DS)	51000
B310E	2600
B312E	3500
B360E	5800
E5 / {4G} LTE	29500
E7 / {4G} LTE	35500
G313 [Ace4 Lite]	9500
G313H [Ace4]Dual	10500
G350[Star Advance]	9500
G355H[Core 2]{3G}	12999
G360H[Core Prime]	14500
G530H[Prime]{3G}	20000
G850[ALPHA]{4G}	50000
G900[Galaxy S5]	46999
G920[Galaxy S6]{S}	54999
G920[Galaxy S6]{D}	59999
G925[Galaxy S6 Edge]	69999
G928[Galaxy S6 Edge+]	89999
i9060i[Grand Neo+]	17200
i9300i[S3 Neo]{3G}	24999
J100F - J1 {4G}	15500
J100H - J1 {3G}	12999
J110H - ACE {3G}	12000
J200H - J2 {3G}	16500
J500H[Galaxy J5]	23000
J700H[Galaxy J7]	28000
N900[Note 3]{3G}	48999
N910[Note 4]{3G}	59999
N915F[Note 4 Edge]	89999
N920[Note 5] {4G}	77500
S5611 (2.4") {3G}	8000
S7262[Star Pro]	8500

NOKIA

MODEL	RATE
105 {Dual}	2750
108 {Dual}	3550
130 {Dual}	3050
215 {Dual}	4100
220 {Dual}	4950
222 {Dual}	5200
225 {Dual}	6375
515 {Dual}3G	15800
Lumia 530{3G}	10850
Lumia 625{3G}	22500
Lumia 630{3G}	15950
Lumia 720{3G}	27600
Lumia 730{3G}	20750



VOICE

MODEL	RATE
v110	2600
v115	2650
v118	2750
v120	1800
v121	1450
v122	1850
v123	1750
v125	2000
v130	1550
v133	1750
v140	1650
v142	1950
v144	1950
v145	1900
v150	2400
v150i	1950
v155	1950
v160	2150
v165	2650
v170	2700
v174	2050
v175	3000
v176	2100
v177	3050
v180	2750
v180i	2750
v185	2350
v190	2575
v380	2350
v390	2400
v395	2450
v400	2975
v410	1700
v430	1900
v440	1750
v445	1975
v450	2300
v455	2300
v460	1850
v470	2600
v520	2550
v530	2800
v540	3000
v550	2950
v555	2900

v560	2150
v610	2800
v630	2800
v650	3200
v666	2200
v700	3400
V710	2850
v750	2500
v850	3700
v888	2550
v950	3300

SMART PHONES SERIES

v10i	3900
v12 (3G)	5950
v14 (3G)	4400
v15 (3G)	4600
v20	4500
v21 (3G)	5200
v22 (3G)	5500
v25 (3G)	6300
v30 (3G)	10200
v35 (3G)	11500
v40 (3G)	11500
v40i (3G)	7300
v44 (3G)	7500
v50 (3G)	7600
v55 (3G)	7600
v60 (3G)	8800
v65 (3G)	8800
v70 (3G)	9800
v75 (3G)	9800
v80 (3G)	10200
v90 (3G)	15500
X2 {3G}	7800
X3 (3G)	10500
X5 (3G)	16000



HUAWEI

MODEL	RATE
Ascend G7{4G}[D]	28499
Ascend G700{3G}	25900
Ascend G730{3G}	21500
Ascend G750{3G}	32000
G8 - {4G} (DUOS)	41000
Ascend P6{3G}	36500
Ascend P7{4G}	41000
Ascend Y330{3G}	9000
Ascend Y520{3G}	9800
Ascend Y530{3G}	15000
Ascend Y550{4G}	15000
Ascend Y625{3G}	12999
Ascend Y635{4G}	13500
HONOR 3C LITE	16000
HONOR 3C{3G}	17900
HONOR 4C{3G}	19999
HONOR 6 {4G}	36500
Mate 5 Gold (3GB)	67999
Mate 7 Gold (3GB)	57000
Mate 7 Silver (2GB)	50000
P8 (32GB/2GB) (S)	50000
P8 (64GB/3GB) (D)	54000
P8 Lite {4G}	23900
S7-721G	14000
S7-721U	16000
T1 - 701U	14500
Y3 - Y360	8500
Y5 - Y560	11000

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MODEL RATE

A 1	1250
FT01	2595
FT02	2695
FT03	2695
FT04	2795
G 1	1295
G 2	1295
G 3	1295
G 510	1395
G 610	1495
G 710	1495
G 880	1795
L 226	1350
L 228	1550
M 35	1450
N 10	1782
N 11	1795
N 12	1795
N 18	1495
N 79TV	1750
N 9	1695
T 1	1650
T 2	1650
T 28	1850
U 225	1295
U 220[Flat]	1075
U 228[Flat]	1095
U 229	1250
U 310	1450
U 505+	1662
U 628 TV	1850
U 629 TV	1750
U 873	1495
W 1	2195
W 1+	2150
W 22	1795
W 23	1495
W 29	1495
W 3	1995
W 37	1595
W 39	1595
W 7	1650
W 8	1695
WP 86	1840
WP 89	1882
Z 1	1295
Z 12	1850
Z 13	1650
Z 2	1750
Z 5	1750
Z 6	1550
Z 7	1250
Z 8	1695

SMARTPHONES

A5{3G}	4999
A76	6200
A77 [Flat]	4900
A8	4900
A97{3G}	6500
A98 {3G}	6999
Classic 1	6900
Classic 9	14900
G 6 Plus{3G}	7999
G 6c {3G}	8500
G 9 [Flat]	9999
G10 fashion	9999
G10 honor	15900
G10 mini	4950
G10 OC	11900
G-Note 3	14900

Gpad 2	7499
Gpad 201[Flat]	7000
Gpad 3[Flat]	7900
Gpad 701{3G}	8900
LTE 1[Flat]	14500
LTE 2	8000
LTE 3	10999
Shark 1	2999
Shark 2	3495
Shark 3	3695
Smart 1	4595
Smart 2	4595
Smart 5	5999
Tango 7	19900
X-Hero 7{3G}	12999



MODEL RATE

Xperia C3	27500
Xperia E3{D}	17000
Xperia E4 {D}	16000
Xperia M2 Aqua 4G	27500
Xperia M2{D}	25000



MODEL RATE

Lumia 430 {3G}	7950
Lumia 435{3G}	7950
Lumia 532{3G}	8700
Lumia 535{3G}	13900
Lumia 540{3G}	16250
Lumia 630{3G}	15950
Lumia 640 XL{3G}	22700



MODEL RATE

PZ1 {3G}	6550
PZ10{3G}	12500
PZ15{3G}	13999
PZ18{3G}	16500
PZ8{3G}	9400
RX100{3G}	14900
RX200{3G}	10750
RX35{3G}	5700
RX40{3G}	6700
RX45{3G}	4599
RX50{3G}	5200
RX55{3G}	5450
RX60{3G}	9499
RX65{3G}	6950
RX70{3G}	8699
RX75{3G}	8899
RX80{3G}	9399

A200{2.4"	2150
A210{2.4"	1975
A220{2.4"	2075
A225{2.4"	2125
A230{2.4"	2550
A235{2.4"	2375
A240{2.4"	2550
A250{2.4"	1999
A255{2.4"	2250
A285{2.4"	2125
C100{1.8"	1675
C110{1.8"	1625
C115{1.8"	1875
J500{2.6"	2450
J505{2.6"	2990
J510{2.4"	2150
J515{2.4"	2675
N300{2.4"	2150
N310{2.4"	2150
N320{2.4"	1890
S500{2.8"	2699
S600{2.8"	2850
S610{2.8"	2875
S620{2.8"	2975
S625 {2.8"	3150
S700{2.8"	3775



MODEL RATE

A-1000	8500
A-2010	11500
A-319	7900
A-5000	13900
A-536	13000
A-6000	14900
A-606	16999
A-7000	19500
P-70	24900
S-60	22700
S-650	14500
S-850	19500
S-860	24900
S-90	29900
Vibe X2	30600
Vibe Z2 Pro	51000



MODEL RATE

R1001	10900
R831K	14900
R2001	18900
R3001	25900
R1K	34900
N1 Mini	39900
FIND 7a	45900
R5	49900
Find 7	55900
N3	69900

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QMobile Noir Z9

QMobile presents sleek Noir Z9, the thinnest smartphone ever from the company. Weighing only a few grams and measuring barely a few millimeters the handset QMobile Noir Z9 can make the world slip under your fingers. As light as 97g, 5.1 mm of thickness is the very next thing you'll get impressed with. 3G connectivity is a thing of past, QMobile Noir Z9's smooth 4G is orchestrated by a powerful 1.2 GHz quad-core processor in combination with a 4.8 inch HD screen that's brightly illuminated by sharpest of AMOLED technology. The latest addition to QMobile Noir Z clan is like presenting elegance in the service of performance. The handset uses double aluminium effect to reduce the visual thickness.

