I am a Chromebook

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I think the biggest problem is not what Chromebooks are but how the world has been looking at them. It's not a replacement Mac or a Windows laptop and it definitely is not an iPad alternative. Forget compromises, forget filling spaces that other devices left behind. No, the hero of our story, the Chromebooks, has a very niche market that the internet has been ignoring right from the start.

Let's talk about what you cannot do with a Chromebook before we move on to who should be buying one.

Can I use it to code?
Yes. While you won't find a default IDE included in the Chrome OS, there are ones such as ShiftEdit that can be accessed for free online. Mind you, this does not make the Chrome OS an ideal programming environment.

Can I use it to edit photos and videos?
You'll have to depend on web apps in this case too. They're nowhere near as efficient as the full Adobe suite but you'll get basic editing done.

What else?
No CD/DVD drives.
You can only print using Google Cloud Print.

There's not much onboard space other than the 16/32GB SSD but you do get 200GB of free cloud storage on Google Drive.

Can I use the Chromebook offline?
On a Chromebook you are solely reliant on apps provided by Google and those available on the Chrome Web Store. While some of these apps can be used offline, the majority need an internet connection. But yes, you can use Google Docs, Drive, Sheet, Keep and a few other basic apps offline.

Can I download all kinds of files?
Yes, all kinds. But you cannot install anything outside the Chrome Store.
When you look at the list of things a Chromebook cannot do compared to a Windows laptop or a Mac, it seems like it really isn't the kind of device worth buying.

But this is, if you have a powerful desktop at home and you need a device that'll let you browse, check emails, get on social media, listen to your favorite songs, watch movies, store photos, make video calls and get work done on the go - a Chromebook would be a perfect fit for you. Why not a budget Windows laptop then? Wouldn't one of those under $300 be more capable?

To an extent, yes. But chromebooks are significantly cheaper and because what they can do is limited, they're exceptionally good at it. You don't have to worry about slow loading times, lags and other inefficiencies that come with a Windows laptop at that price range because the hardware is clearly not capable of utilizing the OS's full potential.

You're not supposed to do heavy video and photo editing, let alone gaming, on a $300 laptop and that is exactly why the Chromebook makes sense.

And the fact that Chromebooks have attached mechanical keyboards is a big hook for many. Try to compare it with an iPad and it comes second based on the features these two provide. But then again, when you're better off with a cheap device that gives you the feel of a complete laptop and lets you do all the usual work, why choose a $800 tablet which is a huge overkill for your needs?

At the end of the day, whether or not you need a Chromebook or should be buying one, depends on what you expect from your device. If you want a portable powerhouse, then no. If you want a laptop that lets you work, browse and can entertain you without screwing up, go on, buy a Chromebook.

Bangladesh ICT Expo 2016 comes to an end

The three day long Bangladesh ICT Expo 2016 that started March 3rd came to an end this Saturday. The event which was jointly organised by the Bangladesh Computer Samity and the ICT Division took place at Bangabandhu International Conference Center. The expo hosted products from local manufacturers, innovations of young tech enthusiasts, exchange of ideas with international manufacturers, and display of tech innovations from across the globe. Aside from a drawing competition for children, the unveiling of new technology will also take place.

'Our Children, Our Future.' campaign by Kids Go Coding

Kids Go Coding, a project that aims to empower underprivileged children with the knowledge of computer programming, will launch its first campaign in Bangladesh on 5th March with the tagline 'Our Children, Our Future.' The campaign is targeted to raise both financial and logistical support (including computers, laptops and tabs) to be presented to the underprivileged children who were taught coding under the project. It will continue until 15th of April, 2016.

The campaign aims to reach both government and the private sector from national, international and multinational arena. Kids Go Coding is an unmatched initiative in Bangladesh, that aims to turn around 15 million poverty-stricken children into valuable human resources and nurture them to become the next generation leaders.

In partnership with Microsoft and World Bank, BetterStories Asia launched the Kids Go Coding initiative in May 2015, with 100 students from 2 non-profit schools; Jaago Foundation and Shohag Swapnodhora Pathshala, Mirpur.

Mycell brings new SPIDER A7

This week Mycell brought SPIDER A7 with 4G Network support. This phone has a 5 Inch IPS HD screen, Android OS 5.1 Lollipop and 1GHz 64-bit Quad-core processor, 2GB RAM, 16 GB ROM, 8 MP front camera and 13 MP back camera with Duel LED flash. It also has a G- Sensor, proximity Sensor, light sensor, FM Radio record and 3-finger screen shots, eye recognition and also OTG support facility. It has Li-ion 2,600 mAh battery, with fast charging option and battery saving mode option which will guarantee fast and long-charges.

