Mobitel holds IoT forum and NB-IoT hackathon

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(L–R): Rasantha Hettithanthrige, Senior General Manager – Engineering and Operations – Mobitel; P G Kumarasinghe Sirisena, Chairman, Sri Lanka Telecom and Mobitel; Prof Lalith P Samarakoon, Secretary General and Chief Economist – National Economic Council of Sri Lanka with SAS Ninja Labs Team receiving the prize

Mobitel hosted Sri Lanka’s first ever industry forum on NB-IoT (Narrowband Internet of Things) technology to drive innovation in the IoT sector in collaboration with the

industry. This forum was set to connect the innovators and decision makers in the industry and Government with global industry experts to share knowledge, experience and create inspiration. The forum enabled the young innovators to showcase their talents at Sri Lanka’s first open overnight hackathon.

The keynote address was given by Bruno Vilares, Senior Marketing Manager – Core Network Business Unit, Huawei Technologies, who provided an overview of the NB-IoT technology within the Low Power Wide Area (LPWA) market, and new and emerging trends that would impact stakeholders globally.

Among the other speakers at the Mobitel NB-IoT Forum were Jaikishan Rajaraman, Vice President and Global Head of Technology, GSMA who emphasised on getting the most out of Mobile IoT technologies and Francis Zhu, Director, Strategic Marketing, ZTE Corporation who highlighted the Future Outlook of IoT and Sachin Kalantri, Director Product Marketing, Qualcomm India and SAARC who covered the Integrated Development of NB-IoT Chips, Modules and Devices and their future in his presentation.

(L–R): Panel discussion on the need of a reliable IoT network for emerging and

frontier markets with Dr Narendra De Silva, Head of Engineering, LECO; Major General Renuka Rowel, Director General Research and Development, Sri Lanka Army; Jaikishan Rajaraman, Vice-President and Global Head of Technology, GSMA; Bruno Vilares, Senior Marketing Manager – Core Network Business Unit, Huawei Technologies; and Moderator Harindu Nanayakkara, General Manager – Strategy and Business Intelligence of Sri Lanka Telecom and Senior Manager – Strategic Relationship and Regulatory, Mobitel

Dr Dilum Bandara, the Senior Lecturer, University of Moratuwa, Computer Science and Engineering Department and Director, Engineering Research Unit, conducted a session on Big Data and Security in IoT. Eugene Lee, Senior Technical Sales Manager, Rohde & Schwarz GmbH & Co spoke on NB-IoT Network and Ecosystems.

Dr Shamil Appathurai, Senior Manager – Network Strategy and Transformation, Mobitel, spoke on Mobitel’s Engagement and Roadmap for NB-IoT technology. Akalanka De Silva, Assistant Manager – Product Service Innovation, Mobitel also held a session. ‘SAS Ninja Labs’, the winning team of the overnight hackathon who created an Uber-style Parking Spotymizer, received a Grand Prize of 150,000 rupees.