RS.
22,500



Nokia Lumia 640 XL

Microsoft Devices accidentally announced the Lumia 640 XL a sophisticated, stylish and reliable smartphone under Microsoft Lumia family. A convenient and efficiently multifunctional model having thin plastic body conceals a fast and powerful Lumia processor that allows you to easily and comfortably use the gadget for communication, entertainment and work. Lumia 640 is built on the platform of a 4-core processor Qualcomm Snapdragon 400 with 1GB of "RAM" and graphics accelerator Adreno 305. Due to the installed operating system Windows Phone 8.1 users can comfortably control the Lumia smartphone, using an extensive set of standard applications.

RS.
22,700



Samsung Galaxy A3

Samsung makes Galaxy A3 full metal With sleek and sexy looks, the handset is quite similar to A5 in overall look and the design. Samsung Galaxy A3 is nothing like you have ever seen before. The first difference that you'll notice is the size of the beauty. The body of Samsung A3 is consist of single frame of Aluminium rather than the molded pieces having sprinkled with the Backed plastic on top like Samsung Galaxy Alpha and Note 4. It's nothing like company's previous phones with detachable back cover and removable battery, the body of this latest gadget Samsung's Galaxy A3 is fully sealed like the latest iphone 6 plus or the even the previously hit iphone 5s and you cannot remove the battery or separate the back cover.

RS.
25,999



Huawei P8 Lite

World renown brand Huawei hits again the masses with a smaller version of the famous flagship feature set. P8 Lite smartphone that supports two SIM-cards. The device is equipped with Huawei battery that enables P8 Lite to live longer with a capacity of 2,200 mAh. With full 2GB of RAM and huge built-in storage capacity of 16GB, P8 also has a slot for microSD. Lite version supports communication standards LTE Cat 4, UMTS and GSM, its Octa-core powerful processor HiSilicon Kirin 620 provides a stable continuous operation P8 Lite is powered by Android™ 5.0 with company's own proprietary user interface Emotion UI 3.0. The smartphone has a thin and slim body.

RS.
23,900



Lenovo P70

The New Lenovo sleek smartphone P70 is born to rule, ideally suited to the power geeks who demand the most out of their portable mobile gadget. Carrying a long lasting battery, Lenovo P70 is a powerful, fast, bright and stylish handset that makes it easy to replace the dedicated equipment like a digital camera. Lenovo's P70 supports all major communication standards and provides you with an absolute access to information through the Internet, like never before. Lenovo P70's built-in applications enables you to communicate in social networks with ease and equips you with an unlimited access to a lot of exciting games. Lenovo Epic P70 has an added bonus in form of a huge and capacious 4000 mAh battery.

RS.
24,900



Sony Xperia M2

Introducing Sony Xperia M2, the slimmest mid-range 4G smartphone with the best technology in its class. Wrapped in a plastic body, Sony's Xperia M2 is equipped with quite a large screen for a "mid-ranger", 4.8 inches IPS-matrix display having a qHD resolution of 960 x 540 pixels. Sony Xperia M2's hood packs a quad-core Snapdragon 400 processor, clocked at 1.2 GHz and has 1 GB of RAM. Main camera of Xperia M2 by Sony is of 8 megapixels, having HDR technology and automatic scene recognition like every other Xperia family member. Xperia's M2 is not dust-and waterproof and carries a 2300mAh battery, more than enough juice to last for a day and a half.

RS.
25,000

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RS.
89,999

Samsung Galaxy S6 Edge Plus

South Korean company Samsung's mobile division presents us with a remarkable flagship, namely Galaxy S6 Edge plus that immediately attracts attention because of its unusual design. Company does not let old users down with the possibility of new items as old Smartphone still please us with their functionalities. Samsung new revolutionary handset S6 Edge Plus has an exceptional design in resemblance to the S6 Edge, and the most notable part of the new flagship is its curves on the both sides of the screen and such a small detail definitely attracts attention, also it turned out that this solution is also very useful and functional. To control S6 smartphone new gestures are added, and even the Edge interface has undergone some changes for the better. Despite boring us for several generations with plastic bodies and what not, S6 Edge finally gets a practical material for protection. Corning Gorilla Glass 4 covers the S6 screen with the cutting edge technology and the back of the smartphone is also protected with the same glass. So it has an edge over other devices and is also much better tolerated to scratch and shocks. The body has an intense color with a beautiful glossy sheen, body is rounded around the corners which in combination with S6 Edge plus handset's curved screen gives smooth and graceful colors. Directly below the S6 logo, Samsung screen has the only mechanical button "Home", display which is the most conspicuous part of the smartphone.

Huawei Mate S

Huawei has unveiled new Ascend Mate S super phone in Pakistan, a phone that is equipped with the latest force touch feature (only available in premium version) which probably is only upgrade smartphones will see this year. Earlier model will be replaced by Huawei Mate S, that holds a slightly smaller 5.5inch screen as compared to 5.7 inch massive display screen. Full touch display and beautiful craftsmanship, Huawei's Mate S has proved that their designs are best from the rest. Handset comes with 3GB RAM and latest Kirin 935 processor by company itself for blazing fast performance. Ascend Mate S's will be running on a lollipop Android with custom UI for better productivity. The latest update will be its front camera of 7MP that provides quality video conversations on Mate S by Huawei. Rear of the phone is excellently designed with improved 20.0 megapixel snapper on top combined with LED flash to capture HD videos and pictures. Huawei S is built supporting power touch, allowing you to have personalized user experience and tons of apps based on sensitive touch interactions. Featuring advanced 16 gigabytes of storage, Huawei Mate's S LTE fourth generation support is much enhanced to allow better streaming and surfing.

RS.
68,000



RS.
51,000

Lenovo Vibe Z2

Once more, Lenovo announces sleek Vibe Z2, a smartphone that meets all the modern trends of the latest smartphone designs, which primarily focus on functional aesthetics. Precisely smooth lines of Lenovo Z2 elegantly emphasize the chrome edges, wrapped in a gorgeous brushed aluminium casing the phone not only has an impressively stunning design but also portrays a far superior performance. Vibe's Z2 is an excellent choice for those who appreciate high quality and want to achieve excellence in nearly about everything. Equipped with most advanced technologies, Vibe Z2's camera has an optical stabilizer on top of a 13 megapixel sensor that can take great shots at any time of the day. A preinstalled application called SNAPit on your Vibe Edition Z2 allows you to take pictures at a much more professional level plus you can use several presets to further enhance the photos. Packing an HD high-resolution at 1280 * 720 pixels, The latest Vibe device is equipped with a 5.5 inch display. Z2 boasts a stunningly high detail and brightness and thanks to the wide viewing angles, every happening on the screen will be available to you, even in bright sunlight. Z2 is an entertainment machine, view movies, images, stream online movies or play your favorite games from the comfort of your pocket. The hardware platform of Z2 smartphone is based on a quad-core Snapdragon 801 processor from Qualcomm.

