

Apps to ease your lifestyle

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Or, maybe you just hate the commute and rather spend some family time at home than work on those abdominal muscles. Whatever it is, the digital world values this specific need of yours with apps like calorie counters, fitness and exercise apps, helping to reduce those difficult fats without having to move an inch out of the house.

Calorie counter apps initially calculates your current weight, height, and other factors to calculate your ideal BMI (Body Mass Index) and compares it to your target, developing a diet and

HEALTHCARE APPS AND SERVICES

One time, my two-year-old was pulling his ears and crying at the top of his lungs at an ungodly hour. I could not imagine leaving the other child at home, all alone to fend for himself, as I took the younger one to the doctor, since the Mr was away on a business trip. So, the best option that came to my mind was calling an online doctor. So, I browsed the internet, found an online site – Call a doctor BD. They immediately sent a doctor with the appropriate testing devices to check the child's ears. Once

mean standing behind a serpentine queue for the longest possible stretch of time, being pushed and shoved, only to realise later that all the tickets have been sold out in advance and you have to repeat this experience yet another day. No longer is such hassle necessary, for there are now online apps like Shohoz.com that help you do all that and more, from the convenience of your home while drinking tea and watching Netflix.

Sheba.xyz is another app that needs special mention. From basic services like doing the laundry to painting the walls or getting your body massaged, they have services for just about everything, making life just that much easier.

Sheba.xyz is also popular for its corporate services like provisions of digital security, lift management, generator set-up, etc. All you need to do is just install the app, and state the service required.

If you are someone who is always on the run, then there are plenty of task management apps out there to keep track of all your daily chores. Apps like Google Keep, Microsoft To Do, 2Do, etc. are just some of the more popular examples out there.

If you need to do more on the go than just tasks, like write or check documents, or input data for spreadsheets, then modern smartphone apps have your back here as well, as nearly all the features you would find in full-blown PC office suites are now available on smartphones, with apps like Microsoft Office Suite, WPS Office, Polaris Office etc. Thanks to apps like these, the world can literally be on the tip of your fingers.

SHOPPING

The world of grocery shopping has evolved just as much as all other sectors of the digital life, and if you are one of those people who simply cannot find time in your schedule to do the weekly shopping, then your prayers have been answered via apps and services such as Chaldal (chaldal.com), Meena Bazar (meenaclick.com), and Daraz (daraz.com.bd). One interesting addition is that once you become their regular, you get special prices and remarkable value offers.

TRANSLATION APPS

Imagine going to the remotest part of China, not knowing a word of Chinese and end up getting stuck there. What do you do? How do you tell the locals that you want some food, or that you want to go to a train station? Well, worry no

When it comes down to apps, why not cut out the middleman and do it all yourself, and customise each trip as you prefer. After all, who knows better about your trip than you? So, if you were looking for a hotel up on the mountains, with an infinity pool that looked out onto the sea, you can book just that for your next trip with the help of services like TripAdvisor, and booking.com. Alternatively, if you prefer sharing a home with the locals of wherever you visit, Airbnb can be a wonderful way to connect guests with homeowners renting out houses/rooms, kind of like Uber for homes, if you will.

STORAGE APPS

Cloud storage is very important in this day and age, as it allows one to back up their documents and files from anywhere in the world, uploading them onto a secure online server, allowing one to collectively work on projects, while maintaining a safe backup of important files that are easily accessible wherever there is an internet connection or mobile service. The best part, because all the work and storage is done online, it leaves your device storage alone, leaving you more space. Quite a number of cloud storage apps are available, with the two most popular being Google Drive, Microsoft OneDrive and Apple's iCloud.

REMOTE WORKING

Remote access is nothing new, but what is new is the ease with which you can do it, allowing you to work or troubleshoot issues despite not being anywhere near the workstation. Some of the more popular examples are Team Viewer, Remote Utilities, and AeroAdmin.

MONEY TRANSFER

These apps are godsend, and come handy in the most pressing situations. You want to repay your friend without writing a cheque or send some cash to your niece on her 16th birthday, or maybe pay your utilities bill right from your office desk — these apps will facilitate those transactions without you ever having to lift a pen. Some notable examples are Bkash, iPay, Nexus Pay, Rocket, Easy.com.bd, Upay, GPAY.

CALENDARS, DIARIES, POST ITS, NOTEPAD

If you are the forgetful sort, then Google Calendar, Microsoft Outlook Calendar, Apple Calendar, Thunderbird Lightning Calendar, TimeTree, Cozi, My Study Life,

show your prowess. Thanks to apps like Snapseed, Adobe Photoshop Mix, Pixlr, Adobe Video Clip, KineMaster, WeVideo, etc. now you can try out your hand at art, in your own convenient time, without having to bother anyone at all.

