

TOGGLE

WEEKEND LIVING IN THE DIGITAL AGE

A publication of The Daily Star

THE GREAT RACE

The best of 2020 in automotive
- Pg 4



Hands on review: Tecno
Canon 16
Premier - Pg 6



12 YEARS
WARRANTY

100%
CASH VOUCHER

Supersavings
200% OFF

Buying Fridge from
Ms. Janani Telecom & Electronics
Taitail, Barguna, 500%
Cash Voucher received by
Md. Emon
Father: Md. Sultan Khas
Boro Ashujun Pera, Taitail, Barguna

600%
OFF

**Buy Fridge, Washing Machine & Microwave
Oven, you may get Crores of Taka Cash
Voucher and many more Walton Products**

**Enjoy up to 500%
Cash Voucher
Free**

Conditions:

- Have to complete product registration through SMS after buying Walton Fridge, Washing Machine & Microwave Oven
- This campaign is conducted by Lily computerized system only
- Digital campaign benefits will be void in case of more than 3 registration of fridge from the same mobile number in a year
- The authority reserves the right to change the campaign anytime
- This initiative is taken to ensure maximum customer facilities through research & development of products and digitalization
- Return SMSs may be delayed for the technical network problems

WALTON Smart Fridge

CB **CE** **RoHS** **Energy Star** **ISO 9001** **ISO 14001** **ISO 26000** **ISO 45001** **ISO 50001** **ISO 60000** **ISO 60001** **ISO 60002** **ISO 60003** **ISO 60004** **ISO 60005** **ISO 60006** **ISO 60007** **ISO 60008** **ISO 60009** **ISO 60010** **ISO 60011** **ISO 60012** **ISO 60013** **ISO 60014** **ISO 60015** **ISO 60016** **ISO 60017** **ISO 60018** **ISO 60019** **ISO 60020** **ISO 60021** **ISO 60022** **ISO 60023** **ISO 60024** **ISO 60025** **ISO 60026** **ISO 60027** **ISO 60028** **ISO 60029** **ISO 60030** **ISO 60031** **ISO 60032** **ISO 60033** **ISO 60034** **ISO 60035** **ISO 60036** **ISO 60037** **ISO 60038** **ISO 60039** **ISO 60040** **ISO 60041** **ISO 60042** **ISO 60043** **ISO 60044** **ISO 60045** **ISO 60046** **ISO 60047** **ISO 60048** **ISO 60049** **ISO 60050** **ISO 60051** **ISO 60052** **ISO 60053** **ISO 60054** **ISO 60055** **ISO 60056** **ISO 60057** **ISO 60058** **ISO 60059** **ISO 60060** **ISO 60061** **ISO 60062** **ISO 60063** 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New concept cars this week

Nissan went belly down, Jaguar goes the extra mile

Nissan is going through a bit of a resurgence lately. From the retro-futuristic 400Z to the futuristic Ariya, it seems the JDM legend has gone back to being fun and quirky. Their new concept car, however, takes the quirkiness and turns it up to eleven. Designed by the Vice President of Nissan Design America Jaebum "JB" Choi, the Nissan GT-R (X) 2050 is an ultra-low supercar that you're supposed to drive lying down. Measuring in at 10 feet long and just 2 feet tall, this "superbike on four wheels" is intended to be less of a vehicle and more as a "wearable machine," with a special suit required for brain-to-vehicle connectivity. Obviously, this thing is nowhere production-ready and now only exists

as a static model, but that doesn't stop it from blowing our minds.

Moving from one island nation to another, Jaguar's Vision Gran Turismo SV is a car that's not supposed to physically exist. The low-slung electric hypercar is purely meant for the virtual world of Gran Turismo Sport, where its four electric motors deliver a combined output of 1,877Hp and 2,478 pound-feet of torque, with a 0-100 of 1.65



seconds. However, for reasons entirely unknown, the company has decided to build a full-scale mockup of the virtual car. Much like the previous car, however, this car has no hope for entering production, as we are not sure if the body is paired to any drivetrain. Which is something of a shame, as it would be exhilarating to see this sleek beauty silently cut through the winds in real life.

Adobe adds over 20,000 design assets to Spark

US software company Adobe has updated its Spark social media design tool with more than 20,000 new design assets.

The update also brings small UI changes, designed to accommodate the new feature.