Huawei Ascend Mate 7

Hello to the Huawei's most Powerful and easy to use smartphone Ascend Mate 7 Gold, a stylish and ultra-thin smartphone that will surprised you in the most pleasant of manners by Huawei company's limitless possibilities. Mate 7 Gold is all about the golden colour of latest handset having a powerful processor like Mate 2, with eight cores and two gigabytes of RAM. A large amount of internal memory of Mate out of 16 gigabytes on the unit 7 Gold will be preoccupied with a variety of entertainment content as well as operating system. Built-in memory as we already saw in Mate 2 can be easily expanded. Huawei's Ascend always supported additional cards in every Mate possible. Loaded with Emotion UI 3.0 on top of Android KitKat, 7 Gold from Huawei is a unique smartphone meeting every connectivity challenge, from Wifi to micro USB and bluetooth to wired connections. Ascend 7 has a powerful battery of 4100mAh that guarantees the possibility of Mate 7 Gold's continuous operation without getting worried and looking to recharge again. New 7 Golds plated smartphones are everywhere, Mate7 Gold has a 6.0 inch large display as with a fine resolution of 1920x1080 pixels. Wide viewing angle of Huawei is excellent so you'll not be bored during work break. 13 megapixel camera of Mate7 is capable of snapping some amazing photos and can shoot high quality videos. The front 5.0 MP camera of Huawei Ascend's Mate 7 Gold is perfect for live communication.

RS.
57,000



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RS.
54,500

Samsung GALAXY S6 - G920

Inspired by the work of glassblowers and art forging the SAMSUNG Galaxy S6 represents an elegant combination of glass and metal. The world's first domed on both sides display, appealing curves and a radiant glass surface you put a stunning design statement. The high resolution and an F1.9 aperture you can contact the two cameras of the Samsung Galaxy S6 sharp images. Briefly, pressing the Home button to go directly to camera mode - so you do not miss important moments. With improved quick charging and over previous models shortened Akkuladezeiten¹ of the SAMSUNG Galaxy S6 battery is never an issue. Using optimized technology, you can use your phone easy, fast and above all wirelessly charge on an inductive Ladestation^{2,3}. ¹ charging times depend on individual types of use. ² Inductive charging station available as an option. ³ Available with WPC or PMA-certified charging stations. The SAMSUNG Galaxy S6 convinced with increased takeoff speed for operating system and applications as well as greater energy efficiency compared to previous models. With its 64-bit architecture, LPDDR4 and advanced GPU it stands for power, multitasking and multimedia capabilities of the new generation.

Huawei Ascend Mate 7 Silver

Say hi to the Huawei's most anticipated handset ever: The Ascend Mate 7, attracting all the professionals and geeks out there with a love of latest technology and gadgets. This huawei handset known as Mate 7 supercedes its earlier version known as Mate 2 by serving you the best of both worlds. An extra large 6.0 inch full HD display like mate 2 in a ultra sleek metallic body of 7 that'll fit comfortably in your hands. Packed with an Octa-Core processor based on Kirin 925 SoC chipset with optimised switching between power & performance, still missing Mate 2? For the first time Huawei's Ascend has featured fingerprint sensors in a Mate phablet or any other phone for that matter. as far as 7 is concerned, Huawei has confidently declared that fingerprint sensor technology that they use on the Ascend 7 is the most advanced to date. Users only need less than 1 second to unlock the Mate 7, unlocking all operations with just a single touch without any delay. The chinese giant have not released any price for the 7 but its going to reach the pakistani market real soon. Mate7 has a built-in private security engine to protect all the sensitive huawei apps including fingerprint sensor. with pretty exceptional camera features Mate7 is equipped with Sony's 4th generation 13 MP sensor with 5 lens system. Huawei Ascend's Mate 7 makes sure that you live the moment.



RS.
49,999



RS.
41,000

Huawei G8

Here comes Huawei with mighty G8 declaring war on its competitors, utterly without any doubt it's a stylish smart-phone carrying its expertise in every possible department. The all new Huawei G8 is a successor to the not much older model G7 but is bigger, better and powerful and it looks as if they are challenging the smartphone giants with this massive phone packing great features. Huawei's G8 is equipped with latest features and is enclosed in a metal body to save it from dust and crashes. It is elegantly designed phone with round edges and slim shape. Huawei G8's Octa-Core (two Quad-core processors of 1.5 and 1.0), Snapdragon Processor and RAM of 3GB runs the Android Lollipop 5.1 operating system with pre-loaded GUI for enhanced features. With Huawei giant G8 the company has rolled out this Smartphone in two variants i.e. 3GB version with 32GB storage and other is 2GB version with 16GB storage capacity. Both Huawei handsets are soon going to be available as G8 with different editions in the markets all across Pakistan. Like its predecessor, it is equipped with Dual-SIM functionality but holds slightly less pixel density i.e. 401ppi instead of 424ppi. G8 offers high end communication with elegant design as it features 3G, 4G LTE, Wi-Fi and near field communication. To provide entertainment at its best, G8 is equipped with a bulky display of 5.5 inches bundled with Adreno 405 GPU ensuring a pixel density of 401 ppi which is great for high end gaming.

Samsung Galaxy A8

Making news! Samsung's stylish new smart handset, Galaxy A8 is now official with a sturdy body and endless possibilities. It is exactly what you need as a modern and social user as one cannot afford being cut off. Samsung in Black is absolutely perfect for viewing and replying to large official emails messages, watching movies and playing those exciting games. Samsung Galaxy A series has a tradition of large screens so any information would be displayed perfectly on its 5.7 inch screen with a resolution of 1080x1920 pixels. Samsung new touch screen models perfectly convey sharp and bright Galaxy colors with perfect Galaxy responds to multiple simultaneous touches. Samsung new handset have enough in built RAM like all Galaxy gadgets, opportunities for communication and exchange of data is just like any other new age modern smartphone. The all new Galaxy device like Galaxy E5 allows you to be in touch, using just two different Samsung SIM cards, providing Galaxy A free access to the Internet via Wi-Fi. Exchange of data with external devices on Galaxy A8 can be either through a wireless network Bluetooth, or via cable, because this smartphone is equipped with a microUSB v2.0 connector.



RS.
51,000

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RS.
10,500

QMobile Noir M95

QMobile unveils elegant Noir M95, a multi functional modern smartphone that supports two SIM cards making it an ideal android smartphone for the busy business professionals. QMobile Noir M95 helps you separate personal and business calls in a most reliable manner that you would never had witness before. The proposed device AKA QMobile Noir M95's highness runs on a very convenient operating system version of Android called KitKat (4.4), offering smooth multitasking experience and a powerful battery. QMobile Noir M handset packs a powerful quad-core processor underneath the hood which is clocked at 1.3Gigahertz and together with one gigabyte of RAM, QMobile's Noir M95 is available to cope with all types of modern.



RS.
8,800

QMobile Nitro Pro M88

QMobile has unveiled Nitro Pro M88. Built with precision, the new phone is set towards user friendly design and blazing fast performance to provide users with all the new features available in the Smartphone market. QMobile Nitro M88 performs faster than any other Smartphone in its series thanks to its Quad-core chipset which is built on new architecture to boost performance without heating the phone up. QMobile Pro M88 comes with built-in 3G call camera which can also be used for snapping quick selfies but the main capturing unit resides on back of the phone holding a 5MP lens with LED flash that allows QMobile Nitro Pro users to capture vivid images in night time and the phone is capable of capturing videos.



RS.
9,500

Samsung Galaxy G350

Samsung has updated its Galaxy Android Smartphone collection yet again, this time with the super stylish Samsung Galaxy Star 2 Plus Smartphone, a sleek and sophisticated handset for professional and personal use. An upgraded version of Samsungs hugely popular Samsung Galaxy Star 2 handset, the brand new Galaxy Star 2-Plus Smartphone includes a 4.3-inch capacitive touchscreen, an Android v4.4.2 KitKat operating system, a 1.2GHz single core processor, and a brilliant 3-megapixel camera with LED flash and video option. The Samsung Star 2 Plus Smartphone handset supports both 2G and 3G networks dual-SIM, it offers 4GB of internal storage.