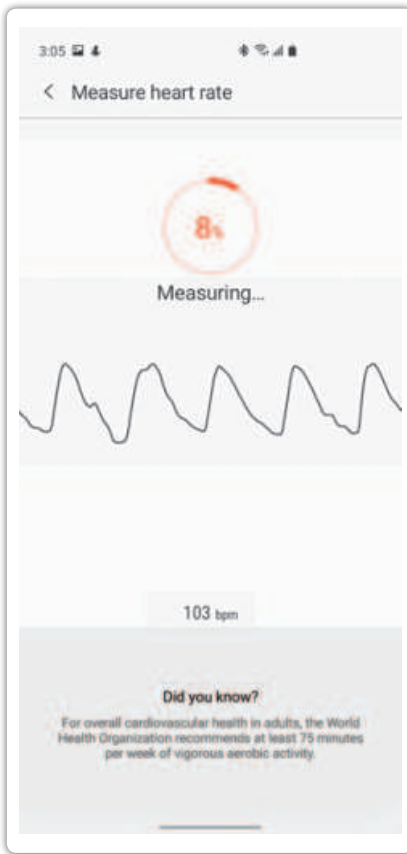
LEARNING APPS

There are tons of valuable apps that people of all ages can go through in order to finally grasp that theorem they never understood in class or finally read a Shakespeare and be able to dissect it without anyone bothering, so wasting time on online games is no excuse anymore.

Apps to try in this section would be Robi 10 Minute School, YouTube Kids, Rosetta Stone, Coursera, Udemy, Byju's etc. Some of these provide online educational content absolutely free, while others charge a minimal subscription free for exclusive content, but to that, we say, you can't put a price on knowledge.

MUSIC, MOVIE AND GAME APPS

If you are like most of the savvy 'app users' of the world, then you are also expected to be keen on discovering new artists in the field of music and love listening to a wide variety of radio stations on your mobile device. All these



and more can be done by downloading apps like iHeartRadio, Deezer, Pandora Music, Jango Radio, etc.

If music isn't your thing, then maybe movies are! In that case, apps like Google Movies, and Netflix are just what you need.

Last but not least, games, and let's be honest here, we are never too old for it. And with modern smartphones powerful enough to compete with cheap laptops, the games available for it are just astounding. Whatever genre you are into; you'll probably find something that suits your fancy. If you like to take things easy, however, and just want to kill time, then games like CandyCrush, Sonic Jump, Subway Surfer, PUBG and a lot more are just what the medic ordered.

Keep this in mind, everything listed here are nothing but a drop of water in the huge ocean that is the app store. There are countless other that we use in our daily lives to get our work done.

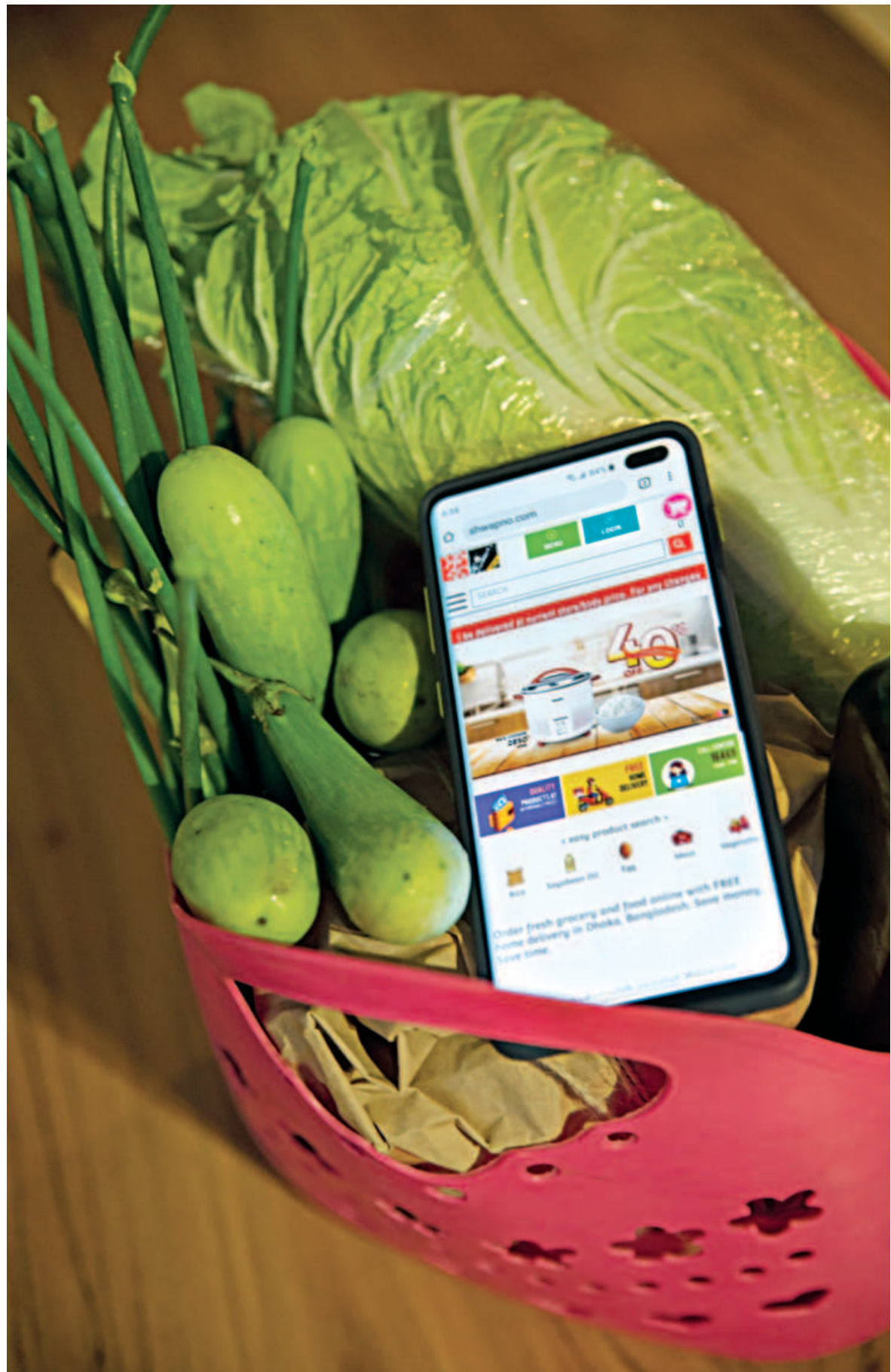
A word to the wise; just remember to not clog up your device with apps you'll probably never use and you are set.