According to Techcrunch, Justin Church, Adobe Spark product manager, said "For our users, who are everyday entrepreneurs and marketers, they want to create professional-looking content — and they certainly don't have design experience. The rollout of these tens of thousands of new design assets that we're coming up with will really empower them to create standout social posts and things like Instagram stories that are more original and creative than they've ever been able to so far."

As Church noted, a lot of users utilize Spark's templates to get started, but there's also a large set

of users who start from scratch and they will especially benefit from the ability to quickly pull in frames, illustrations, brushes, and more. Given the broad range of users, Adobe opted for a very broad range of assets. They plan to expand this set of assets over time, and will closely monitor which categories are popular.



2020 Starlet/ Glanza meet held



HASEEB CHOWDHURY

Starlet EP and KP Owners BD group has held their annual Starlet/Glanza meetup at the capitals Chef's Table Courtside on Friday December 18.

Organized and led by Rashedul Islam — owner of a yellow Glanza V — the meet stated on 8:00am in the morning and concluded around 12:00pm. The highlights of the meet include 5 Starlet EP91 Glanzas, and 2 Starlet EP82 GTs, which also happen to be the only attendees.

Picture: Rahbar Al Haq

EDITOR'S NOTE

Super fast 2020

Yeah, that went fast alright. Much like a downhill truck with no brakes. 2020 seems to have been a waste of a year.

Or was it?

It took a toll on us for sure but it also brought many people out of their sense of complacency. People took charge and did the previously unthinkable. Traditional workplaces adopted work from home processes to survive, saving so much electricity needed to keep an office running. New businesses developed to serve the needs of the many. And serve they did. People found new callings. There were pitfalls but it wasn't the financial disaster everyone feared. The country stands. The Padma bridge is done. Those who stepped up, survived.

What doesn't break us really does make us stronger. As long as we don't forget too soon that anything can go wrong any time.

-Ehsanur Raza Ronny, Editor

TOGGLE

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TechBits



Sony pulls Cyberpunk 2077 from PS Store, offers refund

Twitter's voice-based 'Spaces' feature enters private beta



Walmart to test livestreamed video shopping on TikTok

Google Stadia now available on iOS



Facebook experimentally relaunches Instagram Lite in India

Business lessons 2020: What worked and what burned out

NAHALY NAFISA KHAN

This pandemic-ridden year is about to end, but the changes and new practices that it brought to almost every possible sphere of human existence is not ending anytime soon. While Covid-19 brought with it a set of changes in the overall work culture and business thinking around the world, some of it proved to be effective, while others failed to make the expected impacts. As we are about to enter a new decade, we try to discover some of the work trends introduced in 2020 that are here to stay and some that aren't.

Remote working: Yayy or narry?

While some industries or companies found it absolutely impossible to continue the "Work from home" routine, for the others it worked quite well. Case in the study: The Toggle team. While in the beginning, we found it a bit hard to adjust with the routine, that involved being available past working hours to get things done that wouldn't take much time if we were in the office, we eventually found a way out of the mess and thanks to the boss, found a work schedule that suited everyone. (Despite our somewhat unhealthy lifestyles and crazy sleep schedules, it all worked out well in the end.) The entire WFH thing turned out to be a big "narry" for a lot of offices, but simultaneously was a huge "yayy" for individuals or groups like the Toggle team.

Open desks have to go, time to bring back the cubicles

Those companies that went back to physical offices after the initial months are switching from open floor plans to the old cubicle style office spaces. While remote working might not be feasible for them, ensuring social distancing in office spaces has become a must. And open floor plans definitely don't serve that purpose. As the risks of transmission are not going to be reduced any time soon, looks like the cubicle trend is here to stay.

Unnecessary meetings: Big no-no
Meetings that practically don't add any value to the work at hand have gone out of practice in the last few months to a great extent. While the abolition of this culture ensures increased social distancing, over the months almost everyone realised how it also increases efficiency, ensuring better communication among teams. Hopefully, this culture will not be making a comeback any time soon.

Remote hiring and assessments
The hiring process has also gone online for quite a lot of organisations. Several corporate and other organisations



have had online assessments for their recruitment processes for the last few months. Interviews, too, are being taken online. More opportunities have been created for freelancers, both beginners and skilled. Hopefully, this trend will be staying for a long long time.

