



Will Lumia be the MAGIC phone?

ABDULLAH MAMUN, back from London

Nokia launched its first Windows smartphone in November last year in London at the Nokia World, in an attempt to regain its lost spot in a market dominated by Android and Apple. During the mega event, The Daily Star had the opportunity to speak with some Nokia officials on the new phone 'Nokia Lumia'.

Nokia launched two Windows Mobile operating system based devices at the programme -- Nokia Lumia 800 and Nokia Lumia 710.

"I believe that this is the first real Windows phone from the perspectives of hardware design, great camera and great screen," said Purnima Kochikar, vice president, Business Mobility of Nokia, while speaking about the device.

If the marriage between the software and hardware do not work out it's not a phone, she said. She claims that Lumia is better than other Windows phones in the market in all aspects.

She said that there are three prime features in the phone -- navigation support, music and video. The navigation system can take a person anywhere he/she wants to go with the help of Nokia maps.

She further said Nokia's music store, with almost 16 million songs, can help a person to make



PHOTO: REUTERS

his/her own mixed radio. Finally the phone can be used as TV as ESPN sports channel has been included with the phone, she added.

The new device has such a beautiful screen that you can use it in daylight; the phone also comes with a better battery life. The applications or games avail-

able in the Windows mobile app store are very local as well as global too. You also have local music and navigation support in the phone, she said.

Describing the device Paul Bryan, senior director of Product Management of Windows phone division of Nokia said the device can help people easily communi-

cate with others such as your friends, family, and colleagues.

He said you can quickly identify group of people with the phone. It can be a work group or anything.

If you want to e-mail to your group you can do it easily, he said. You can continue your connectivity with the group through text

messaging or chat as well, he said.

Nokia has launched two different priced smartphone models so that different segment of people can afford the device, said its officials.

Kochikar said, "We could have launched the Lumia 800 and people would have been happy with that. But we did not do that and launched another phone Lumia 710, that says that we really think about the affordability of people," she said.

"Nokia always thinks about affordability."

"In my personal opinion, Nokia provides the best experience irrespective of price of the devices. Nokia has always got its devices in affordable price."

Lumia 710 is a great device and we will continue to innovate or figure out on how to make it affordable for the people, she said.

For any device manufacturer it is a great challenge that all markets do not support all devices. Kochikar said it is one of the great challenges for the company like Nokia to produce devices for different markets.

For example, she said on one side we have United States asking for Long Term Evolution (LTE-4th generation mobile technology) on the other hand we have countries like Bangladesh where 3G is still to come.

So we have portfolio of devices that can match with the markets.

Google revising privacy policies, data use

AFP, San Francisco

Google said Tuesday it is revising its privacy policies and changing how it uses data from users of its services to provide more personalized search results and advertisements.

The Mountain View, California-based Internet giant said the changes are designed to improve the user experience across the various Google products, which range from Web search to Gmail to Google+ to YouTube.

Google said it is combining more than 60 privacy policies for its various services into a single policy that will take effect from March 1.

"We're rolling out a new main privacy policy that covers the majority of our products and explains what information we collect, and how we use it, in a much more readable way," Alma Whitten, Google's director of privacy, product and engineering, said in a blog post.

"We believe this new, simpler policy will make it easier for people to understand our privacy practices as well as enable Google to improve the services we offer," she said.

Google noted that "regulators globally have been calling for shorter, simpler privacy policies" and said it would inform users of the changes by email and with a notice on

