

## Business

# Burgan Bank showcases innovative digital solutions and new products

## Bank participates in Central Bank of Kuwait's International Banking Conference

By A Staff Reporter

**KUWAIT:** Burgan Bank participated in the recently held International Banking Conference, themed "Shaping the Future", organized by the Central Bank of Kuwait which took place under the patronage of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and in the presence of the First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense Sheikh Nasser Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, the Governor of the Central Bank of Kuwait, Dr Mohammad Yousef Al-Hashel, and other local and GCC banks. Demonstrating its leadership as an innovative financial solutions provider for all segments, the bank displayed its exclusive new products and technological services.

Burgan Bank Vice Chairman and Group Chief Executive Officer Masaud Hayat said, "Our participation in the International Banking Conference and Financial Technologies Exhibition falls in line with our mission to invest in the advancement of the financial sector through support of such valuable events. The exhibition served as a lucrative platform to reveal new age and emerging technologies transforming the banking sector. Over the years, Burgan Bank's adoption of state-of-the-art services and technology has positioned it as a trendsetter in the domestic market and within the MENA region. Current consumer demands have led to a shift in the way banks operate and perform. In line with the rapid developments witnessed in the banking sector, our long-term strategy has adopted this dynamic transition and will continue to embrace digital solutions that pave the future for technological reforms in financial products and services to serve our customers better."

Group Chief Operations & Technology Officer, Venkat Menon said, "The fast pace of digitization in



Masaud Hayat

Venkat Menon

the banking world where windows of opportunities open and shut faster than ever, demands a focused vision, agility and creativity to translate that vision into action. We have to move fast and balance between transforming for the future in line with rapidly changing customer expectations and continue to excel at the regular routine. Burgan Bank has geared itself to meet this challenge and has planned a series of innovative products and services that will be launched in the near future.

Addressing rising consumer demand for improved, innovative and seamless banking experiences, Venkat Menon presented the new face of banking products and services at Burgan Bank's booth in the exhibition. "We now launch Kuwait's first and biggest voice enabled Artificial Intelligence powered banking chatbot, named 'BANKI'. The electronic virtual assistant uses the latest and Natural Language processing to understand the customer's inquiries and fetch the relevant information from innumerable possible sources, all in a matter of seconds. Customers can get the informa-



tion they are seeking instantaneously by conversing with 'BANKI' in human language instead of searching, browsing, clicking buttons or waiting on a call."

Menon also revealed the "Digital Ambassador", "BiBi", which was received with great interest from the exhibition's visitors. A semi-humanoid robot that would be assisting customers at the branches with regards to their banking requirements, "BiBi" has the ability to evolve its skills through all, and give feedback accordingly and can respond to verbal, touch, environmental and tablet input, and is interactive, progressive and autonomous. The robot will provide basic information about Burgan Bank's products and services,

and will continue to evolve, eventually gaining the ability to provide banking services with complete ease and customer's authentication.

"Bringing further convenience to its valued customers, we at Burgan Bank have made it easier and faster to order or replace a card with instant card production for all types of cards at all branches. Customers can now order a debit or credit card and receive it on the spot as well as open a new account and receive the debit card instantly or order a prepaid or exchange card and receive it on the same day. In the coming months the bank is planning to introduce further enhancements to this service," added Menon.

## Huawei P30 Pro limited edition pearl white introduced



**KUWAIT:** The Huawei P30 Pro is one of Huawei's most coveted smartphones, selling 10 million units in just 85 days, and the winner of various awards for its powerful performance, solid features and stunning design. The brand has also released different variants to the series, with new color and storage options. The latest addition to this family is the Huawei P30 Pro Limited Edition Pearl White with a 128GB storage option. This brand new color brings a new style statement for its users with undertones of elegance and royalty.

Taking to the skies this time, the Huawei P30 Pro Limited Edition Pearl White is heavily inspired by the flowing movement and the clear essence of the clouds as they float across the salt flats that inspired the designs for the Huawei P30 Pro series. After several hundred coating tests, Huawei's engineering marvels were able to create the new Pearl White color, which has a unique gradient of white and pink, taking smartphone design to a whole new level.