Price: **TK.10,999/-**

Samsung gives discount on selected TV models this cricket season

Samsung Electronics Bangladesh has introduced all new price ranges on selected TV models this cricket season. The new prices are applicable for various models of Samsung Curved series, Samsung Joy Smart series, Samsung Smart series and Samsung LED series .Samsung is offering the highest discount of BDT 20,000 and lowest of BDT 2,850 on specific models of its Tvs.
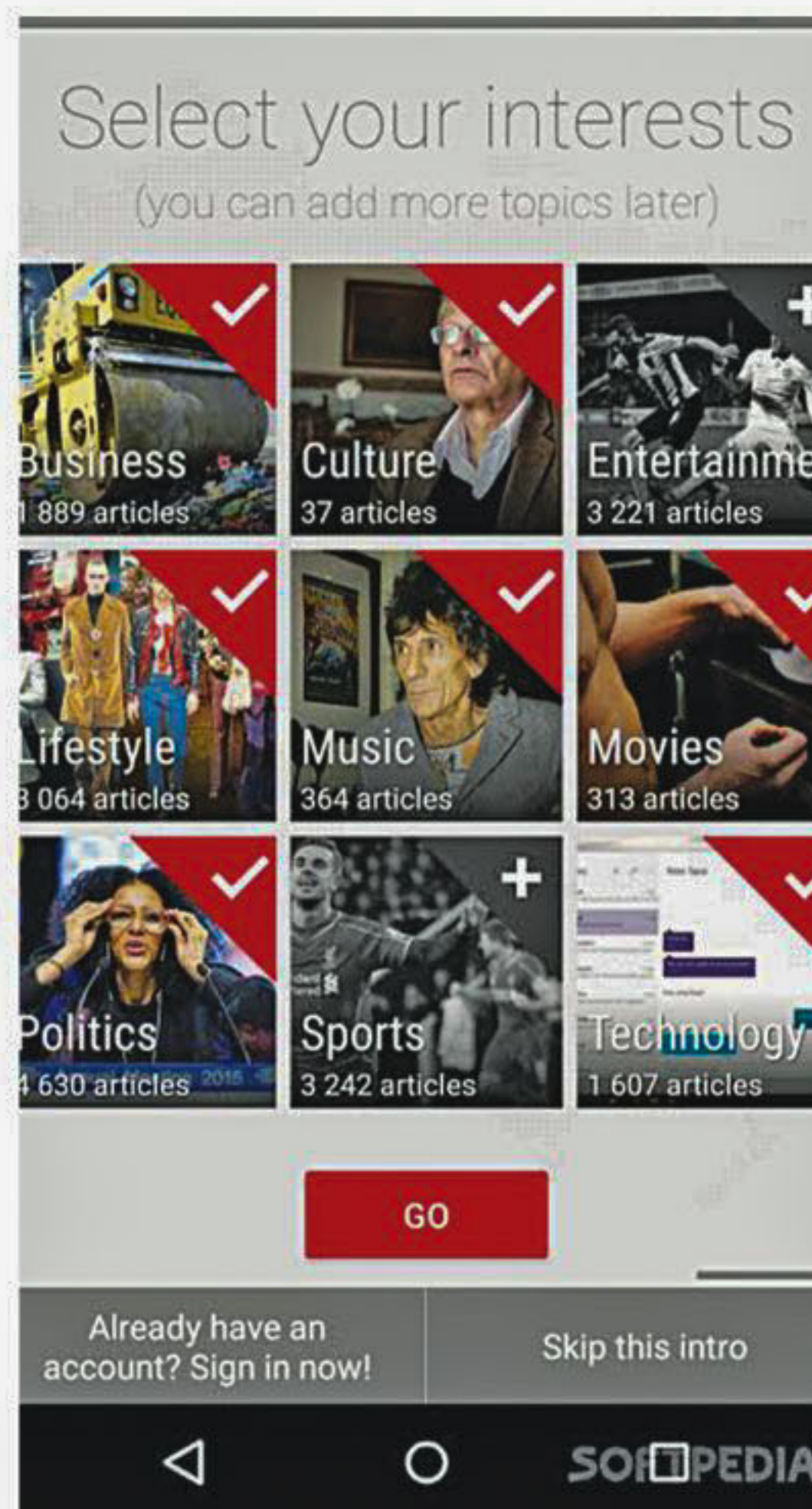
These special prices will give the customers to have an exclusive opportunity to enjoy the matches on Samsung TVs at home during the exciting T20 World Cup 2016. The price discounts are proposed on the 32", 40", 48" and 55" of selected Samsung Curved series TV models; 40", 48" and 55" of preferred Samsung Smart series TV models; this exclusive offer is also applicable for 32" and 40" of chosen TV models of Samsung Joy plus series along with 23", 32" and 40" of Samsung LED TV models.

