

Companies take stage to lure investors

With years of austerity in their rearview mirrors, the biggest oil companies are locked in a beauty contest with investors with promises of growth and greater rewards. Shell and Total are emerging as frontrunners after a one-year slump, thanks to strong growth projections. ExxonMobil, the biggest publicly traded oil company, has been appointed with a weaker outlook.

S.Korea in LNG negotiations with Australia

SEOUL: South Korea's state-run Korea Gas Corp has gone into arbitration with Australia's North West Shelf Gas to settle a liquefied natural gas (LNG) contract that ended in 2016, a company spokesman said.

— Agencies



National Gaming Control Board acting-director for community benefit fund Rayleen Kurua and MiBank Mt Hagen manager Ted Vere opening the Binz Ice Ambra Association office and MiBank agent last Saturday.

- Nationalpic by TONY PALME.

MiBank teams up with Banz women's group

By TONY PALME

A WOMEN'S group in Jiwaka with over 200 members opened its new office and MiBank agent last Saturday.

Members of the Binz Ice Ambra Association can now access financial services.

MiBank Mt Hagen manager Ted Vere and National Gaming Control Board acting-director for community benefit fund Rayleen Kurua opened the office.

The office building was completed within a year after NGCB gave K50,000 with additional funding support local businessman Jack Ambang.

Association president Raymond

Kamb John thanked all partners for bringing banking services to their doorsteps, and advance its goals and objectives.

"Our main goal is to empower village women economically and socially through education, small to medium enterprises, microfinance, agriculture and tourism activities," John said.

He said there were several success stories in 2017.

"The association partnered with MiBank in setting up a bank agent at Koswa village to provide banking services to association members and the community," John said.

"MiBank provided financial literacy training and opened up mobile accounts of more than 200 mem-

bers early last year. The association has planted and harvested rice as one way of generating income for its members."

Vere said 80 per cent of Papua New Guineans who lived in rural areas did not have access to financial services.

"As a financial institution with 12 branches and many agents across the nation, MiBank is licensed and regulated by the Central Bank," he said.

"MiBank prides itself on diversity and women's banking is a key focus area.

"The bank empowers women and grassroots people generally through financial literacy training and access to its products and services."