

IT & TELECOM

DHAKA, FRIDAY, MAY 10, 2013, e-mail: it.telecom@thedailystar.net

Noakhali digital fair begins today

IT & TELECOM DESK

A three-day digital innovation fair begins today at Maijdee in Noakhali. The Digital Innovation Fair 2013 is organised by the district administration as part of the "Access to Information Programme" of the Prime Minister's Office. Communications Minister Obaidul Quader is set to inaugurate the fair to be held on the premises of Noakhali Zilla School. The objective of the fair is to make people aware of the e-services provided by different government and private organisations.

All the government agencies and offices of the district along with a number of private organisations will have their stalls in the fair to present their e-services before the visitors. Besides, several seminars and workshops on ICT related issues would be held at the fair, which would also have a wi-fi and game zone and free internet services for all. The fair will remain open from 9:00am to 7:00pm every day.



Windows 8 update public preview to be released in June

BBC ONLINE

Microsoft has announced it will offer a preview version of its first major update to Windows 8 next month. The news comes amid growing criticism of the software's user interface. Microsoft said the revision to the operating system (OS), codenamed Windows Blue, would be released at Build, a three-day developers event in San Francisco starting on 26 June. However, while the company said it had listened to "feedback", it has still not disclosed what changes are planned. Microsoft added that a final version of Windows Blue would be released before the end of the year, and highlighted that it had already sold more than 100 million licences for the system. FT accusation The Verge, ZDNet and other tech blogs have reported that the update could mean Microsoft reversing its decision to remove the start button from the system's desktop environment. They also suggested it would give users the option of booting their PCs directly into Windows 8's desktop mode rather than having to visit the tile-based Start menu screen first. On Tuesday the Financial Times ran a front-page story suggesting that a U-turn over key elements of Windows 8 would mark "one of the most prominent admissions of failure for a new mass-market consumer product since Coca-Cola's New Coke fiasco nearly 30 years ago".



Galaxy S4 rolls out next week

IT & TELECOM DESK

After about two months of its release in other parts of the globe, Samsung will roll out its latest and highly anticipated smartphone Galaxy S4 in Bangladesh next week.

The S4 will be available at Tk 67,500 in two colours – white frost and black mist.

Let's take a look at the much-hyped S4 set. With the Galaxy S4, Samsung climbs to the top of the global smartphone domination. Design wise it is thin and light with plastic finish and weighs 130g. The Galaxy S4 comes in at 136.6 x 69.8 x 7.9mm (5.38 x 2.75 x 0.31 inches). There is a metal band around the set.

The power button is on the right side while the volume button is on the left side of the set. And the home button is at the bottom like the other Samsung smartphones and a microUSB charging port at the bottom edge of the phone.

There are few sensors on the front at the top of the screen, including cameras to track your eyes, a 2MP camera for HD video calling and a proximity sensor.

The S4 has infrared blaster on the top of the phone which enables you to control your TV, DVD player, amp and even air conditioner.

The screen of the S4 has been increased to

5-inch Super AMOLED screen with Full-HD resolution.

The Android 4.2 Jelly Bean device might look like a toy compared to HTC One or iPhone 5. But its quad-core processor, colourful 5-inch HD screen, 13-megapixel camera, and stack of software make the Galaxy S4 the most powerful smartphone.

Its 1080p screen, faster processing speeds are ideal for gaming.

It has parade of camera tricks and it can use both front and back cameras at the same time, you can also film a video in slow motion.

Its Air View feature gives you a window into more detailed information without forcing you to click in and back out again.

And Air Gesture feature lets you control the phone without even touching it. However it is limited to certain apps like the photo gallery, music app, and browser.

The S4's Smart Pause feature lets your pupils to pause video while and Smart Scroll features helps you scroll up and down a webpage.

It also piles on expandable storage space and a 2600mAh battery.

All in all S4 is an impressive phone with loads of tech and apps to explore.

Galaxy S4 should be your choice if you want to buy a high-end Android phone.

Infolady wins Bobs award

IT & TELECOM DESK

Dnet's Infolady model has won 'The Bobs: Global Media Award (Jury) 2013'.

Deutsche Welle has been arranging this competition since 2004. This year 90 different initiatives under 14 different language categories were selected as finalists.

The award giving ceremony will be arranged by Global Media Forum on June 17, 2013 in Bonn, Germany.

The Infolady model was initiated in 2004 through establishing the Pallitathya Kendra Hub and over the course of time and through a process of evolution the Infolady model was born.

The model went through five stages of development since its inception. The program started with an experimental phase at the beginning and was successively followed by piloting stage, encouraging Infoladies in investment, constituting Infolady business model and matured through launching of Infolady Social Enterprise Program (ISEP).

Infolady model has become matured through implementation of

3 projects of Dnet funded by development partner Manusher Jonno Foundation.

Dnet invented this model to stimulate socio-economic development at the rural level with the concept of social enterprise in mind.

Infolady is a self-reliant employment opportunity for educated young women where they can generate income through providing verity of services to their community through use of ICT.

This model has paved the way to use information as a tool to accelerate the socio economic development of rural population and simultaneously create prospect of employment for woman.