RS.
10,999

GFive 4G LTE 3

GFive unveils stunning and unique 4G LTE series and this model holds 3 editions in current series launched by the maker and all of them are a treat to user. Phone encloses a powerful Mediatek 6735 chipset that allows users of GFive 4G LTE 3 to multitask all day on a single charge, without facing any overheating or battery drainage issues. It embeds 2GB RAM that allows heavy application multitasking without any lags. GFive's 4G LTE 3 is product of next generation design incorporating the latest of technology as it comes with stylishly thin Bezels and a 5.0 inch IPS display protected by Gorilla Glass. GFive 4G LTE's premium GPU ensures smooth rendering of heavy graphics and the phone embeds a great surround



RS.
11,500

Lenovo A2010

Lenovo launches 4G A2010 to provide affordable LTE experience for everyone. The company is already known for its low end quality smartphones but now they have even lowered the price further in this release. Lenovo A2010 is powered by a 64Bit Quad-Core processor and 1GB RAM which is enough for its Android 5.1 operating system to run properly. The phone will support LTE on one SIM whereas 3G will be supported on both SIM slots. Lenovo's A2010 will be powering 5.0 MP back camera and 2 megapixel camera on its back for clear imaging. The phone is designed with a slightly curved back to provide extra support while holding. Lenovo A2010's body and three touch buttons are provided.



RS.
11,000

Huawei Y5

Huawei to announce Honor Bee AKA the Y5 handset in Pakistan. A low range quality smartphone, powered by a chipset that is quite common among the low-end models. The smartphone Huawei Y5 packs a Spreadtrum SC7731G Quad-Core processor clocked at a speed of 1.2 GHz. Equipped with an average sized design and quality materials, Huawei's Y5 comes with 4.5 inch of IPS display excellence and has a resolution of 480x854 pixels wrapped in a plastic finish. Huawei Y5's design talks for itself But it is not only facade, managing to squeezed a four core processor and offering quality performance at low end. Y5 by Huawei is all locked and loaded with 8GB of internal storage memory.

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Huawei MediaPad 7 Youth

MediaPad 7 Youth has a good package for tablet lovers having some great features, special functionalities and weighty specification makes this model powerful and work efficient, fluent and smoother. All in it given by company for use in fit work loving creation it has, tabs are for serious users who want to do creative work and want to enhance their abilities in new technology and I.T field. If we see its connectivity options it has an option of Wi-Fi which is the perfect way to communicate to others through internet. Its processor is Dual Core 1.6GHZ and its RAM is of 1GB it helps tab to perform faster and quicker it also helps in multi-tasking as well its powerful processor can handle all the queries and commands within seconds like personal computers, in near future we would prefer it more than Laptops and personal computers. It has very famous Android operating system a user friendly OS. Camera makes both pictures and video through video cam we can video chat through its own supported Skype and Viber application any time. Larger 7 inches LCD is graceful it enjoys movies and high quality photos; its sound is soft and loud as well. It can store data around 8 GB built-in the user can extend storage with SD card option.

QMobile Q850

QMobile Q850 Q Tab has 7.85 inches screen. QMobile Q850 Q Tab takes photos & videos using 5 camera, with th great features of Autofocus, geo-tagging, touch focus, face detection, image stabilization, HDR, panorama Mode . QMobile Q850 Q Tab enables users to capture sharp, detailed video, pictures & Recording. QMobile Q850 Q Tab designed for the more convenient operating experience Android 4.2(Jelly Bean)QMobile Q850 Q Tab equips 1.3GHz Quad Core processor with Chipset. QMobile Q850 Q Tab has built-in 8GB ROM/1GB RAM for high end performance. QMobile Q850 Q Tab has phonebook with .QMobile Q850 Q Tab gives a great talk-time with Li-Ion 4600 mAh battery.



GFive GPad 706

Dual Sim / Dual Standby PC Tablet, 2G and 3G Network Supported GPad
1.2 GHz ARM Cortex-A7 Quad Core Processor, 7.0" Inches WSVGA IPS (1024x600) Screen Display
Full Screen HD Capacitive Touch Screen, 16M Colors, Android ver 4.4 KiTKaT Operating System
8.0 GB Internal Storage + 512 MB RAM, 2.0 Megapixels HD Back Camera + VGA Front Camera
GPRS + EDGE + 3G + GPS/A-GPS + Radio + WLAN + Bluetooth, 2500mAh Li-ion Battery

GFive GPad 702

CPU: TELECHIPS TCC8803, 1. 2GHz, RAM: 512MB DDR3, OS: Android 2. 3, Screen size: 7. 0 inch
Screen resolution: 800x480 WVGA, ROM: Flash 4GB, WiFi: 802. 11b/g, 3G :support WCDMA, EVDO, TD-SCDMA, Speaker :Built 8Ω/1W, MIC: Built-in MIC, Camera: 2M pixels, External TF card: Support, Documents to go2. 0 Office software, MSN: support, Charger: Standard power adapter power, USB: Mini USB 1 OTG, USB 2. 0 OTG, 2. 0 Host, HDMI: HDMI standard interface, Language: German French Spanish Dutch , Hungarian language Czech , Danish,Norwegian Swedish Portuguese Italian Finland Romania Greece Russia,Poland Russian Hebrew Arabic Ukrainian Japanese Korean,Chinese, G-sensor: support Battery: 3600mAh/3. 7V



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QMobile Noir Z8 Plus

QMobile proudly presents Noir Z8 Plus, a phablet that is hardly conventional yet an incredibly stylish smartphone and an upgrade to the king of Z family released earlier, QMobile's Noir Z8, the younger brother. In fact, it is a novelty not only in the market for digital technology in general but also in the lineup of QMobile Noir Z family. By itself, it is a Large smartphone with a slim and trimmed body. Dimensions are still compact even considering it as a phablet. Design of QMobile Noir Z8 Plus is intentionally made very succinct, that seems to be inviting everyone openly to take a closer look at its technical specs. QMobile Noir Z8's Plus is a phablet that you can safely brag.

RS.
21,000



Microsoft Lumia 730

Your worries are over. Nokia takes care of your selfie needs by presenting the Lumia 730 DualSIM, turning a "Selfie" phone into a reality microsoft rolled it out officially at the pre IFA event. Nokia featured its latest Lumia 730 with a front 5.0 megapixel camera with a primary focus on selfies and video calling on skype. Lumia devices fitted with wide angle lens as 730 can easily beat other devices of the same genre. There are two variants of this phone: Lumia 735 having 4G LTE and single sim& the other version is Lumia 73 supporting Dual SIM with 3G, 730 does not have 4G LTE and will carry an affordable price tag for Pakistani market. its strange to see the 730 still have the Nokia.

RS.
20,750



Sony Xperia M2 Aqua

Sony Mobile Communications presents Xperia M2 Aqua, bringing Waterproof technology to the middle range so that it could be in everyone's reach. With Sony Xperia M2 Aqua you don't have to worry anymore about the bad weather or rain as with the innovative sealed casing design this big brother of the original Sony Xperia M2 is waterproof and is called M2 Aqua. it can easily withstand a drop in fresh water for about 30 minutes. Sony M2 Aqua comes with a design that you can trust at a very enjoyable price in pakistan, Featuring an 8MP camera, Sony Xperia Aqua lets you take photos underwater up to 1.5 meters, take a dive now and come up with amazing underwater imagery.

RS.
27,500



Haier Esteem i80

Haier releases powerful premium smartphone Esteem i80, the phone packs a powerful Octa-core processor clocked at 1.4GHz and not just that but it is embedded in an energy efficient 6592 chipset by MediaTek. Haier Esteem i80 comes in a great metallic body that brightens the metallic features of the phone, it houses a great 5inch HD IPS display running on a Mali GPU that further increase efficiency of Haier's Esteem i80 and allows it to run high graphics rendering games for a longer period of time. Phone runs a great Android 4.4 kitkat OS out of the box which is known for its great multitasking features including great Dual window support.

RS.
19,500



Samsung Galaxy J5

Knock knock! Samsung Reveals sleek Galaxy J5, a stylish and high quality Smartphone solution that'll solves all of your major communication problems once and for all. Unlimited features of Samsung J5 are enclosed in a stylish all-metal body. A high level of practicality is perfectly combined with a stylish appearance and elegant design. Advantages of Galaxy's J5 are numerous starting from it's supports for two SIM-cards to most powerful modern processor the handset will not disappoint you in any department. Galaxy J5's hood is equipped with a powerful processor that provides lightning fast operations to make your life smart and easier.

