



The power to do more

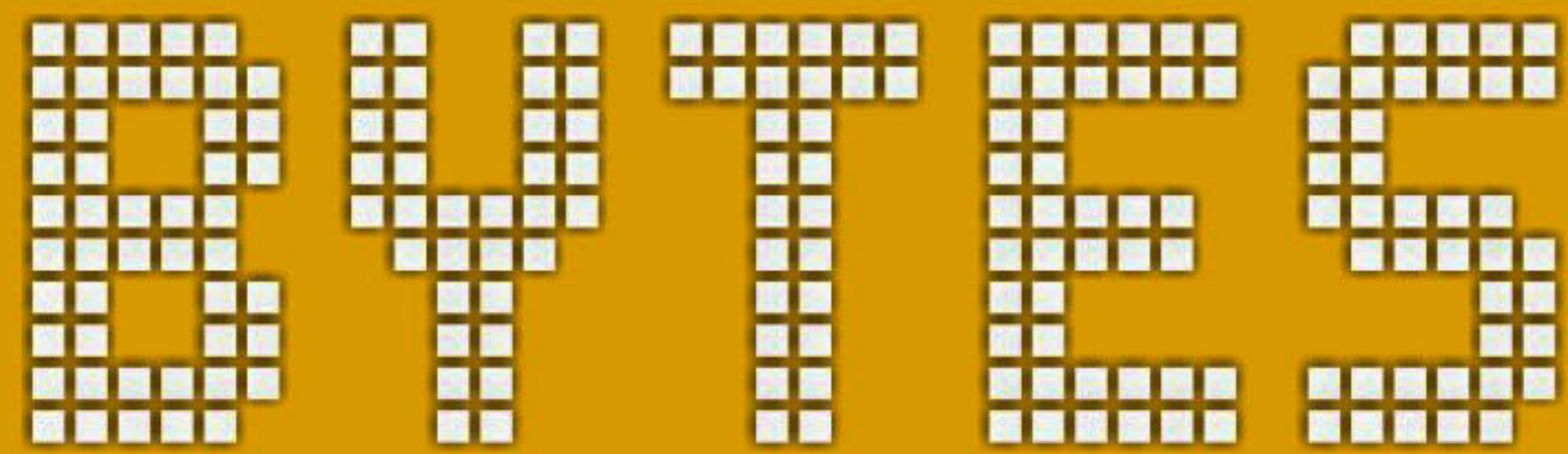
INFORMATION

GADGETS

TECHNOLOGY

The Daily Star

DHAKA, MONDAY, JUNE 13, 2016
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HANDS ON REVIEW

SYMPHONY XPLORER H300

After a gloomy Q2, Symphony has sprung back in to action. In a very short span of time, they have brought out several new models and more or less each boasts some unique features. In today's issue of BYTES we bring you a detailed hands on review of a new feature rich entrant: H300. The prominent H series (Apparently the H stands for Hercules for the bold design and unmatched features) predecessor includes H250, H175, H100, H200 etc. And most of them were market hit. But can the H300 live up to its forerunners' reputation? Let's find out:

DESIGN & BUILD

Symphony's H300 does not at all look like any of the H series phone we have encountered before. It has a lean metal wrapped around the edge. The phone comes with matte finish back with a leatherette design. Weighing around 150 gm and measuring 8.7 mm in thickness, the phone looks like the love-child of a Moto G and iPhone 4S (minus the metal and glass). The power buttons and the volume rockers both are placed at the top right. The 3.5mm port sits on the top and micro-USB port rests in the bottom right. The back sports the camera, LED flash, speaker groove and the obvious Symphony branding.

DISPLAY

H300 features a 5-inch IPS display with HD (720x1280p) resolution. We found the display is good with wide viewing angles. Works good on direct sunlight with full brightness. The colour rendition was up to the mark. We thought there would be some pixelisation since it was not a full-HD panel but to



our utter surprise there wasn't any. The glass is a fingerprint magnet though; so be assured there will be smudges if you are not careful.

