

Facebook backs off plan for non-voting shares

San Francisco

Facebook on Friday reversed course on a plan to issue a new non-voting class of shares, avoiding a public trial in a suit filed by investors in the huge social network. The plan unveiled last year had been designed to allow founder and chief executive Mark Zuckerberg to maintain voting control as he divests to fund a philanthropic initiative with his wife Priscilla.



Greece to be under supervision

Athens

Greece will remain under supervision after it exits its current bailout and Athens must achieve "economic and political stability," the head of a group of Eurozone finance ministers said yesterday. Greece has received two multi-billion euro bailouts since 2010. The third rescue programme runs to August 2018 and Athens then hopes to fully return to market financing.



In Greece we will also have a supervision programme especially since there are outstanding debts with long repayments. In 2016, direct foreign investments were the highest in the last 10 years and in 2017 further improvement is expected."

-Alexis Tsipras,

Greek Prime Minister



Bahrain Financial Company's 100 Year Bonanza Campaign

PRIZE DRAW

Supported by Zayani Motors, the Kingdom's exclusive distributor of Mitsubishi, Peugeot, MG and FUSO, Bahrain Financial Company's 100 Year Bonanza Campaign came to an end. The third and final draw took place recently, revealing the last prizewinner.

2017 Mitsubishi ASX

Marilou Ignacio Basangan became the lucky owner of a brand new 2017 Mitsubishi ASX. She was handed her prize at BFC's Manama Branch, in the presence of the BFC team and Zayani Motors officials, Mohammed Zaki, General Manager, and Samya Alkindi, Marketing Manager, who congratulated the winner.

100 Year Bonanza

The 100 Year Bonanza Campaign was launched by BFC to celebrate its hundredth anniversary. From 28 May to 4 September, customers conducting banking transactions were given the chance to win amazing prizes during monthly draws, the largest being the three cars provided by Zayani Motors.

"I am absolutely thrilled. I can't express enough thanks to BFC and Zayani Motors for giving me this opportunity."

- Basangan, winner

"Once again we sincerely thank Zayani Motors for their esteemed cooperation with us. Their provision of three brand new cars greatly aided the success of our campaign, celebrating a century of banking excellence."

- Pancily Varkey, General Manager of BFC

"We are very pleased to witness the success of 100 Year Bonanza Campaign, supported by us. At Zayani Motors, we pride ourselves on our contributions to campaigns by various companies and institutions."

- Mohammed Zaki, General Manager

Google to help news outlets win subscribers

San Francisco

Google is seeking ways to help publishers win paying subscribers for news stories, a person close to the matter said.

To this end, the US internet giant is collaborating with NewsCorp, the Financial Times, and the New York Times, according to the source.

Google was said to be ramping up its support for subscription services in recognition of the fact that such revenue is vital for publishers who can't rely on advertising alone for financial survival.

Google declined to comment on word of this latest effort.

"We work closely with news publishers across the world to build products that help support their business and add value to users," Google spokesperson Maggie Shiels said in response to an AFP inquiry. "At the moment we don't have



Representative picture anything to announce." Google already uses its technology to let readers of online news subscribe to publishers with a single click, in an internet age spin on tossing a free copy of a newspaper on a doorstep in the hope people sign-up for daily deliveries.

Google chief executive

Sundar Pichai has made a priority of investing in artificial intelligence, and has spoken publicly about infusing the company's array of offerings with software smarts.

Artificial intelligence could be combined with troves of data at Google to try to better win over potential news subscribers. Publishers have complained at times that Google is making money off their work by surfacing stories in search results.

Google has countered that it shares revenue with publishers, drives traffic to their websites where stories are hosted, and that they can opt not to show up in search results.

The need to support reliable news organizations has been highlighted by controversy over bogus stories crafted to influence politics, promote social division, or simply rake in online ad revenue. (AFP)



Mohammed Zaki (fifth from right) handing over the prize to the winner in the presence of senior officials from both companies



Khaleeji Commercial Bank (KHCB) conducted a workshop on 'Corporate Governance' in co-ordination with GFH Financial Group on 19th September at the Four Season Hotel, Bahrain Bay. Presented by Professor Nabil El-Hage, from PR Academy of Executive Education LLC based in San Juan, Puerto Rico USA, the one-day workshop was held in the presence of Chairman of KHCB's Board, Dr. Ahmed Khalil Al Mutawa, Tawfeeq Mohamed Bastaki, Acting CEO of KHCB, members of management, board and executives from both organisations.