Exploring the scopes of technology: Increasing dependence

The WFH culture has increased the workforce's dependence on technology more than ever. Even after most organisations have gone back to physical offices, the dependence on technology hasn't decreased. For most people, it

has made work-life easier. Intensive investment in tech is gradually making its way. Having a functional website and a shared digital platform to work and communicate better is becoming a top priority for most companies. Technology definitely increases efficiency, which makes the increased dependence on technology a trend that is here to stay. **Maximizing profits or being resilient?**
While many businesses, mostly startups had to shut their operation in the pandemic, others rose to the occasion by focusing on being more resilient to the face of adversity. While the uncertainty grappled, these businesses

diverted their focus from maximizing the profit to ensuring community services and protecting their existing workforces. Rethinking the entire business model to make it survive has been a pretty daunting job for most businesses, but it has also been a learning experience. Resilience is a trend that is here to stay. Nothing is certain, preparing for the worst is always a good idea and ensuring resilience is always the right way to go about it; these are the definitely the pickings from 2020 for most small and medium businesses, including urban startups.



শাৰাশ বাংলাদেশ!

স্বপ্নের পদ্মা সেতুর শুরু থেকে শেষ
আমরা ছিলাম, আছি, থাকবো অনিশ্চেষ্ট।

দেশের ১ নম্বর স্টিল এক্সপার্ট



BSRM
building a safer nation



Auto Industry in 2020: Five biggest takeaways

RAHBAR AL HAQ

2020 has not been a kind year, to put it mildly. Every form of business has come to a standstill, the auto industry being no exception. But even though the hardship, the industry evolved and adapted to the current climate. Here's a list of the five biggest events that shaped the auto industry in 2020, for better or worse.

The fight against Covid-19

The war against this new virus meant all hands on deck, and the auto industry answered the call. Lamborghini Made masks, McLaren designed respirators, while companies such as Tesla and SEAT repurposed their exiting cars parts to make ventilators. Some companies, Such as BYD, Mahindra, and GM, went the extra mile and dedicated entire production plants to make face masks, PPE, and disinfectants. Smaller shops such as the American JK Automotive Designs repurposed their tooling to build face masks for local health workers. Many other companies provided cars and services to keep the health workers on



move, with Rolls Royce deploying a fleet of 30 limousines to help the British Red Cross and UK National Health Service.

Everything canceled

Geneva, New York, SEMA. Not a single one of these prestigious motor shows managed to escape the grasp of the pandemic. Some tried to postpone, others attempted to employ strict safety guidelines, but the risk of spread proved to too much in both cases. One country that did manage to hold their shows, however. China, who officially managed to pretty much control the spread of the Virus by late March, managed to host both Chengdu and



Beijing Motor show at their rescheduled date. For the rest of the world, however, automakers had to look into an alternative method to promote their new products. This brings us to our next topic.

The rise of virtual events

The use of virtual communication exploded after the lockdown. Software such as Zoom, Facebook Live has become a part of our everyday lives. Naturally, it didn't take long for automates to pick up on this. The world was introduced to new and exciting cars —not from the floor of auto shows— but through live unrevealing events straight from factory

floors. Koenigsegg Gemera, Maserati MC20, Bentley Bacalar all made their debut through the lens of a webcam. The world of motorsport also made the switch, with professional race cars drivers and teams taking the competition to the virtual sim racing world of iRacing. However, for all the radical new changes, 2020 also bought back some beloved familiar names.

The rebirth of classic nameplates

Ford Bronco, Nissan Z, Hummer. 2020 has been the year when the automakers finally listened to the voice of the enthusiast and added some fun to their line-up. Bronco, the beloved off-roader from the blue oval has been resurrected and seems to blow the competition out of the water. Nissan, after years of decline, finally got their act together and put together a new Z car with retro styling and 400 horsepower under the bonnet. Finally, the gas-guzzling Hummer —once the darling of American people— also got a refresh, but with a twist.



Electrification of everything

The new Hummer doesn't chug gas, it consumes electricity. And the switch to EV seems to be the most defining moment of this year. Volkswagen rolled out the ID.3, BMW flashed the IX, Nissan debuted the Ariya. Even Ford showed off a test mule for their electric F-150 truck, along with a crazy track-only version of their Mustang SUV. Toyota also debuted the next generation of their Mirai FCV and compared to the ugly duckling that was its predecessor, it's a white swan. The car industry is finally taking the zero-emission concept seriously, and its shows. Hopefully, it's not too late to save mother Earth, and humanity with it.