CAMERA

H300 has a 13MP auto focus camera with a dual LED flash on the back. The camera, despite being grainy and missing some details, certainly is among the high points of the phone. Images captured by the camera turned out pretty great in bright sunlight. What impressed us most was the 5 MP front facing camera. It's able to take photos in normal mode and wide angle mode – a feature essential if you and your crew need to immortalise every group hangout.

SOFTWARE

H300 runs on Android 5.1 Lollipop and the user interface is a custom one but bears some resemblance with the stock

version of the OS including gesture control and smart awake. With the Gesture control you interact with the phone by drawing some gestures in the air. In addition to that you can draw 'C' to open camera or 'M' to open music player or even double tap to lock/unlock the screen. This feature is called Smart Awake.

PERFORMANCE

The heart of the H300 is a 1.4GHz Octa Core processor coupled with a 2 GB RAM. The decent processing power of this Octa Core processor is good enough to be your daily driver. Games and apps, as long as those are not graphics intensive, will run smoothly. We did experience a bit lag now and then though, but those were short lived.

BATTERY

The phone comes with a 2500mAh battery which is not adequate since it's sort of a norm to have 3000+ mAh batteries on screens bigger than 5 inch. The battery life

of H300 can be optimised a bit though by using the built in phone assist.

VERDICT

H300 is priced at Tk. 9,490/-, which is reasonable for the features and performance that you get. However, Symphony just launched H400, a new smartphone with added features and bigger battery for Tk. 500/- more. We didn't review the H400 yet so we can't say which one would be better. However, what we can say after reviewing H300 is: if you are in need of an entry level smartphone with more than decent performance then buying a H300 would certainly be bang for the buck.

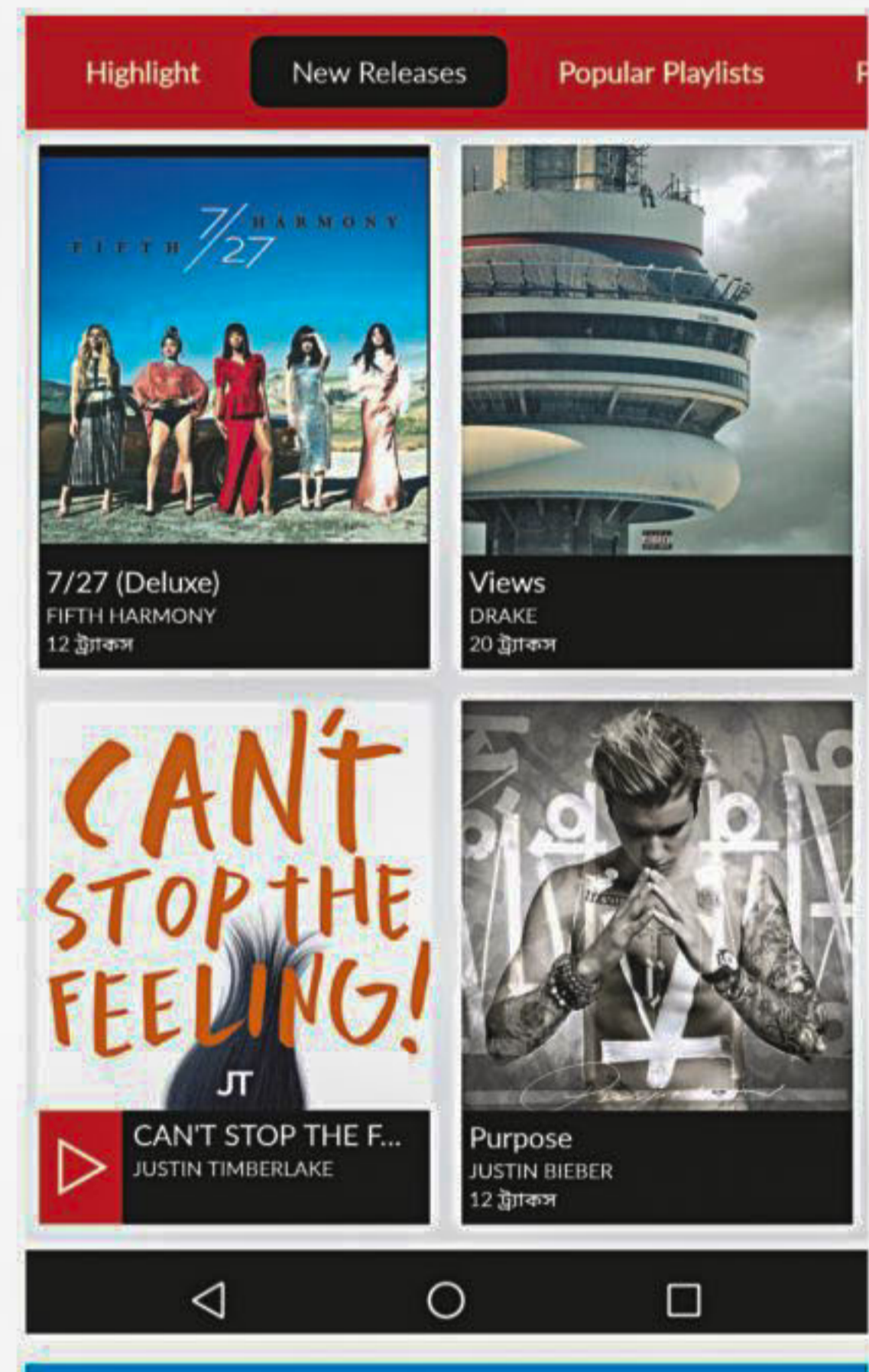
WORDS: SHAHRIAR RAHMAN
PHOTOS: RAHIN SADMAN