RS.
23,000



GFive Tango 7

Presenting GFive President Tango 7, clearly Inspired by the famous Oppo N1, Pakistanis have just got the chance to experience the surprising GFive President Tango. Quite peculiarly the first thing you are going to notice is it's camera, Loaded with a 13MP camera that can rotate at 207 degrees, GFive President Tango 7's photographic capabilities related to the selfies are limitless. Secondly if you are a geek you are certainly going to notice the Hexa-core processor. GFive Tango 7 is a large phablet with a screen size of 5.5 inches, the general appearance is quite striking with thin front bezels. GFive's Tango 7 is just 6.8 mm thin, The Back panel is quite sober and at the bottom there's a generous speaker, with good volume.

RS.
19,900

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QMobile R2000

Another QMobile touch phone R2000 makes it way to the Pakistani mobile phone market to pit you in control of your life, as they say, Your life, your way. Switch to QMobile R2000 and see your life getting transformed in front of your own eyes, Alter the whole looks to suit your personal taste and requirements. With New QMobile R2000, gone are the days when you tend to miss the important alerts but Now! It's impossible to miss anything as the latest is under your fingertips. QMobile's R2000 makes the content come alive streaming all the infotainment tsunami right in to your personal galaxy through its 3.5 inch TFT HVGA screen, that glitters like gold. QMobile R2000's Smartcam is always on standby so capture what you like.



QMobile R3000

New Phone QMobile touch screen R3000 is represented in the domestic market by a company which ranks first in Pakistan in terms of sales followed by Samsung and Huawei. QMobile R3000 is a new addition to the already popular brand that enjoys unconditional recognition for its products in the country with millions of inhabitants. QMobile's R3000 can be called a budget phone but with bulk of smart features so pay very close attention to the inherent characteristics of the non android java phone. QMobile Touch R3000 is operating on java platform having small plastic body, pleasant gray plastic pleases the eye. It can easily be put in a front pocket of a jacket, backpack or purse. Thanks to QMobile R3000's streamlined shape.



GFive FT01

It's a Sleek and Smart Phone with Dual SIM option! G Five FT01 is a Dual Sim / Dual Standby Phone features 3.5 inches display size which supports HVGA touch screen, 256K colors and 320x480 pixel resolution. FT01 holds 0.3 Megapixel back-end flash camera and video recording that allow you to capture your precious moments of life. G Five FT01 provides microSD Support up to 8 GB, to store your data on it. It contains all the data application includes Bluetooth with A2DP, GPRS + EDGE + USB v.2.0 and WLAN and supports all the apps of net. FT01 runs on G Five's OS. The battery capacity of G Five FT01 is 1200 mAh Li-ion, which gives standby up to 600hrs and talk time up to 12 hrs.



QMobile Noir X10

Qmobile brings new Noir X10 to the town with smart 3G capabilities and an attractively amazing price. It's an year of joy, first we had the 3G launch and now the best in class handsets. QMobile Noir X10 is loaded with a Dual-Core processor clocked at 1.3GHz which lets you navigate coherently through simultaneously open multiple apps. In short, the new QMobile Noir X smartphone is a pocket friendly 3G smartphone, loaded with excellent functionality and fast performance that'll help you get all your work done instantly. QMobile Noir X10's screen is not too big but actually the model is designed to add to the segment of the cheapest smart phone solutions that can cope with any task provided.



GFive FT03

G Five FT03 Price in Pakistan, Spec & Reviews. Simple Yet Dual SIM Phone! G Five FT03 is a stylish bar type phone that contains 3.5 inches TFT LCD display with soft-touch screen of 320 x 480 pixel resolution. FT03 gives bandwidth of 900/1800. The phone weighs just 101g and having a thickness of 12.9mm that makes it easy to carry. It contains VGA back-end camera. G Five FT03 has all the main data application in it includes Bluetooth, JAVA, WAP and Expansion Card. FT03 has additional functions of Alarm, Calendar, Calculator, To Do list, Notepad and TXT Reader. The phone can be your entertainer in your leisure time as it features analog TV, Music player, Video player and FM radio. G Five FT03 gives battery capacity of 1600 mAh.



Club A80

Club Mobile presents A80 now in metallic body for those stylish looks that you always have wanted. Recent appearance of Club Mobile A90 in the market of mobile technology was good news for many. Club A80 combines the simplicity and reliability of a regular mobile phone, a stylish design and wide range of features. Club's A80 will please everyone with it's metallic looks, awesome functionality and quite democratic price. Club A80's body is made in monoblock format with a solid metal back cover. Large 2.8-inch QVGA color display of Club Mobile's A80 allows you to not only easily control the device, but also comfortably watch videos or read e-books.

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GFive Shark 1

Experience GFive President Shark 1, an appealing handset with notable features and standard performance to brighten your digital life and entertain your days. GFive President Shark is known for its faster 3G connectivity and smart looks. Watch videos or read E-books on 3.5" WVGA screen and expand your application library with GFive President Shark 1's smart 4.2 android OS. The company was first to introduce Quad-Core processors in Pakistan and keeps surprising users with improved handsets. GFive President is among sparking phones that ensure higher battery life and amazing 3G performance. Small RAM of 256MB raises many questions but its power Dual-Core processor allows GFive's President 1 to perform all the functions.

RS.
3,000



Rivo Rhythm RX45

Rivo fascinates with Rhythm RX45, a phone to run every application, deliver high performance yet the phone is within your budget and it is really difficult to find any other phone near the price range. Rivo Rhythm Rx45 is equipped with a Dual Core processor to deliver a considerable performance on Android Kitkat operating system and runs smoothly due to its 512MB RAM. Rivo Rhythm Rx45's Screen is 3.5 inches that manages the screen resolution of 320x480 which is quite alright for a phone of this size. The phone is made to provide an ultimate 3G experience on the go. Rivo Rhythm Rx mobiles are being liked locally because they pack great user interface and faster ROM enhancing.

RS.
4,700



QMobile Bolt T5

QMobile introduces new Bolt T5, the low budget handy smartphone that comes with a 3.5 inches crystal clear display, Android Kitkat, Two Camera's and 3G for lightning fast surfing on the go. QMobile Bolt T5 is a 3G enabled smart handset that can provide you with ultra fast surfing on the go, at just a single click on the screen. Over the air Wireless update feature allows QMobile Bolt T5's operating system to update to the latest version on the go, anywhere, anytime so that you can stay up-to-date all the time, any time! Equipped with wireless hotspot and Modem functionality The new QMobile Bolt T family member can enable fast 3G internet on your laptop or Desktop as well! With a screen size of of just 3.5 inches

RS.
3,650



Nokia Lumia 430

New Microsoft handset, the Lumia 430 is launched at a price of less than 100 euros which is clearly designed to help the beginners. Having a 4.0 inch IPS screen, Lumia 430 has a reasonable resolution of 800 x 480 pixels. In the small display size which gives a pixel density of 235 ppi, The processor of Microsoft is Qualcomm's Dual core Snapdragon having a Lumia clock speed of 1.2 GHz. The RAM is 1GB as we usually see in the Android smartphones. The built-in flash memory of 8GB is quite big, a slot for micro SD cards is installed on the new Lumia. it supports both UMTS frequencies 900 and 2100 MHz and quad-band GSM networks. LTE is not present. Wireless Lan is also present in the Lumia 430 at a frequency of 2.4 GHz.

RS.
7,950



QMobile Noir X34

QMobile presents smart Noir X34, A great addition to the brand's ultimate family of smartphones. Stuffed with power features and significantly increased battery life period, QMobile Noir X34 supports two micro SIM-cards that will allow you to save big on long-term hefty communication with work colleagues and business partners. QMobile Noir X34's ROM is powered by Android 4.4 operating system which is also known as Android Kitkat and will serve you quite well to set you on to the smart lane of life. New QMobile Noir X device will help you to enjoy a simple and rich interface and thanks to the well thought out multi-tasking platform you can work with multiple.