Apart from this stunning new color, the Huawei P30 Pro Limited Edition Pearl White still packs the smartphone's award-winning features. Recognized as the Best Smartphone at European Hardware Award 2019 and MWC Shanghai, this flagship phone packs features and hardware that deliver powerful and efficient performance with a premium user experience. It comes with the world's first Leica Quad Camera setup with 50x zoom and on-board AI for perfect shots under any light conditions. Powering the smartphone is the Kirin 980 chipset, Huawei's fastest chipset yet for fast and efficient performance with 128GB of storage, paired with a massive 4200 mAh battery with the 40W Huawei Supercharge and support for 15W Huawei Wireless Quick Charge.

In terms of display, the phone boasts a massive 6.47 inch display with minimal bezels thanks to the in-screen fingerprint and Huawei Acoustic Display Technology, for a more immersive viewing experience. Gaming is boosted as well with the help of GPU Turbo 3.0, which enhances graphics during intensive gaming sessions.

If you are planning on getting the new Huawei P30 Pro Limited Edition Pearl White for yourself or as a gift for a loved one, you can opt for the limited Special Edition Gift Box for KD 209,900. Topped off with an elegant black ribbon, this box houses the Huawei P30 Pro Limited Edition Pearl White along with the new Huawei P30 Pro Glamorous Case embedded with Swarovski crystals, which further accentuates the phone's stunning good looks. On the other hand, both the phone and the case can also be bought separately.

## Mazda Al Shaya & Al Sagar continues leasing offers on all models of cars

**KUWAIT:** Kuwait Automotive Imports Company, Kaico Al Shaya & Al Sagar, the authorized distributors of Mazda cars in Kuwait, continues to offer the strongest leasing promotion on all its cars on the occasion of the new school season.

In addition to the competitive price, the leasing offer contains a package of benefits including a comprehensive insurance, full service during the contract period and provision of a replacement vehicle. And all of this to ensure the customers peace of mind.

The leasing offer includes the CX-9 model that displays the power of a 2.5L turbo 231hp engine with SKYACTIV TECHNOLOGY. Athletic proportions are highlighted by the sleek cabin, a strong and stable lower body featuring large 20-inch wheels and a confident stance.

As the flagship of the Mazda Lineup, Mazda6 has always been the most elegant and refined statement of the KODO design language and Mazda6 expresses this with its dynamic design and powerful three-dimensionality in the grille and signature wings. Mazda 6 is the perfect car of the driver, it is a sporty personal car equipped with everything necessary in the cockpit which has been dedicated to help you enjoy the drive.

High-efficiency SKYACTIV-G direct-injection petrol engines are your passport to a world of driving that is



both exciting and eco-friendly. The engine delivers a fuel efficiency of up to 15%. Safety features include Lane-Keep Assist System, Lane Departure Warning System and Smart Break Support. While the interior is characterized by the MZD CONNECT system, which gives you superior connectivity to the Internet and advanced navigation system.

"The customer is & always has been our priority, so we at Kaico make sure to deliver a one-of-a-kind service and offer the most competitive packages in the automotive industry," stated Ashish Tandon, General

Manager of Kaico.

Nader Salmeh, Sr. Divisional Manager, added "Our customers have great knowledge when it comes to the auto world, hence we provide them with the latest Japanese technology and manufacturing techniques that they expect from a 100 percent Japanese made brand such as Mazda"

Mazda has a history of more than 90 years and Kaico has been its successful partner for 50 years. Kaico was established in 1936 and is one of the main pillars of Al Shaya Trading Group.

## Flydubai installs Split Scimitar Winglets on its Next-Gen Boeing 737-800 fleet

**KUWAIT:** Dubai-based flydubai has announced yesterday the completion of the first Split Scimitar Winglets installation on its fleet of Next-Generation Boeing 737-800 aircraft, becoming the first airline in Middle East to invest in this fuel saving technology. On Saturday 28 September, flydubai flight FZ 144 from Amman to Dubai was operated

by A6-FEG; the first aircraft in the airline's fleet to be retrofitted with the new winglets. The retrofit program will see up to 30 Next-Generation Boeing 737-800 aircraft fitted with the new Split Scimitar Winglets between September 2019 and October 2020. Upon completion of the program, the airline's retrofitted Next-Generation aircraft will benefit from greater fuel efficiency while producing less carbon emissions.