APPS ON THE FLOOR

Name of App: mJams Music
Developer: mJams Music
Platforms: Android & iOS
Size: 6.6M
Genre: Music and Audio
Our Rating: 9/10

mJams Music is a new music streaming app by mJams Music. Focusing on delivering a seamless audio entertainment platform, mJams makes sure the best songs are just a tap away.

The great part about this app is that it nails the basics while giving you a handful of exciting features as well. You'll get the new tracks and albums from your favourite artists right after they're released. As for discovering new music, you'll see a Highlights list filled with songs by featured artists from all over the world. Creating new playlists goes to a whole new level with this app. You can of course build your very own lists based on different moods and also listen other playlists built by celebrities. One rather interesting feature of mJams Music is the Jamming option that lets you stream songs available in a specific genre. The UI is brilliantly designed with a very streamlined approach and makes it a breeze to get lost in the world of music.



TECH HAPPENING

LENOVO SMARTPHONE LAUNCHED IN BANGLADESH

Lenovo has declared Smart Technologies (BD) Ltd. as authorized distributor for Smartphone business in Bangladesh at a press conference held last week in Dhaka. Lenovo's Head Distribution & Sales Operations Rohit Khatter and International Business Manager Sunil Verma represented the company in the press conference. While Mohammad Zahirul Islam, Managing Director & M Ekhtiar Ahmed, General Manager represented Smart Technologies in the program. Lenovo also launched several new handsets officially in Bangladesh at the event –



K3Note, P1Ma, A6010, A2010 and A1000. Rohit Khatter presented the keynote speech in

front of press and described about all models of newly arrived products.

PROLINK SILVER JUBILEE OFFER

Prolink introduced a special offer in the market as "ak okke dui" for celebrating its silver jubilee. According to this offer end-users can get attractive prizes in two phases of a raffle draw. A coupon will be provided with each Prolink device purchased till November 30, 2016. A raffle draw will be conducted in three phases. The first phase of the raffle draw is on July 31 and second phase will be on September 30. The grand raffle draw is on 16 December. lucky winners will get to have Motorcycle, 40 inch TV, fridge, smartphone, micro oven and many other prizes.