RS.
6,650



Rivo Rhythm RX40

Rivo new smartphone Rhythm RX40, a multicolour fantabulous device that has all the relevant technical specifications for a budget model. For example, Rivo Rhythm RX40 has all the modern communication modules along with dashing features and can freely supports two SIM-cards simultaneously. Rivo Rhythm RX40's multi SIM slots will help you save money on calls, combining tariff plans wisely with calculated risks. A slim lightweight and compact Rivo Rhythm RX will be enjoyed by all lovers of minimalism. The smartphone has a bright 4.0 inch touchscreen which supports a resolution of 480x854 pixels. the screen of Rivo's Rhythm RX40 provides incredible vitality and crystal clear quality.

RS.
6,700

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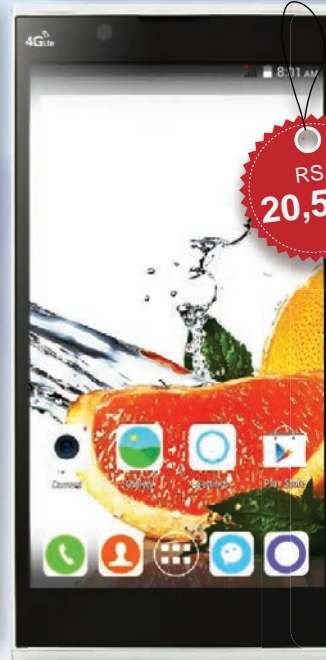
No. 1 Mobile Phone Selling Brand in Pakistan



RS.
20,900

iNew L4

iNew L4 has a MTK6735 64bit quad core CPU, features 5.5 inch IPS screen, builds in 2GB RAM and 16GB ROM, bases on Android 5.1 OS and builds in 5000mAh large battery. It is a 4G phone supports dual SIM card dual standby. On the front to the top there is the earpiece, light and proximity sensor, notification LED, and the 5MP camera. Unfortunately the Notification LED is only Red color. The phone has a 5.5-inch HD display, which is sub-par when compared to phones in the similar price range. To the bottom there are the Menu, Home and Back buttons which are not backlit. On the back you can find the 13MP rear camera with an LED flash, the iNew Logo, and to the bottom you can find the speaker which is again.



RS.
20,500

iNew L1

iNew L1 4G LTE Smartphone supports FDD-LTE and TDD-LTE multiple bands and supports mutiple languages. It uses a 5.3 inch large size Sony IPS screen, uses MTK6582+6290 CPU, with 2GB RAM and 16GB ROM, builds in 5MP front camera and 13MP Sony camera. The battery is 2450mAh. The display of iNew L1 is a large size Sony screen which can offer a wider viewing area with the large size and narrow frame. The 720P high resolution can bring better display effect. iNew L1 is equipped with a 13MP Sony camera which can bring clear image and supports face detection, smile shot, HDR, continuous shot, panorama and many other shooting functions.



RS.
17,300

iNew V7

The new MT6582 quad core smartphone iNew V7 uses a F2.0 Sony back camera and has a ultra thin fuselage which the thinnest place is only 5.9mm. It features a 5 inch 720P HD screen, builds in 2GB RAM and 16GB ROM, has a 2100mAh battery. The appearance design is elegant with the arc line design on both ends up and down. The 13.0MP back Sony stack lens camera, offering a larger photosensitive area. It also support auto focus and F2.0 large aperture as well as fill light mode for selfie, even in the dark environment it can also record the beautiful smile. iNew V7 has an ultra thin fuselage with 6.5mm thickness and the thinnest place is only 5.9mm. iNew V7 smartphone is featured with a 5.0 Inch OGS Screen.



RS.
11,500

iNew V1

This iNew V1 has a fashionable yellow fuselage with 7.9mm ultra thin thickness. iNew V1 owns 5 inch screen, MT6582 quad core CPU, the latest Android 4.4 OS with 1GB of RAM, 8GB of ROM, builds in dual Sony cameras and 2100mAh battery. Highlight seamless plastic injection molding technology. Multiple color back shell seems young and fashionable. 5.0 inch screen, you won't missing any details, whole perspective IPS screen, response faster, real color, smooth and stability. The strong MTK6582 quad core CPU makes iNew V1 runs without intermittent even playing heavy gaming programs. The MTK6582 quad core processor based on a high performance.



RS.
7,100

iNew U1

iNew U1 Phone features MTK6572M Dual Core 1.0GHz CPU, pre-installed with Android 4.4 OS, with 4.0 Inch Screen, support WCDMA and GSM network, with Dual Camera. For working reasons, I have to traveling frequently between cities, in other words, a spare smartphone should be took along wherever I go. During a month trail, I found iNew U1 Smartphone burden-less for carrying compare to my previous mobile, I reckon such a comfortable feeling has inseparable connection with its tiny size and ultra light weight of 125 grams only. Seldom do I have to prepare additional space on the luggage to keep it safe and properly. Of course, as a spare smartphone, iNew U1 will be my best.



RS.
6,500

Haier Pursuit G10

Haier has pushed its new Pursuit G10 smart handset into the market with high hopes to outperform all the other budget smartphones. Small priced phone packing big power, the all new Haier Pursuit G10 is available in two color variants i.e. all black and pure white. 4.0 inch WVGA screen that provides 480x800 standard pixel display, the phone is meant for daily average usage. Haier's Pursuit G10 is crammed with digital sensor on its 5.0 megapixel back camera with a bright flash that provides better picture result and enhanced video capturing. Haier Pursuit G10's Processor is a Dual Core, clocked at 1.2GHz with 512MB RAM which is pretty low for Android 4.4.2 kitkat but will be able to run smoothly.

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RS. 1,490

QMobile L1

Here comes QMobile new model L1 with a whole new lineup of mobile phones that differs apart from the old and more rounded type of design and dim colors. QMobile L1 has hundred of preset and pre installed bollywood ringtones where as it also supports "Handset Locator" feature. Power phone packs a supplied battery of 1000mAh. So QMobile's L1 will always keep you going, one battery charge is sufficient for an operation of up to 15 hours of talk time and up to 170 hours of standby time. QMobile L1's ANI or automatic number identification feature allows you to see the caller's complete phone number, even if he tries to hide it. In QMobile sharp L1, all calls are kept recorded in the memory of the device.



RS. 2,100

Club A52

Club Proudly Presents A52, A latest Dual SIM bar phone from the local brand. Club A52 is equipped with a 2.8 inch QVGA LCD screen that's ought to make you play with the device all the time. Club's A52 features several mind boggling features that'll make you groove, in addition to kind Movie and java supported apps Club A52's FM recording feature will let you get past boredom. 1500 mAh powerful and long lasting battery A52 by Club will never leave you in between the most important of tasks, that's a promise. loaded with tons of privacy and personal security options, Club A52 packs features such as auto call recording and personal data lock just to get you on a safe side.



RS. 1,250

G'Five Z7

G'Five Z7 is a Dual sim (Dual standby) Candybar Feature Phone from G'Five which runs on G'Five proprietary OS. G'Five Z7 is available in Black Red, Black Blue colors and 102 g of weight. G'Five Z7 has 128 x 160 pixels, 1.7 inches display size which supports QQVGA, 65K colors. G'Five Z7 has GPRS, Bluetooth connectivity options on board. You can take pictures of your beloved ones from its Smart Camera.



RS. 2,675

Nokia 105

The Nokia 105 gives you up to 12.5 hours of talk time, & you can leave it on standby for up to 35 days, With all that juice in the tank, it keeps going as long as you do, Make a statement with the Nokia 105's color screen & bold body, available in cyan or black, & its bright, simple looks are complemented by a durable, dust & splash proof keypad that keep your phone working well, The Nokia 105 comes with FM radio so all you need is a headset to tap into a world of music, Plus it comes loaded with up to five great games, including Sudoku and Cricket Cup, The Nokia 105 packs a super efficient battery to give you up to up to 12.5 hours of talk time & up to a whopping 35 days of standby.



RS. 2,500

Samsung E1207

Stay connected with friends and family using dual sim Samsung E1207. its a mobile having unique design to accompany you in all situations, Navigate through the screens of Samsung E1207 very quickly with separate navigation key. The dust-resistant keypad keeps your device clean longer. Browse the functions of the Samsung E1207 with all the convenience of a screen of 1.52", You can enjoy radio and long calls with long life and powerful battery of Samsung E1207.