FEATURE

TOGGLE 5

A year of uncertainty, yet a year of unity

REHENUMA RAYSA

2020, a year where a lot from work-from-home to remote learning to many other things became popular. Amid all these, what became more noticeable than ever before is that there live many unsung heroes among us; people who tried to do their parts by putting effort in an attempt to extend their helping hands to people in need in the time of a global pandemic. As the year comes to an end and we prepare ourselves to embrace a new year, we at Toggle, reflect on the past, look on what we have learned, and appreciate the warriors who tried so hard for the greater good.



Moreover, due to the spread of misinformation, various kinds of disastrous incidents occurred. Gradually the situation did get better as people became more aware of the disease. However, even now, the road is not quite easy because of the ongoing second wave of the virus. Also, the long term existence of Covid-19 took a toll on the healthcare providers' mental health along with others where anxiety became a part of their daily lives. He elaborated on his experience



In the time of a global health crisis, healthcare heroes, despite the risk involved, continued to treat and heal coronavirus infected patients. We talked to Dr Ikramul Hasan Khan, Lecturer at Shaheed Tajuddin Ahmad Medical College and Hospital, regarding this. He shared how everything was so difficult at the initial stage. They had to go through many challenges, especially during March/April, and such was not the case only in our country but in the world as no one was prepared to take such a hit.



of dealing with the pandemic saying, "Although we already had the experience of responding to national crises before, this time with the Coronavirus crisis, the situation was all the more dire and different. However, we keep on going because of the responsibility we feel we have towards attending to our duty, which came with choosing such a great occupation. Life and death are in the hands of the creator but what we do with our lives is up to us". "This year was an eye-opening year for

us. We need to re-think the definition of success again as we come to an end of this year. We tend running after degrees or material success, but these come much later on the list. Humanitarian qualities and values are what set us apart from other animals, so such principles should be the focus of our attention and prioritised. The ultimate success is more than our worldly temptations which are temporary, but giving back to the world is eternal", he added.

Meanwhile, In the face of a global pandemic, many helping hands came in to help the helpless. Individual effort, as well as Organisational effort, was what people needed. Many voluntary organisations stood together and against all odds, joined the fight against Covid-19. Among them, one was the voluntary organisation, Bidyanondo. The volunteers of Bidyanondo did not surrender and stayed determined to continue their good deeds to combat Covid-19.

They have not only distributed dry foods, cooked meals, masks, PPE so far but also their medical team is continuing to provide medical facilities to those who require the support even in the remotest of places. They supplied baby food and delivered grocery items for people stuck at home. They have made Corona dedicated hospital in Chittagong, helped farmers as well as many underprivileged humans. Their Shabolombi project that aimed to help people become self-dependent was a successful initiation among many other projects they undertook. They have many other projects running even now.

According to Faruque Ahmed from Bidyanondo, "The journey, although at times, was tough for us to endure, at the same time, it was a significant achievement for us because we got the

opportunity to do some social work, and that brings mental peace to us. While providing reliefs, we have visited many places, seen people up close, met them in person, heard about their sufferings, and all the experiences have made the volunteers even more confident now. The fear of the Coronavirus is there, but so is our strong sense of responsibility. We had Bangladesh Army, Bangladesh Navy, BCG, BGB and various other voluntary organisations including JAAGO Foundation and Manusher Jonno Foundation assisting us. We are grateful for all the supports we have got from others".

Even though we mentioned only a handful of people in this article, it is to be acknowledged that, the homage we pay is due to everyone - from doctors to farmers, from delivery service providers to law enforcers to many more; even commoners who stayed at home refusing to go out except in the case of urgency deserves the applause.

The crisis brought out the best in people where many tried to rise above their obstacles and limitations to uplift others, because, well, the world needed it. During the pandemic, where, in one hand, the farmers kept the country fed, the teachers adapted and transitioned to the new method of taking online classes because the nation needed to keep the education going. Everyone who did their job right is to be given credit and appreciated.

There was a remarkable collective effort as people from different sectors came together to mitigate the consequences of Covid-19, and now, at the end of this year, with the news of the invention of the vaccine, people are finding hope despite all the sacrifices they had to make.