GOOGLE STREET VIEW NOW COVERS BARISAL, RAJSHAHI, SYLHET & RANGPUR



Following the launch of Dhaka, Chittagong and Khulna on Street View last year, Google has added new imagery from Barisal, Rajshahi, Sylhet and Rangpur, as well as 89 new tourist destinations. From the winding rivers in the south, to the lush greenery of the north, this new collection now allows visitors to enjoy the beauty, history and diversity of Bangladesh right from the palm of their hands. People now can take virtual strolls at Bangladesh's Mughal heritage at Dhaka's Lalbagh Fort; see a blend of Mughal and European design at Curzon Hall, or take a walk around the ancient ruins of Paharpur Badalgachhi Upazila.

JUST IN

H400: SYMPHONY'S SMARTPHONE WITH FINGERPRINT SECURITY

Symphony Mobile last week unveiled a fingerprint security enabled smartphone- H400. The handset comes with a 2.5 D curved glass on a 5 inch HD IPS Display with 1280x720 resolutions. To ensure a solid snap every time, Symphony opted for a 13 megapixel rear camera with 2.0 apertures. For selfies, the phone has a 5 megapixel front camera. OS of the phone is the latest Android 6.0 Marshmallow. Running the machine under the hood is a 1.3 GHz Quad Core 64 bit processor coupled with a 2GB DDR3 RAM. H400 has a 3200mAh Li-poly battery and several other battery optimisation features for longer lasting usage. Customer can pre-order the phone through www.pickbaboo.com, an e-commerce venture of Edison Group.

Price: Tk. 9,990/-
Available in two colours: black & silver.

HUAWEI'S FLAGSHIP DEVICE P9 AVAILABLE IN THE MARKET

Huawei launched its much anticipated flagship device Huawei P9 in Bangladesh. Created in collaboration with world-famed brand Leica Camera AG, P9 brings a new dimension in smartphone photography. Boasting a dual-lens Leica camera, its image engineering will allow users to capture photographs in both colours and monochrome. Each P9 device is a construct of superior-grade 2.5D glass and an aerospace-class aluminium, with diamond-cut edges rounded out by carefully balanced curvatures. For the detailed review, visit: <http://www.thedailystar.net/bytes/hands-review>
Price: Tk. 47,990/- (3GB RAM version)

SAMSUNG BANGLADESH LAUNCHES 'THE GRAND INVITE' FOR EID

Samsung Electronics has launched 'The Grand Invite' campaign on the occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr. Under the campaign, customers can enjoy offers on mobile devices and consumer electronics from Samsung. Besides the discounted prices and opportunity to win electronics devices, customers can also win trips to Bali every week, helicopter rides, 32" Curved TV every day, along with amazing cash discounts. During this period Galaxy S7

edge is available at a discounted price. The first winner of the programme was Himangshu Chakraborti, a graduate from IBAIS University. He won the helicopter ride after buying a Galaxy J5 2016 Edition handset. Customers can save up to BDT 35,000 if they turn in their existing mobile devices and upgrade to the S7 edge. In addition to that Samsung Mobile is offering cash discounts up to BDT 10,000 for this Eid.

MILLWARD BROWN STUDY SHOWS BIKROY.COM OUTRANKS COMPETITION

According to a study recently conducted by Millward Brown, Bikroy.com is the most preferred online market place in Bangladesh now. The report states that 75%, 52% & 54% of the internet users of Bangladesh seriously considers bikroy.com for purchasing electronic products, properties and vehicles respectively. The report also mentions that in the classified portals, majority of the traffic comes from small screen devices and people still prefer purchasing offline compared to online.

TECH BITS Jennifer Lawrence tapped to play Elizabeth Holmes in new movie about Theranos



Google, Baidu and the race for an edge in the global speech recognition market



Mozilla's multi-process architecture project cleared for takeoff



Gawker files for bankruptcy



Facebook forces its photo-sharing app Moments to the top of the App Store