RS. 4,595

G'Five Smart 1

G'Five Brings Smart model 1 at all the shopping malls near your homes. An entry level smartphone for students with all the basic functionalities. An excellent candidate for beginners. G'Five Smart 1 is based on modern components, has an attractive appearance and has an excellent set of functions, sufficient for everyday tasks. G'five 1 is equipped with a stunning display of 4 inches. As for a budget phone, the image quality is above all praises. Sufficiently high resolution, brightness and a good supply of acceptable viewing angles makes the use of Smart 1 comfortable regardless of the outer lighting and environmental conditions and if the sun is shining or not. Unmatchable processor speed of G'five's.

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Haier Esteem i70

Display 5 inch HD with Dragon Trail Glass
 Operating System 4.4 KIT KAT
 Processor 1.4GHZ Octa-core
 RAM 1 GB
 ROM 16 GB
 Camera Rear 13MP AF Dual Flash Sony IMX Lens
 Camera Front 5 MP
 Battery 2300 mAh
 Network 3G
 SIM option Dual Sim
 Dragon Trail Glass
 DTS Sound,
 WPS Office,
 Gameloft Games



Haier Esteem L50 4G

Screen size 5 inch HD
 Operating System 4.4 KIT KAT
 Processor 1.2GHz Quad core
 RAM 1 GB
 ROM 8 GB
 Camera Back 8MP AF + Flash
 Camera Front 2MP
 Battery 2050 mAh
 SD Card Support 32 GB
 Network 4G LTE Product
 SIM option Dual Sim
 Content & Media DTS Sound,
 WPS Office,
 Gameloft games

Haier



Haier Pursuit G20

Screen size 4.0" WVGA
 Operating System 4.4 KIT KAT
 Processor 1.2GHz Dual core
 RAM 512 MB
 ROM 4 GB
 Camera Back 5MP With Flash Light
 Camera Front 2MP
 Battery 1500 mAh
 SD Card Support 32 GB
 Network 3G
 SIM option Dual Sim
 Content & Media WPS Office, Gameloft games



Haier Pursuit G30

Screen size 4.5" IPS Display
 Operating System 4.4 KIT KAT
 Processor 1.3 GHz Dual core
 RAM 512 MB
 ROM 4 GB
 Camera Back 5MP AF With Flash Light
 Camera Front 2 MP
 Battery 1600 mAh
 SD Card Support 32 GB
 Network 3G
 SIM option Dual Sim
 Content & Games WPS Office, Gameloft games

Haier



Haier Klassic M102

Model M 102
 SIM option DUAL
 External Memory 16 GB
 Display 2.4 inch QVGA
 Blue Tooth Yes
 Camera Smart Camera (Flash)
 FM YES
 Battery 1450 mAh
 Torch YES
 Key USP Facebook, Whatsapp, Big Battery
 Stylish ID



Haier Klassic M105

Model M 105
 SIM option DUAL
 External Memory 16 GB
 Display 2.4 inch QVGA
 Blue Tooth Yes
 Camera Smart Camera (Flash)
 FM YES
 Battery 1450 mAh
 Torch YES
 Key USP Facebook, Whatsapp, Big Battery
 Stylish ID

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LG V10

LG announced that the LG V10 kicks off a new line of handsets that's meant to play at an even higher level than the LG G series that fostered the LG G4. This is mostly because the phone is larger (which many now equate with better) and because it's made of metal and not plastic, unlike the G4. LG has done something we really haven't seen before: It slides two 5-megapixel front-facing camera lenses side-by-side on the V10 in a way that isn't trying to turn photos into 3D pictures as with phones of old. Each lens represents either an 80-degree angle photo for just yourself or a 120-degree picture for you and a bunch of friends. (Some may call this a "grouphic"; that's right, short for "group selfie". Gag.)

- Android OS, v5.L1 (Lollipop), Quad-core 1.44 GHz Cortex-A53 & dual-core 1.82 GHz Cortex-A57
- microSD, up to 128 GB, 64 GB, 4 GB RAM, 16 MP, 5312 x 2988 pixels, laser autofocus, optical image stabilization, LED flash
- Wi-Fi 802.11 a/b/g/n/ac, dual-band, Wi-Fi Direct, DLNA, hotspot

HTC Butterfly 3

HTC J Butterfly (HTV31), which will no doubt be entering other markets as the Butterfly 3. With the centered 13-megapixel selfie camera and subtle front-side BoomSound stereo speakers, this new phone shares a similar face with the Desire Eye and the Desire 826; except its 5.2-inch screen has a much sharper Quad HD resolution. The familiar Duo Camera feature on the back (for bokeh plus filter effects) is here to stay, though for some bizarre reason, the secondary camera is placed below its 20.2-megapixel counterpart instead of above it, meaning you'll have to be more careful with where you place your index finger while holding the phone.

- Android OS, v5.0 (Lollipop), planned upgrade to v6.0 (Marshmallow)
- Quad-core 1.5 GHz Cortex-A53 & Quad-core 2 GHz Cortex-A57
- microSD, up to 128 GB, 32 GB, 3 GB RAM, 20.2 MP Duo, autofocus, dual-LED (dual tone) flash



HUAWEI Nexus 6P

Many smartphone giants have worked with Google on the Nexus program, but Huawei is a big name that's always been missing from the list. That looks set to change, since Google is widely rumoured to have tapped Huawei for the next Nexus smartphone. Specifically, Huawei is expected to be the name behind the new Nexus 6. Codenamed Angler, and tipped for launch as Nexus 6P, it's a phablet-sized successor to last year's eponymous handset.

- Android OS, v6.0 (Marshmallow), Quad-core 1.55 GHz Cortex-A53 & Quad-core 2.0 GHz Cortex-A57
- 12 MP, 4608 x 2592 pixels, laser autofocus, dual-LED (dual tone) flash, 8 MP, 720p@30fps
- Wi-Fi 802.11 a/b/g/n/ac, dual-band, Wi-Fi Direct, DLNA, hotspot

LENOVO A1000

The Lenovo IdeaTab A1000 is an unremarkable tablet with a simple design. It has a slim border that wraps around the bezel and is available in black or white. Our review unit was black but, in certain lights, the dark border looks like a deep purple with a glittery shimmer. The tablet also houses a front-facing 0.3-megapixel camera at its top left corner and has no ambient light sensor. The Micro-USB port, headphone jack, and power button sit on the top edge of the device, with the microSD expansion slot -- expandable up to 32GB -- and volume rocker around the corner on the right edge. The back side keeps it simple with an all black matte finish and no camera.

- Android OS, v5.0 (Lollipop), Spreadtrum SC7731, Quad-core 1.3 GHz Cortex-A7
- microSD, up to 32 GB, 8 GB, 1 GB RAM
- 5 MP, 2592 x 1944 pixels, LED flash, Wi-Fi 802.11 b/g/n, hotspot



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SAMSUNG Z3

The Samsung Z3 has a flat oval-shaped home button as seen in almost all the Galaxy devices, instead of the square one that the Z1 had. The screen is now a lot bigger as well, at 5 inches. The volume buttons are on the left, power button on the right, and the back panel stays nearly unchanged as well. The new model, however, is definitely slimmer than the Z1 by almost 2mm and gives a good grip. It's available in Black, Silver and Gold. The Z3 has two Micro-SIM slots and is the company's first to run Tizen 2.4. This new version of the OS is not much different from Tizen 2.3, which the Z1 shipped with. For Android users, the UI will feel very basic and simple, something which Samsung says is important. It has a static interface with circular app icons. All the usual options can be found under 'Settings' and the notification tray features a single scrollable row of quick toggles for Bluetooth, torch, Wi-Fi and other functions.

- Tizen OS, v2.3, Spreadtrum, Quad-core 1.3 GHz
- microSD, up to 128 GB, 8 GB, 1 GB RAM
- 8 MP, 3264 x 2448 pixels, LED flash, Wi-Fi 802.11 b/g/n

APPLE iPhone 6s

You've probably already heard, but the iPhone 6S is almost identical to last year's 6 in every way when it comes to the chassis. There are some very subtle differences, such as a slightly thicker frame and a little more heft, but it's so slight that I kept getting the two mixed up when doing side by side comparisons.