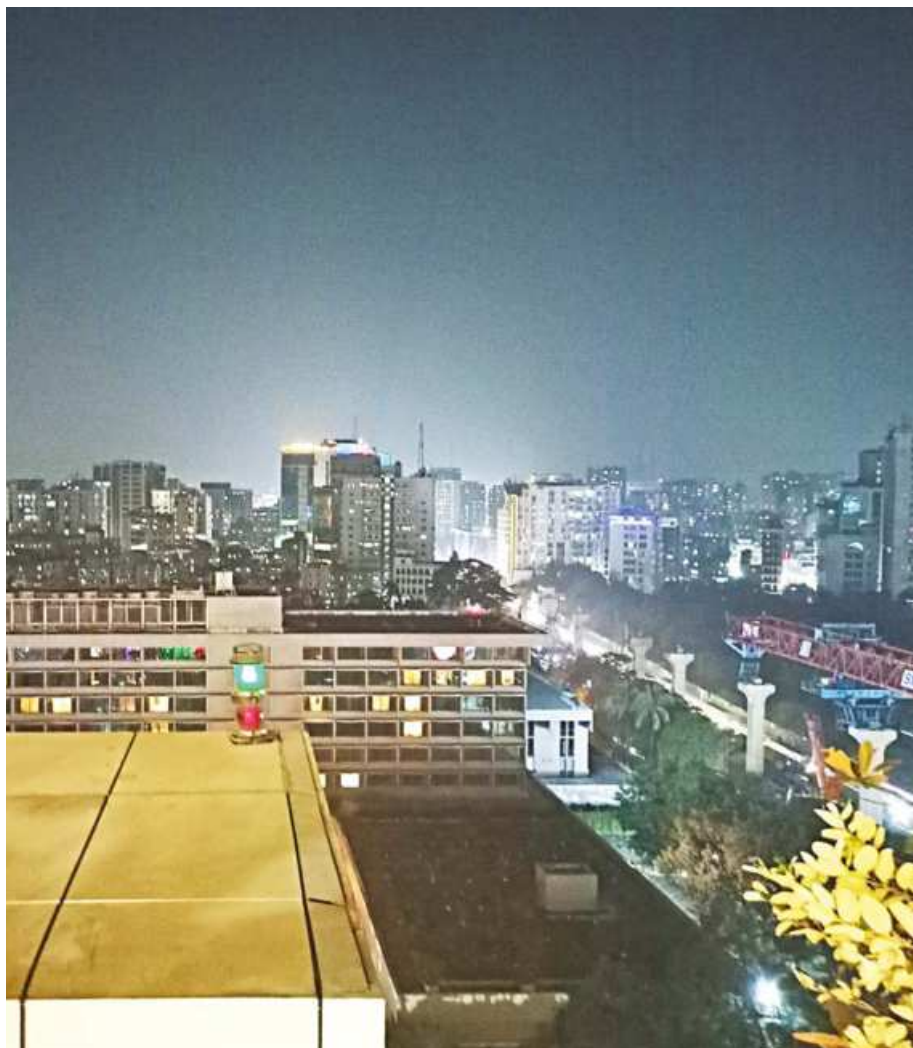
Tecno Camon 16 Premier – the new toy in town

SHAHRIAR RAHMAN

After a year of hiatus, I am finally back in gadget review- and today we are reviewing Tecno's Camon 16 Premier. Tecno, Africa's one of the top smartphone brand, has been pacing its operation in Bangladesh. They have opened a production plant here and this device is manufactured (assembled would be the right word). Let's see what this device is like:

Starting with the form factor, the device, keeping with the trend, is ginormous. The main real estate of the device is a 6.9 FHD dot-in display LCD Panel which provides near accurate colour gamut. Out of the phone comes with a 90Hz refresh rate which is feel good. You can certainly toggle it down to 60Hz which we highly discourage. The smoothness, as well as the responsiveness, while dropping a bit however the battery life of the phone will increase by up to 10 per cent. The brightness of the screen can also go up quite high so we recommend to use auto adjustments. The touch is responsive and one of the best part of the phone to me is the touch sensor on the side which doubles as the power button. The touch sensor is quite big, and the response time is almost instantaneous. One small caveat of the phone is that it does not have any LED notification indicator.

The build of the phone is solid. The glass front and polished back of the phone will certainly give you a plush feeling while holding it. The logo on the



back is etched stylishly on a glacial silver colour panel- things can't get any more chic than that.