Top 3 news apps

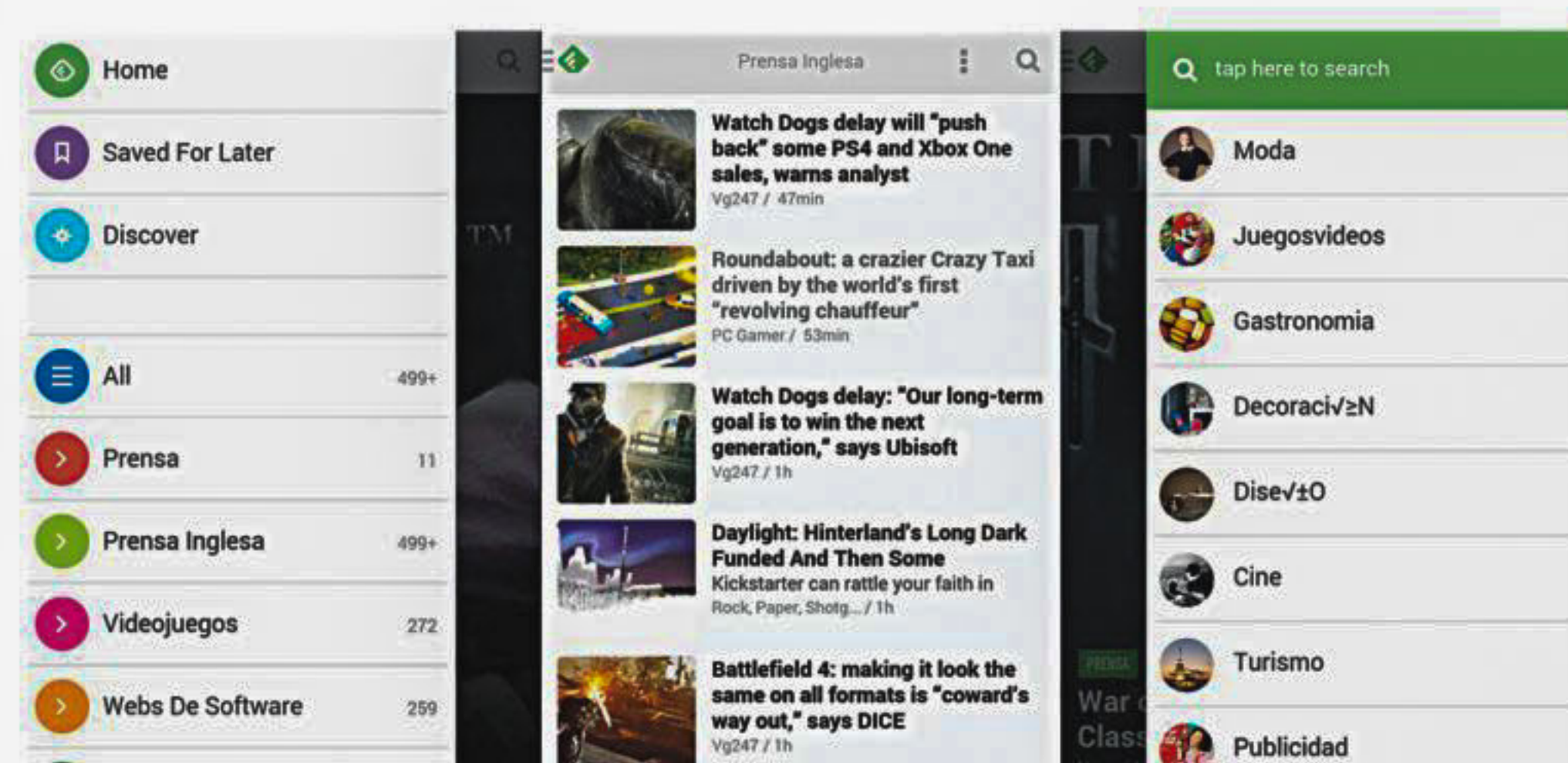COMPILED BY: SUM NEELIM

FEEDLY

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NEWS REPUBLIC

With News Republic you can follow the categories which you find interesting and also subscribe to RSS feeds. This app comes with the images and videos which are relevant to your news topics. The app collects its news from reputed sources and presents them in its amazing material design. You can skim through trending topics or go in depth with its cool navigation system. It also supports offline reading. The app is available for both Android and iOS

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Yahoo News Digest sends two digests every day one in the morning and one in the evening. The digests consist of atoms which are basically info-graphs quotes or excerpts from the top news sources. With this app your reading experience becomes effortless efficient and very entertaining. The app is available on all platforms.