Photo: Sazzad Ibne Sayed

Smartphones

While not really a product of the Internet, this device is responsible for connecting just about every individual online. The smartphone was designed from the ground up to function in tandem with online services to give you a user experience unlike ever before and free you from having to connect to the Internet from one specific place, and it succeeded. The World Advertising Research Centre (WARC) estimates that around two billion people currently access the Internet via their smartphone.

Art: Nagarbasi Barman



exercise schedule that helps reduce your weight steadily, while keeping you energetic and hydrated. So, the result is that there are no more crash diets, but more conscious dieting, with the help of the digital fitness guru — an arrangement that actually works. Fitness and exercise apps like Bangla Gym Guide, Home Workout, 30 Day Fitness Challenge, 7 Minute Workout, Runtastic, Google Fit, and JEFF Workout Tracker are amazing, because it shows you exactly how to do the workouts with interactive videos. It's almost as if you have a personal trainer at home.

the infection had been diagnosed, he provided the appropriate treatment.

This prompt action is true for other cases as well, such as geriatric care, vaccination, medicine purchase, and doctor requests. Few websites and apps related to healthcare are Doctors from Bangladesh, bdhealthsolution.com, Shohoj.com, HelloDoctor Pro, Bd Drug Directory, Medicine Directory, DIMS, or Pharmacy BD.

MAKING LIFE EASIER

You must be shuddering at the thought of buying train tickets before any general holiday. Because this would occasionally

longer, because Google Translator is at your service; it will convert your Bengali and English directives into Chinese, or any language for that matter, and vice versa. There you go! What else do you need? Travelling just got more hassle-free.

TRAVEL

What did your travel agencies do up until now? How did they book your hotels for you? They either bought the rooms in a bundle, got a discount, and charged you full price, or they ordered through apps and still charged you full price!

scene to redefine video streaming for the masses.

Rise of online dating and subsequent services and apps

While online dating services may sound new, and to some extent, it is, the concept of it is by no means new. Some close comparisons to 'online dating' from back in the day would be personal ads, or leaving messages on barks of trees, or walls. But being an Internet service, the capabilities of online dating services are more diverse, transparent, and offers more security for both parties involved. In a world where real interactions are

slowly being supplanted by virtual/online communication, online dating is more relevant than it has ever been.

Online banking

The older readers will remember a time when all sorts of banking activities had to be done physically at their branches. For us though, most, if not all of those functions can be had at the tip of our fingertips, thanks to the Internet, revolutionising yet one more age-old institution. Starting from paying bills, to transfers and standing orders and basic account information can now be accessed and used on the Internet.

The Internet: Transforming every lifestyle

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E-commerce can simply be summed up in one word: growth. Sites such as Amazon, eBay, AliExpress and many others have practically redefined shopping. We have reached such a level that it is now possible to even do the weekly groceries online.

Social media outlets based on interest/need

With the rise of social media came the diversity of user generated content. It was soon apparent that more outlets were necessary to deal with demand. Soon, we had Instagram, focusing on picture-based content, YouTube, a video-sharing

platform, Twitter, a microblogging platform, LinkedIn, a professional networking service, and so on.

Rise of streaming

As Internet speeds increased, so did demand for content that could be accessed and used straight from the net, meaning the need for physical mediums such as CDs and so on are diminished. Pretty soon, there were tonnes of music streaming sites such as Napster, SoundCloud, and Spotify. And with YouTube pioneering the way for streaming video content shared by other users, it was not long before companies like Netflix came onto the