The top right of the screen houses the 48MP+ 8MP dual flash camera. This dual camera of the phone does what it is supposed to do: pick good photos. The photos are not as sharp or natural one



might expect, but certainly Instagram-worthy. The while balance is a bit off on the camera when taking photos using the AI mode. The wide-angle lens allowed to take a bigger photo so group-selfies with this phone won't be a problem.

The main camera on the back is big, raised a chunk of sensor-housing has four

individual camera sensor and on penta-flash. The quad cameras are 64MP wide camera, 8MP ultra-wide sensor, 2MP depth sensor and 2 MP dedicated video sensor.

The photo quality of the phone can be rated as above average. It performs stellar in daylight. The AI mode can be a buzzkill if you like taking photos with accurate colour as the AI engine of the phone always tried to make the colour on every photo pop a bit. I haven't used the Camon 16 Pro, the elder sibling of the product line before, but online reviewers attested that photo quality has improved a lot on this iteration.

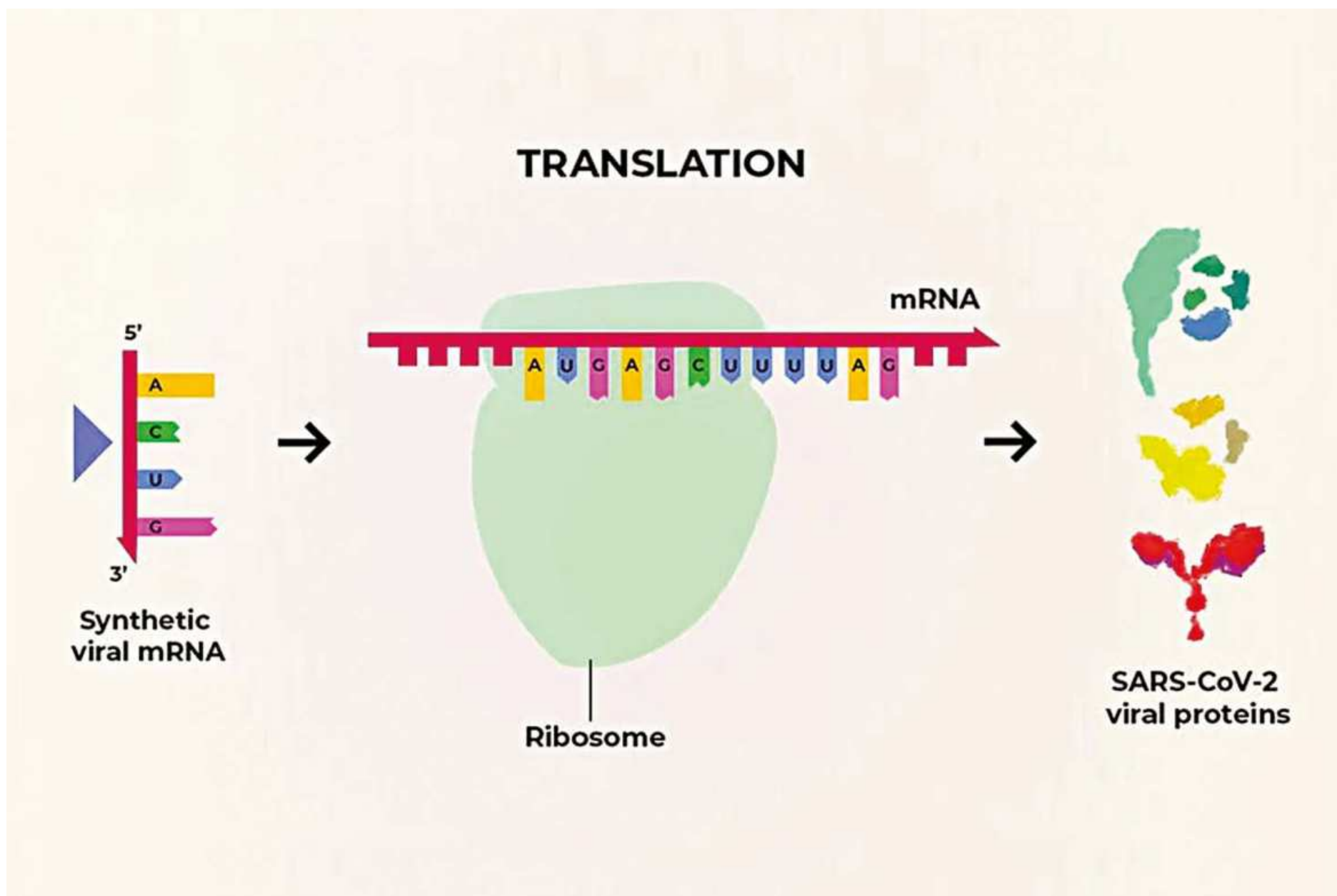
The performance of the phone is quite impressive too. Average day to day task including multitasking glides through the phone thanks the Octacore Mediatek G90T chipset coupled with 8GB RAM. I tried playing PUBG on the phone for nearly an hour and the performance remained buttery-smooth. The Mali-G76 MC4 GPU unit was able to handle some other graphics-intensive games on medium settings without dropping performance much. Only one issue we encountered during heavy gaming was the phone heating up a bit- which I guess is kind of expected.