By reducing the drag created at the end of the wingtip and distributing the lift of the aircraft more evenly across the whole wing, the Split Scimitar Winglets reduce fuel consumption by 1.5 percent. The winglets are estimated to reduce flydubai's annual fuel bill by over 200,000 litres per aircraft and reduce CO2 emissions by more than 510 tons per aircraft per year.

Commenting on the introduction of the

Split Scimitar Winglets, Ghaith Al-Ghaith, Chief Executive Officer at flydubai, said: "the Split Scimitar Winglets have been in use since 2013 and we have seen many airlines around the world benefit from this technology both financially and environmentally. Choosing to invest in the latest technologies and to retrofit our fleet is part of fulfilling our commitment to cost and operational efficiency and passing on the savings to our passengers."

Al Ghaith, added: "I would like to thank our Engineering and Maintenance team who are working closely with our MRO service provider, Joramco and the Split Scimitar Winglets supplier, Aviation Partners Boeing (APB) to successfully roll out the retrofit program without impacting aircraft availability."

The retrofit program is scheduled to

coincide with the aircraft's scheduled base maintenance checks. By installing the winglets during the periods of scheduled maintenance, the airline minimizes the effect on aircraft availability and any disruption to its flying schedule. When retrofitting an aircraft, the current Blended Winglets on the Next-Generation Boeing 737-800 aircraft are removed and a new aerodynamically shaped "Scimitar" winglet tip cap is installed. The process takes up to four days per aircraft and the airline expects the program to provide a return on investment in under three years.

flydubai operates a single fleet-type of Boeing 737 aircraft consisting of 43 Next-Generation Boeing 737-800 and 14 Boeing 737 MAX 8 and 9s, which continue to be grounded following the safety recommendation issued in March 2019.

## Burgan Bank announces winners of Yawmi account draw

**KUWAIT:** Burgan Bank announced yesterday the names of the daily draw winners of its Yawmi account draw, each taking home a cash-prize of KD 5,000.

The lucky winners are:

1. Tareq Jassem Mohammad Al-Qattan
2. Sameerah Khudhair Al-Shammari
3. Elias Fahad Kikash
4. Ibrahim Ahmad Abdulmaqsood Saleem

5. Abdulsamad Taqi Al-Safar

In addition to the daily draw, Burgan Bank also offers a quarterly draw with more chances to win higher rewards, offering the chance to one lucky customer to win KD 125,000 every three months. The Yawmi Account offers daily and quarterly draws, wherein the Quarterly Draw requires customers to maintain a minimum amount of KD 500 in their account for two months prior to the draw date. Additionally, every KD 10 in the account will entitle customers to one chance of winning. If the account balance is KD 500 and above, the account holder will be qualified for both the quarterly and daily draws.

Burgan Bank encourages everyone to open a Yawmi account and/or increase their deposit to maximize their chances of becoming a winner. The higher the level of the deposit, the higher the likelihood to win.

## 'Unicorns' that wowed investors face hard road on Wall Street

**NEW YORK:** The so-called "unicorns" that lured big investments and took Silicon Valley by storm are facing a chillier environment as they turn to Wall Street for fresh capital. The startups earned the unicorn moniker for quickly reaching valuations of more than a billion dollars without hitting public markets, considered a rare feat until a few years ago.

But some of the most prominent unicorns have stumbled on Wall Street, with investors cautious about

their profit potential as well as an uncertain economic outlook. Uber, which was the biggest of the unicorns and had hoped for a valuation of \$100 billion, is worth around half that now, and its shares have skidded some 30 percent since its initial public offering (IPO) in May.

Rideshare rival Lyft has fared even worse, with a 40 percent drop since its IPO early this year.

WeWork parent We Company, another massive unicorn valued at some \$47 billion based on private funding rounds, shelved plans for its IPO this month and replaced its top executive Adam Neumann after a series of missteps and governance questions surrounding the fast-growing office-sharing startup that spooked investors.—AFP