China rolls out 5G services in race to narrow tech gap

China's three major state telecommunications companies have rolled out 5G wireless technology yesterday, as the country races to narrow its technology gap with the US amid a bruising trade war.

China Mobile, the country's largest carrier, announced its 5G services were available in 50 cities, including Beijing, Shanghai and Shenzhen, with packages starting from 128 yuan ($18.40) a month.

Rivals China Telecom and China Unicom are also offering services at comparable prices in major cities according to reports on their websites.

The ultra-fast mobile Internet service, which is 100 times faster than existing 4G networks, allows consumers to download full-length films within seconds, or use apps with virtual reality.

The technology will also pave the way for driverless cars, further automation in factories, and allow users to remotely control appliances such as coffee makers and ovens via the internet.

China is expected to be a front-runner in the adoption of 5G services with over 170 million 5G subscribers by next year, according to notices by China Telecom South Korea would this year

Boeing says up to 50 ‘737NG’ planes grounded globally over cracks

Boeing announced yesterday up to 50 of its popular 737NG planes had been grounded after cracks in them were detected, in another blow to the US aircrak maker following two deadly crashes.

Australian national carrier Qantas became the latest airline to take one of the planes out of the air, as it said it would ground the aircraft on domestic routes, flying instead passenger jets.

But the move has heightened fears the scale of the 737NG problem may have been underestimated. The US Federal Aviation Administration had initially ordered immediate checks of Boeing 737NG planes that had flown more than 10,000 times. But Qantas said it had found the fault in a more lightly used aircraft than those singled out for early checks.

Chris Snook said.

“The discovery has heightened fears the scale of the 737NG problem may have been underestimated. The US Federal Aviation Administration had initially ordered immediate checks of Boeing 737NG planes that had flown more than 10,000 times. But Qantas said it had found the fault in a more lightly used aircraft than those singled out for early checks. That aircraft unless it was completely safe to do so,” Qantas head of engineering Sanford C. Bernstein said in a research note last week.

“China will promote the deep integration of new generation information technology and the real economy,” said Chen Zhizhuang (pseudonym), vice minister of the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology at a technology conference yesterday.

“This involves accelerating the integration and application of 5G in industries, transportation, energy, agriculture, education and health,” Chen said.

Boeing has been pushing for a quick relief of the technology, and China’s state economic planner said in January that developing a 5G network was one of its “investment priorities” this year.

Oil prices fall on rising US crude stocks

US West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude futures were down 51 cents to settle at $54.58. On the month, however, they are set for a rise of about 0.9 percent, its biggest monthly gain since June.

The front-month Brent contract for December delivery expires on Thursday. The one for January delivery was down 43 cent, $52.15 a barrel. Brent activity in China shrank for a sixth straight month in October while growth in the country’s services sector activity was its slowest since February 2016, official data showed yesterday.

A protracted trade war between China and the United States has been weighing on the demand outlook for oil.

Leaders from the United States and China encountered a new trade barrier when talks to narrow the damaging trade conflict when the summit at which they were supposed to meet was called off because of violent protests in host nation Chile.

QSE index closes at 10,188.97 points

Qatar Stock Exchange’s QSE benchmark index lost 188.92 points, or 1.82 percent, last week. The benchmark index closed at 10,188.97.

Trading value during, last week increased by 8.02 percent to reach QR56 billion as against 332.24 million shares, as against 305.79 million shares, while the number of transactions rose by 5.69 percent, to reach 22,674 transactions, as compared to 21,454 transactions. Market cap fell by 2.17 percent to QR24.62 billion as compared to QR24.73 billion, at the end of November.

Banking and Financial Services sector led trading last week with 48 percent of the total trading value. Industries sector accounted for 17.24 percent.

Consumer Goods and Services sector accounted for 14.16 percent and Financial sector accounted for 7.05 percent. When compared on daily basis, the QSE index dropped 947 points, 0.92 percent, compared to Wednesday’s closing.

The volume of shares traded increased to 6,217 million on Wednesday and the value of shares increased to QR30.06 billion or 1.82 percent.

Oil prices came under pressure yesterday from rising US crude oil stocks and weak factory activity in China, with few bullish factors on the horizon.

Brent crude futures were down 51 cents at $54.58 a barrel by 1338 GMT, erasing earlier gains. They had dropped by 1.6 percent on Wednesday and the contract is set for a monthly decline of about 0.5 percent.
Apple creates new ways to boost iPhone sales in saturated market

Apple executives put aside their typical praise of the iPhone’s design and breakthrough tech- nology on Wednesday for more mundane topics such as installment plans, trade-in programs and giveaways.

The session was part of the Cupertino, California-based tech- company’s annual shareholders meeting at its headquarters.

The company’s shares were down 9 percent, or almost two-and-a-half months, to a record low of $14 in 2020.

The shares gained 1.5 percent to $14.45 as the company forecast more top-line growth for the key holiday period. The company at $1.1 trillion.

The CEO did brag about the latest iPhone’s camera, but con- vention soon turned to more prosaic topics. Morgan Stanley analyst Karyn Huberty asked whether it was realistic to expect a recurring payment like that in other applications.

“Some of the things we are doing is trying to make it simpler and larger for people to join us, to get more of the services or products you get for your money,” Cook said.