Despite having a humongous screen, the phone actually had quite good battery life. It survived my everyday abuse from 10 AM in the morning till midnight without any mid-day charging. The 5,000 mAh did not take much time to charge up either- the credit here goes to the 33W fast charging port.

Lastly, the OS- man, really don't know where to begin or where to stop. HiOS 6 is probably one of the biggest let-downs of the phone. It might be partly due to the fact that I have been using Samsung and iPhones for a while now. The OS has colourful icons, bloatware, native advertising and app suggestions. To be honest, it isn't bad. Many people particularly youths find it appealing but it was not going with my taste.

Tecno has been excelling in the local market for a while now and Camon 16 Premier is certainly a device it can bet on to keep on continuing that very trend. The price-tag seemed a bit particularly with competition lurking around with so many options. But if you are in the market for a phone with a budget under 30k, then Camon 16 Premier is definitely worth considering.

Pictures by - Shahriar Rahman



A brief look at the COVID-19 mRNA vaccines

RAHBAR AL HAQ

With the pandemic having the world on a chokehold, the race to develop a vaccine form this virus is in full swing, According to WHO, 54 different vaccines under development, with a handful of being certified for human use. In this record-breaking rush new and radical methods are being employed, of which the Messenger RNA (mRNA) vaccines proving to be the most promising.

What is different about mRNA vaccines?

Previously, vaccines were used to release a harmless or weakened version of the pathogen in our bodies. This virus was then used to train our immune system to defeat its harmful counterpart. mRNA vaccines take a more direct approach. Instead of carrying a weaker strand of the virus, it instructs the mRNA single-stranded molecules naturally present in all of our cells to create a specific protein. Said protein is more or less identical to the one that SARS-CoV-2, but is devoid of the harmful elements and cannot mount a defense against the immune system. After it finishes training our

defense system, it harmlessly dissolves, leaving a healthy body.

Advantages

There are two parts to our immune system. The first one is innate, these are defenses we are born with. Other is acquired, which we develop after coming into contact with new diseases. A classic vaccine could only work with the acquired part of our system, effectively working at 50% capacity. mRNA however, can be programmed to activate our innate defense system as well, effectively doubling our defense system.

Prof. Isabelle Bekerédjian-Ding is Head of Microbiology at Paul-Ehrlich-

Institut, Federal Institute for Vaccines and Biomedicines, Langen, Germany. In an interview with European Commission Horizon Magazine, she said "All kinds of innate immune cells are being activated by the mRNA. This primes the immune system to get prepared for an endangering pathogen and thus the type of immune response that is triggered is very strong."

In the future, mRNA can theatrically be used to combat even deadlier diseases, such as cancer and HIV.

Risks

Since mRNA vaccines are only now beginning to be tested in humans, there

are a lot of unknowns regarding the treatment. Misconception regarding its method is also rampant, with miscreants peddling the rumor such as it can alter DNA, something it can not do. More human trials will eliminate the former, while the latter needs to be combatted through education and battling fake news.

Currently, mRNA COVID-19 vaccines by Pfizer and Moderna have undergone safety testing in human clinical trials, with China's Sinovac vaccine is in late-stage trials. If cleared for human use, the easy scalability of this type of vaccine means it might be possible to eliminate the risk of covid by the end of 2021.