The scaling up of Infolady model is taking place through engagement with privet sector, a for-profit social enterprise Fair Price International Pvt. Ltd(FPI).

In 2011, the Infolady model received Manthan South Asia Award and in 2010 it was the finalist in the Stockholm Challenge Award.

In 2005, the Mobile Lady model, which is the predecessor of Infolady model, received Gender and ICT Award.



An Infolady speaks with rural women on their issues.



The robot ARMAR III b of the Karlsruhe Institute for Technology KIT is presented at the International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA) at the congress center in Karlsruhe, Germany, on May 7. The annual academic conference covering advances in robotics takes place until May 10.

PHOTO: AFP

Ericsson discusses 'networked society'

IT & TELECOM REPORT

Ericsson recently held an interactive session on 'Networked Society and its relevance in Bangladesh'.

At the meet Gary Dewing, managing director of Ericsson in Bangladesh discussed the latest trends, industry updates and the 'Networked Society' phenomenon.

The Networked Society is Ericsson's vision of the future.

Dewing said it goes beyond 50 billion connected devices and is the result of how people start using those connections to make their lives and businesses better and more efficient.

Ericsson enables this with ideas and solutions using products and services, and partnerships.

An Ericsson study reveals that it took 100 years to connect one billion places and it took 25 years to connect five billion people; according to Ericsson's prediction, less than 10 years to connect fifty billion devices.

He said the study further shows that subscriptions for mobile PCs and tablets are expected to grow from 250 million in 2012 to 850 million by 2018. By that time there will also be 9.3 billion mobile subscriptions, which is more subscriptions than people on the planet.

By 2018 there will be 3.3 billion smartphone subscriptions, 6.5 billion mobile broadband subscriptions, and

more than 9 billion mobile subscriptions altogether.

Ericsson believes that ICT will be the fundamental enabler of transformation and progress.

Already today empowered individuals and communities are the drivers of fundamental change.

Those who understand the Networked Society and its requirements and have the ability to rethink, reinvent and innovate, will be able to seize the opportunity in this value-creating ecosystem.

A strong societal impact also is within the reach. He said the study shows that 1000 broadband connections = 80 new net jobs; 10 percent MBB penetration = 1% sustainable GDP added, and doubling of broadband speed gives 0.3% increase of GDP growth.

The automotive industry is another example of where connectivity is spawning new business models.

Volvo Car Group has announced that it will use Ericsson's Connected Vehicle Cloud to allow drivers, passengers and the car to connect to information, navigation, and entertainment services available in the cloud.

"There is also strong evidence to support a positive correlation between ICT and social and economic development. We see that connectivity has the potential to bring significant progress to millions of people around the world," Dewing said.

NEW PRODUCTS

wireless LAN, Bluetooth, Gigabit LAN, USB 3.0 port, HDMI port and more.

With Windows 8 operating system, the notebook has a price tag of Tk 65,000.

Asus table PC

Asus has also introduced MeMO Pad ME172V, a 7-inch Android tablet.

The Asus MeMO Pad runs on Android 4.1 Jelly Bean operating system and is powered

by 1GHz VIA WM8950 CPU and a Mali-400 3D GPU for a smooth and fluid entertainment experience.

It features a 10-point multi-touch LED-backlit display with 1024 x 600 resolution, 140-degree wide viewing angles, and it has 350-nit brightness feature which lets images to be clear always even in outdoors.

The Pad comes with 8GB of internal storage, which can be supplemented by up to 32GB with MicroSD card slot.

A suite of Asus applications are also pre-installed, including Asus WebStorage with 5GB of online storage space, Asus Studio and WebStorage Office for enhanced productivity.

The tablet is available in two colours – sugar white and titanium gray.

The device has a price tag of Tk 15,000.



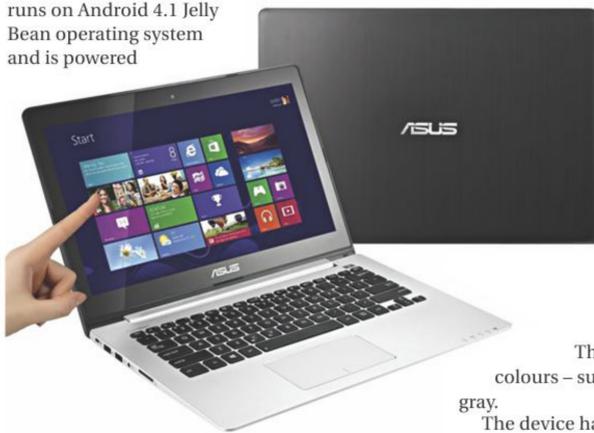
Asus touchscreen notebook

Global Brand Private Limited, the authorised distributor of Asus in Bangladesh, has introduced VivoBook S300CA touchscreen notebook.

The VivoBook S300CA is a powerful and stylish notebook with a 13.3-inch touch-enabled HD display.

It is powered by 1.7 GHz 3rd generation Intel core i5 processor.

The notebook features 4 GB RAM, 500 GB hard disk drive, integrated graphics Intel HD 4000, Asus SonicMaster audio, HD webcam,



Gary Dewing