All cases fit both phones just fine too so, apart from a small S logo on the back of the phone, nobody is going to notice you've got the latest iPhone. But there will be lots of you upgrading from the iPhone 5S, and in that case you'll need to be ready for a really big design change. The metallic chassis feels really nice in the hand, with a ceramic-like feeling on the outside (although if it's anything like the 6 then this can scuff over time if you keep it in a pocket with keys, so you'll need to think about the kind of case you'll want to keep it safe).

- Dual-core 1.84 GHz Twister, PowerVR GT7600 (six-core graphics)
- 16 GB/128 GB, 2 GB RAM, 12 MP, 4032 x 3024 pixels, phase detection autofocus, dual-LED
- 5 MP, 1080p@30fps, 720p@240fps, face detection, HDR, panorama



MICROSOFT Lumia 950 XL

Save for a slightly different rear camera housing, the Lumia 950 XL looks nigh identical to its smaller sibling, the Lumia 950. The same matte white or black, polycarbonate (i.e. fancy plastic) shell is still here, along with the same array of volume, lock and camera shutter buttons along the right edge of the device. The bottom edge houses the same USB-C port as the 950. Oddly enough, Microsoft opted for the same screen resolution within the Lumia 950 XL as the standard 950: 2,160 x 1,440. That makes for a lower amount of pixels per inch at 518ppi. Still, that matches the same-sized Samsung Galaxy Note 5 and crushes the 5.5-inch iPhone 6S Plus's 401 ppi.

- Microsoft Windows 10, Qualcomm MSM8994 Snapdragon 810
- Quad-core 1.5 GHz Cortex-A53 & Quad-core 2 GHz Cortex-A57
- 20 MP, 4992 x 3744 pixels, Carl Zeiss optics, optical image stabilization, autofocus, triple-LED RGB flash

SONY Xperia Z5 Premium

The first addition to the smartphone mix from Sony is the new mirrored backs on the phones - the Sony Xperia Z5 Premium range have the same metal rim as the normal Z5, with the engraved Xperia logo and nylon corners to protect against drops, but also a range of materials on the rear. It's odd that not all the phone colours have the same appearance - the gold option is a lot more frosty and in line with the regular Z5 phones, but still looks and feels premium. Despite having a 5.5-inch screen, the Sony Xperia Z5 Premium doesn't feel like a phablet in the hand. Sure, it's got a larger display that's on the tricky side to operate with one hand, but it doesn't feel as big as an iPhone 6S Plus when trying to manipulate the screen.

- Android OS, v5.1.1 (Lollipop), planned upgrade to v6.0 (Marshmallow)
- Quad-core 1.5 GHz Cortex-A53 & Quad-core 2 GHz Cortex-A57
- 23 MP, 5520 x 4140 pixels, phase detection autofocus, LED flash, Secondary 5.1 MP, 1080p, HDR



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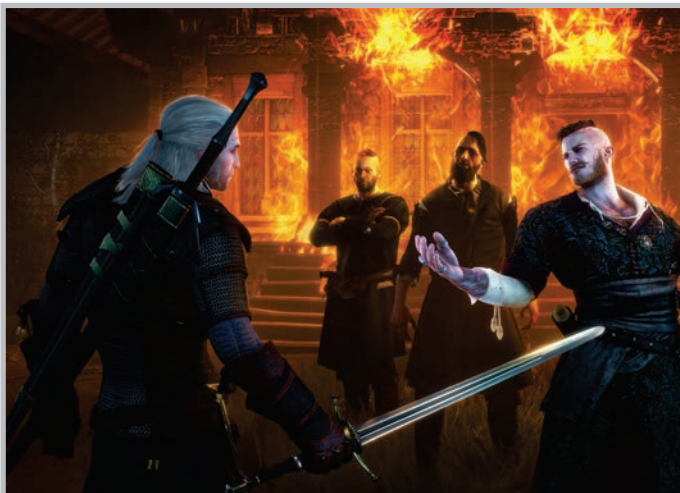
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The Witcher 3: Wild Hunt - Hearts of Stone

The Witcher 3: Hearts of Stone is at once a horror story, a romance, a character study, and a classic fairy tale. And somehow, these disparate parts mesh to form a cohesive whole. This is CD Projekt Red's first paid expansion for its masterful RPG, and it fits seamlessly into Geralt's narrative. Although it's meant for late-game characters around level 30, it's available at any point in your playthrough. And like many experiences in The Witcher 3, the expansion's main draw is its twisting storylines and vivid inhabitants.

It's difficult to talk about these elements without ruining the experience as a whole. CD Projekt Red presents its own dark take on weddings, haunted houses, and the story of the prince and the frog. Quests never resolved how I expected them to, and seldom how I hoped. They even ventured into metaphysical environments, and gorgeous as they were, there's a haunting presence to them. Hearts of Stone runs the gamut of fantasy tropes, but subverts every one. It's this willingness to take successful risks that sets these quests, and the story they compose, apart.

Blood Bowl 2

I was two touchdowns up and they hadn't stepped into my half, yet I was going to lose. In previous matches, against Dark Elves, Dwarfs and High Elves, I'd relied on focusing superior numbers of human players around my Ogre, to get support for blocks on the enemy hard targets. Once they were down (knocked out or stunned) I could quickly create a channel through to the endzone for my ball-carrier. My mistake was thinking we could go toe-to-toe with Orcs. Their array of Blitzers and stronger Black Orcs meant that I had to spread my hard hitters more thinly, and couldn't take them down as quickly as they could my players. Halfway through the match I looked down and saw my injury box full of K.O.ed players and nobody left on the bench. Losing seemed inevitable...

Blood Bowl 2 is a note-perfect recreation of a Games Workshop tabletop American Football game set in the Warhammer Fantasy Battle universe. That means it's turn-based, packed with dice-based randomness and heavy with rules that are quite mystifying to new players. Oh, and it's chock-full of Orcs, Vampires, Skeletons, Ogres, Trolls.



Pillars of Eternity: The White March

With the first part of the White March expansion for Pillars of Eternity, Obsidian Entertainment has a chance to expand upon one of the best RPGs around. Unfortunately, these new adventures are almost indistinguishable from the questing and killing on offer in the main game. This isn't entirely a bad thing given the game's superb foundation, but while I enjoyed most of my time in this snow-draped environment, something was missing. The setting was new, but I felt like I was finishing off leftover side quests that didn't make the cut the first time around. The saying "been there, done that" came to mind.

Just as Pillars of Eternity is a modernized take on the iconic Baldur's Gate games, The White March is reminiscent of Icewind Dale, at least when it comes to the frigid, mountainous setting and game's combat-heavy focus. In the White March, your party must head up to the frigid mining town of Stalwart and deal with an ogre infestation so the local residents can return to the Moria-like Durgan's Battery. Inside lies the fabled White Forge, which is used to make a legendary alloy known as Durgan Steel.

Rise of the Tomb Raider

Shortly before 2010, Crystal Dynamics approached her with a new task: to craft an origin story for one of video games' most iconic characters. "Ultimately, I think we needed new ground to explore, and I think we found it," Pratchett told GameSpot in a recent interview. "I know there's been a lot of appreciation for the more humanizing aspects of this Lara, as well as her escalation to something a little more reminiscent of her classic version. That's something we've continued to build on in Rise of the Tomb Raider."

Despite the reboot's critical success, Pratchett and the team aren't content to just repeat that first adventure's formula. Numerous novels and spin-off comics have been released since 2013, and Lara has changed even more, growing into someone more assertive, and more aggressive than the globetrotting archaeologist of years past. Crystal wants to develop their flagship character, as well as the plot. "She is a survivor," Pratchett said. "It's more of an emotional trap than a physical one. She's seen the game's antagonists do terrible things to those that get in their way, and she's now more mentally prepared to fight fire with fire."




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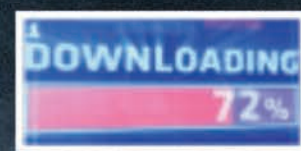
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