

Tax cut fuels record profit for Berkshire

New York

Warren Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway Inc on Saturday reported a record quarterly and annual profit, fueled by a big cut in the U.S. corporate income tax rate championed by President Donald Trump.

Fourth-quarter net income increased roughly fivefold to \$32.55 billion, or \$19,790 per Class A share, from \$6.29 billion, or \$3,823 per share, a year earlier. (Reuters)



Volkswagen profit roars back

Frankfurt

The world's largest carmaker Volkswagen appeared back in racing form Friday, as its 2017 results revved back to levels not seen since before its devastating "dieseltgate" emission cheating scandal.

VW said in a statement it had booked an 11.4-billion-euro (\$14 billion) bottom line last year, more than double the 5.1 billion euros earned in 2016. (AFP)



“I don't think I'm going to exactly play that card. But we'll have to see. If the sanctions don't work, we'll have to go phase two. Phase two may be a very rough thing, may be very, very unfortunate for the world. But hopefully the sanctions will work.”

Donald Trump
U.S. President



Malabar Gold & Diamonds opens its 213th global outlet in Kuwait

Malabar Gold & Diamonds has launched a new store in Kuwait, located next to Olive Hypermarket in Jaleeb Al Shuyoukh.

Special Inaugural Offers

- ✓ **Main attraction: Free Gold Coins**
- ✓ **Customers get one gram gold coins on every KD 250 worth diamond jewellery purchase**
- ✓ **Customers get a gold coin on every KD 150 worth gold jewellery purchase.**
- ✓ **Offers valid until March 03 2018.**

Inauguration

The new showroom was inaugurated by Colonel Ibrahim Al Duay, Jaleeb Al Shuyoukh area Police Commander in the presence of General / Ali Hamdan Al-Daihani, Farwaniya Governorate Consultant & Acting Manager of the Governor's Office, Shamal Ahamed MP, Managing Director - International Operations, Malabar Gold & Diamonds, Abdul Salam KP, Group Executive Director - Malabar Group, management team members of Malabar Gold & Diamonds, well-wishers & guests.



Eighth in Kuwait

Having 7 outlets spread across Kuwait, this is Malabar Gold & Diamonds' 8th outlet in Kuwait. By opening the new showroom in Jaleeb Al Shuyoukh, the total number of showrooms of Malabar Gold & Diamonds will jump to 213 globally.

Exquisite range of collections

This new outlet unveils a significantly large collection of traditional as well as contemporary designer jewellery. The exquisite range of collections in the new outlet can hold you spell-bound with their awe-inspiring beauty and classic designs. Like all their other outlets, this outlet also will exhibit a wide range of diverse and trendy designs in gold (18K, 22K & 24K), IGI certified diamonds and precious gem jewellery from Italy, Singapore, Bahrain and India.

Malabar Group has established its presence in the Kuwait market in a surprisingly short span of time. The group strives to continue embarking on its journey by further expanding in the near future. In Kuwait, Malabar Gold & Diamonds also operates in Al Rai – Lulu Hypermarket, Souk Al Watya – Maliya, Dajeej – Lulu Hypermarket, Fahaheel, Hawally - Grand Hypermarket, Mahboula & at Al Salam Mall, Salmiya.

Malabar Gold & Diamonds is one among the big 5 jewellery retailers globally with a strong retail network of over 210 retail outlets spread across nine countries

AI and 5G in focus at top mobile fair



The world's biggest mobile fair will be held from February 26 to March

Paris

Phone makers will seek to entice new buyers with better cameras and bigger screens at the world's biggest mobile fair starting Monday in Spain after a year of flat smartphone sales.

But with no major innovations awaited in handsets, analysts expect the four-day Mobile World Congress in Barcelona to focus on new uses for artificial intelligence (AI) and the looming deployment of super-fast 5G wireless networks.

Smartphone giants Huawei, LG or HTC are not expected to launch a new flagship device at the annual show, so Samsung will have the opportunity to grab the spotlight when it unveils its S9 and S9+ phones on Sunday on the eve of the fair. The teasers suggest major changes to the camera, which will reportedly allow for "super slow-motion" videos and a new camera lens that improves low-light photos: features some of its rivals already offer.

The camera "seems to have become a major source of differentiation for the latest generation of smartphones," said mobile phone analyst Ben Wood of CCS Insight.

Samsung suffered a humiliating recall of its Galaxy Note 7 device in 2016 after several devices exploded but its Galaxy 8 smartphone was a consumer and critical success.

The company remained the world's biggest seller of smartphones in 2017 with a 21.6 per cent market share, up from 21.1 per cent in the previous year, according to research firm IDC.

Apple, which as usual will not be present at the show, was the second biggest vendor at 14.7 per cent.

'Sea of sameness'

Overall global smartphone sales for 2017 were virtually flat -- down 0.1 percent at 1.47 billion units -- as phone makers struggled to come up with innovations that encourage customers to upgrade their devices.

"The sea of sameness continues to erode the impact that new models have on the market," said Wood.

In addition to better cameras, phone makers will focus on introducing bigger screens in mid-market devices, not just flagship ones, to try to boost their sales said Ian Fogg, senior director of mobile and telecom at IHS Markit. (AFP)

OFFERS

Special inaugural offers were announced by Malabar Gold & Diamonds on the occasion of the opening. Customers get one gram gold coin absolutely free on every KD 250 worth diamond jewellery purchase & for every gold jewellery purchase worth KD 150 customers will get a free gold coin. These offers are valid until March 03 in the Jaleeb Al Shuyoukh outlet only. Malabar Gold & Diamonds has also unveiled a huge collection of jewellery in gold, diamonds and precious gems from different parts of the world to enthrall the jewellery lovers.