Education for underprivileged children amid pandemic

JINAT JAHAN KHAN

Given the current challenges due to the Covid-19 pandemic, many volunteering endeavours to provide education to underprivileged children have been disrupted. Certainly, it's not easy for voluntary organisations to carry out their education programs, ensuring quarantine regulations and to arrange funds and volunteers for the mission amid this pandemic. We have talked with a few organisations to know about their perspectives and steps in this respect. Despite taking different measures, they have one common objective and that is to ensure the best thing for these children.

Bidyanondo Foundation

Bidyanondo has 12 schools all around Bangladesh for underprivileged children where there were over 1200 regular students before the coronavirus outbreak. Mostly, they are from impoverished households living in slums or under the open sky with their families, and some of them are even orphans. As per the quarantine restrictions and the government notice, they have kept closed all of their schools which consequently impede learning for these children. Online education, the new solution to secure learning is certainly not possible for them due to their miserable financial condition. Sultana Jannat Shikha, one of the regular volunteers of Bidyanondo Foundation, said, "Just in Dhaka, we've over 150 students in our school. We're trying to keep in touch with them through phone calls. As per our knowledge, almost 50% of the students have left Dhaka due to the financial crisis amid this pandemic. Some of them are interested to get back to their school life despite the prevailing uncertainties and obstacles. We just



hope that we'll see all of our students in the classes after this phase." She added that Bidyanondo used to interact with homeless children on the streets and try to teach them moral values and make them understand about the negative effects of taking drugs before providing 'one taka meal' to them. The food initiative is still active, but the interactive storytelling session for homeless children, ensuring social distancing is not possible due to lack of resources and enough open places. They are trying to keep track of their students and other homeless children while providing foods to them. But as they have formal schools for the underprivileged children, they cannot resume classes against the government notice and also don't want to take risks with these children's safety.

Alokito Shishu

Alokito Shishu started its journey back in 2015 to provide quality education

for street kids who sold flowers and nuts in Dhanmondi and taught them at a makeshift school. However, their teaching programs are now mainly for the children of Bede and Dalit communities whose existence is often ignored in our society. It has two schools in Natore and Munshiganj where they had 105 students from kindergarten to grade 5 of these communities before the pandemic, but now they have around 85 students. The number was less during the peak of the pandemic. Thanks to their homeschooling initiative that more students are attending the classes regularly now. Due to a surge in the coronavirus cases in March, they had to put their teaching programs on a halt to avoid health risks for both children and volunteers. In July, when they resumed their classes, many challenges came such as convincing the parents of the students, shortage of teachers, and lack of funds. They even got to know that two of their students have become victims of child marriage as their parents were unable to bear the daily expenses. Alokito Shishu has started to provide home tutoring to the existing students along with a food relief which they can have after completing a class. The teachers maintain proper safety measures before going there. This initiative is somehow motivating the parents not to stop their children from attending the classes. Mithun Das Kabbo, Founder and CEO of Alokito Shishu said, "We operate the schools with the help of child sponsors and about 50% of our students do not have regular sponsors. Moreover, the number of sponsors fell even further due to the ongoing pandemic. It has made it difficult for us to continue the classes. Because due

to lack of funds, we cannot provide food reliefs without which the children of these extremely vulnerable communities cannot be motivated to pursue education."

Pother Ishkul

Pother Ishkul mainly works with street children and other underprivileged children provide entertainment-based and practical learning. It's like a pre-primary school. They are more focused on developing these growing children's mental health. The condition of this organisation is somehow unique from other ones. They mainly work in Gulistan Park and in this area, the number of students has increased amid this critical situation. The uncommon change is seen due to their 'food for education' project. Before pandemic, volunteers used to take one class per week, but now 5 classes per week include alphabet learning, storytelling, music, craft and scouting classes. That means these impoverished children are getting free foods 5 days instead of one day per week. This initiative has helped a lot to convince the parents to let their children continue the classes. At the initial days of the lockdown, the initiative was not going smoothly. Lack of volunteers and quarantine restrictions were the main obstacles. One more barrier is to collect funds for this project. As the amount of classes has increased by 5 times, so are the expenses. As per Ummey Salma Akter Urmi, assistant chief coordinator of Pother Ishkul, their teaching project was never put to a halt for a long period during this crisis. But due to shortage of funds and human resources, they couldn't take a few classes.

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