“We are cognizant that there are lots of units out there that want some recurring payment like that in the context of new products,” he said.

The CEO did brag about the latest iPhone’s camera, but con- vention soon turned to more prosaic topics. Morgan Stanley analyst Karyn Huberty asked whether it was realistic to expect a recurring payment like that in other applications.

“Some of the things we are doing is trying to make it simpler and larger for people to join us, to get more of the services or products you get for your money,” Cook said.

“We are cognizant that there are lots of units out there that want some recurring payment like that in the context of new products,” he said.

The CEO did brag about the latest iPhone’s camera, but con- vention soon turned to more prosaic topics. Morgan Stanley analyst Karyn Huberty asked whether it was realistic to expect a recurring payment like that in other applications.

“Some of the things we are doing is trying to make it simpler and larger for people to join us, to get more of the services or products you get for your money,” Cook said.

“We are cognizant that there are lots of units out there that want some recurring payment like that in the context of new products,” he said.

The CEO did brag about the latest iPhone’s camera, but con- vention soon turned to more prosaic topics. Morgan Stanley analyst Karyn Huberty asked whether it was realistic to expect a recurring payment like that in other applications.

“Some of the things we are doing is trying to make it simpler and larger for people to join us, to get more of the services or products you get for your money,” Cook said.

“We are cognizant that there are lots of units out there that want some recurring payment like that in the context of new products,” he said.

The CEO did brag about the latest iPhone’s camera, but con- vention soon turned to more prosaic topics. Morgan Stanley analyst Karyn Huberty asked whether it was realistic to expect a recurring payment like that in other applications.

“Some of the things we are doing is trying to make it simpler and larger for people to join us, to get more of the services or products you get for your money,” Cook said.

“We are cognizant that there are lots of units out there that want some recurring payment like that in the context of new products,” he said.

The CEO did brag about the latest iPhone’s camera, but con- vention soon turned to more prosaic topics. Morgan Stanley analyst Karyn Huberty asked whether it was realistic to expect a recurring payment like that in other applications.

“Some of the things we are doing is trying to make it simpler and larger for people to join us, to get more of the services or products you get for your money,” Cook said.

“We are cognizant that there are lots of units out there that want some recurring payment like that in the context of new products,” he said.

The CEO did brag about the latest iPhone’s camera, but con- vention soon turned to more prosaic topics. Morgan Stanley analyst Karyn Huberty asked whether it was realistic to expect a recurring payment like that in other applications.

“Some of the things we are doing is trying to make it simpler and larger for people to join us, to get more of the services or products you get for your money,” Cook said.

“We are cognizant that there are lots of units out there that want some recurring payment like that in the context of new products,” he said.

The CEO did brag about the latest iPhone’s camera, but con- vention soon turned to more prosaic topics. Morgan Stanley analyst Karyn Huberty asked whether it was realistic to expect a recurring payment like that in other applications.

“Some of the things we are doing is trying to make it simpler and larger for people to join us, to get more of the services or products you get for your money,” Cook said.

“We are cognizant that there are lots of units out there that want some recurring payment like that in the context of new products,” he said.

The CEO did brag about the latest iPhone’s camera, but con- vention soon turned to more prosaic topics. Morgan Stanley analyst Karyn Huberty asked whether it was realistic to expect a recurring payment like that in other applications.

“Some of the things we are doing is trying to make it simpler and larger for people to join us, to get more of the services or products you get for your money,” Cook said.

“We are cognizant that there are lots of units out there that want some recurring payment like that in the context of new products,” he said.

The CEO did brag about the latest iPhone’s camera, but con- vention soon turned to more prosaic topics. Morgan Stanley analyst Karyn Huberty asked whether it was realistic to expect a recurring payment like that in other applications.

“Some of the things we are doing is trying to make it simpler and larger for people to join us, to get more of the services or products you get for your money,” Cook said.

“We are cognizant that there are lots of units out there that want some recurring payment like that in the context of new products,” he said.

The CEO did brag about the latest iPhone’s camera, but con- vention soon turned to more prosaic topics. Morgan Stanley analyst Karyn Huberty asked whether it was realistic to expect a recurring payment like that in other applications.

“Some of the things we are doing is trying to make it simpler and larger for people to join us, to get more of the services or products you get for your money,” Cook said.

“We are cognizant that there are lots of units out there that want some recurring payment like that in the context of new products,” he said.

The CEO did brag about the latest iPhone’s camera, but con- vention soon turned to more prosaic topics. Morgan Stanley analyst Karyn Huberty asked whether it was realistic to expect a recurring payment like that in other applications.

“Some of the things we are doing is trying to make it simpler and larger for people to join us, to get more of the services or products you get for your money,” Cook said.

“We are cognizant that there are lots of units out there that want some recurring payment like that in the context of new products,” he said.

The CEO did brag about the latest iPhone’s camera, but con- vention soon turned to more prosaic topics. Morgan Stanley analyst Karyn Huberty asked whether it was realistic to expect a recurring payment like that in other applications.

“Some of the things we are doing is trying to make it simpler and larger for people to join us, to get more of the services or products you get for your money,” Cook said.

“We are cognizant that there are lots of units out there that want some recurring payment like that in the context of new products,” he said.