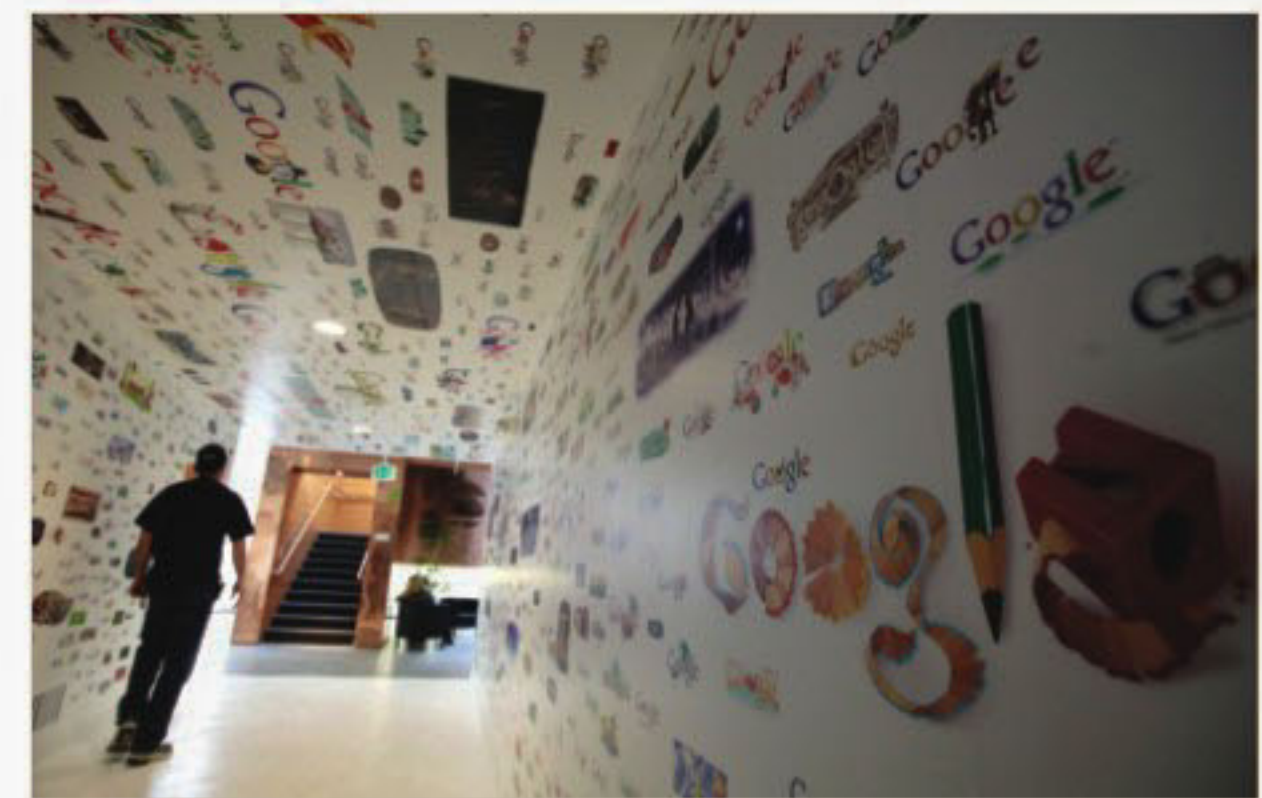


PHOTO: REUTERS

the Google.com home page.

Google has found itself under increasing scrutiny from European and US regulators as it has grown from a scrappy startup into an Internet titan, branching out into various businesses including online mapping, shopping and travel and providing software for mobile phones and tablet computers.

The changes to Google's privacy policies are certain to draw further attention in Washington and Brussels and announcing them more than a month ahead of time appeared to be a bid to provide time for them to be digested.

Whitten said instead of having terms of service for individual products, Google was revising its terms of service to cover numerous products.

Google account users will have to accept the new terms of service to continue using their accounts.

The main change announced Tuesday involves users who have Google accounts.

"If you're signed in, we may combine information you've provided from one service with information from other services," Whitten said.

"In short, we'll treat you as a single user across all our products, which will mean a simpler, more intuitive Google experience," Whitten said.

Android tablets closing in on iPad: researcher

REUTERS

Tablet computers using Google's Android software narrowed the lead of Apple's iPad on the global market in the fourth quarter, research firm Strategy Analytics said on Thursday.

Global tablet shipments reached an all-time high of 26.8 million units in the fourth quarter, growing 2-1/2 fold from 10.7 million a year earlier, the research firm said.

"Dozens of Android models distributed across multiple countries by numerous brands such as Amazon, Samsung, Asus and others have been driving volumes," analyst Neil Mawston said in a statement.

Android's market share rose to 39 percent from 29 percent a year earlier, while Apple's share slipped to 58 percent from 68 percent a year before. The tablet computer market grew



PHOTO: REUTERS

260 percent last year to 66.9 million units as consumers are increasingly buying tablets in preference to netbooks and even entry-level note-

books or desktops.

Strategy Analytics said Microsoft had a 1 percent share of the global tablet market last quarter.

iPhone sales drive record quarter for Apple

AFP

Apple blew past forecasts and reported record quarterly net profit and revenue in the first quarter since the death of founder Steve Jobs, driven by strong sales of the new iPhone.

Apple said its net profit more than doubled in the first quarter of fiscal 2012 to a record \$13.06 billion while revenue soared to an all-time high of \$46.33 billion from \$26.74 billion a year ago.

Earnings per share of \$13.87 easily surpassed the \$10.08 per share expected by Wall Street analysts.

Apple said it sold 37.04 million iPhones in the quarter which ended on December 31, up 128 percent from a year ago, and 15.43 million iPads, a 111 percent increase.

The California-based gadget-maker sold 5.2 million Macintosh computers in the quarter, up 26 percent, and 15.4 million iPods, a 21 percent decline from a year ago.

"We're thrilled with our outstanding results and record-breaking sales of iPhones, iPads and Macs," Apple chief executive Tim Cook said in a statement.

"Apple's momentum is incredibly strong, and we have some amazing new products in the pipeline," Cook said.

DELL unveils Inspiron 14z



IT & TELECOM DESK

Dell has unveiled its latest Inspiron notebook, Inspiron 14z, in the local market, says a press release.

The notebook comes with second-generation Intel Core i5 processor of 2.5 GHz, 4GB of DDR3 memory, 500GB hard drive.

It also has 14-inch widescreen HD (1366-768dpi) display, webcam, stereo speaker, HD audio, 10/100 LAN, Wireless LAN (802.11b/g), DVD writer, a media card reader, Bluetooth 3.0, HDMI port.

The notebook has a price tag of Tk 58,000.



TECHPHOTO

iBook 2

A woman holds up an iPad with the iTunes U app after a news conference introducing a digital textbook service in New York January 19. Apple Inc unveiled a new digital textbook service called iBooks 2 aiming to revitalise the U.S. education market and quicken the adoption of its market-leading iPad. During the event, Apple also introduced tools to craft digital textbooks and demonstrated how authors and even teachers can create books for students.

PHOTO: REUTERS

Oscars voting to go electronic



AP, Los Angeles

Potential Oscar winners will now be a click away from winning a trophy.

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences announced Wednesday that it has partnered with a company to develop an electronic voting system for next year's 85th annual Academy Awards.

The motion picture academy says it entered into an agreement with Everyone Counts Inc. to exclusively to work with

longtime accountants PricewaterhouseCoopers to create the new system.

Oscar voting in the past has been compiled through paper ballots sent through the mail.

Ric Robertson, the Academy's chief operating officer, said in a statement that it's the first step the Academy is taking "toward developing a secure and convenient electronic voting system."

The 84th annual Academy Awards are set for Feb. 26.

travel information now on your banglalink mobile!

dial 707 from your banglalink mobile to get detailed information on hotel booking, transportation, restaurants, special tour packages and a lot more!

