



The power to do more

BYTES

HANDS ON REVIEW

SAMSUNG GALAXY J7 MAX

PHOTOS & WORDS: SHAHRIAR RAHMAN

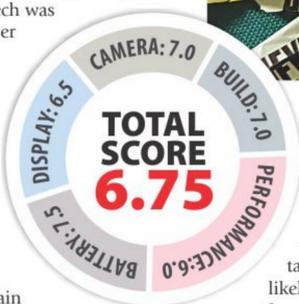
Almost eight months back, we reviewed a mid-range smartphone of Samsung – the J7 Prime. Faring pretty well in the market, it became one of the best sellers of Samsung this year. Inspired by this success, Samsung brought out several other variants of J7. The one we are reviewing today is J7 Max, a hulking up version of J7 Prime.

FIRST IMPRESSIONS

The phone is targeted for mid-range buyers and it reeks that very message throughout its design. It comes in a typical aluminium based metallic body. The size is a bit big for one handed operation even if you have gigantic palms like mine. The back has a camera with smart glow light around it. This very tech was borrowed from another successful entry-level smartphone of Samsung – the J2. To some, this glow might seem tacky but it serves its purpose by lighting up in a variety of colours when a specific notification arrives or you have missed attending certain important calls. The phone has a typical Micro USB charging jack with a 3.5mm audio input.

DISPLAY

The phone comes with a run of the mill 5.7 inch PLS capacitive screen that looks a bit washed out in terms of colours. If you are used to AMOLED or Super AMOLED screens, then you are definitely going to feel the difference. But that doesn't mean, the display isn't bright or provides good viewing angles, because it does. With medium brightness, the screen was usable under sunlight as well. Interestingly, this phone's screen isn't protected by any Corning Gorilla Glass or Atashi Dragon



Age- making it vulnerable to scratches.

PERFORMANCE

Performance is the segment where the phone falls short, compared to the competition. For the price-tag it comes with, you are very likely to find much better-performing phones from Chinese competition. The MediaTek Helio P20 processor is a mediocre processor that isn't powerful enough to process heavy apps or demanding games. The RAM however, being a 4GB module, helps a lot with browsing with multiple tabs open. I am the kind of person who uses 20-25 tabs simultaneously yet I didn't get a moment of stuttering.

As mentioned earlier, we downloaded Asphalt 8: Airborne and tried playing here. It started to bog down the processor a lot when we tried to run it in highest settings. But it ran smoothly when we toned down the settings to medium.

BATTERY

The phone comes with a 3300 mAh non-removable battery. For a phone of 5.7 inch screen, you might think this isn't enough, right? WRONG. Three reason why this battery is good enough for a phone this size. Firstly, the screen doesn't sport a battery-hogging AMOLED or Super AMOLED screen. Secondly, the phone doesn't have a demanding processor so it won't sip the battery every now and then. Lastly, you can use the phone on ultra-saving mode so that the last few percentages of charge last more than hours. I used the phone daily for a couple of weeks and it lasted a full work day. Being an extreme user who keeps the internet on the entire day- it's actually pretty decent.

CAMERA

The phone comes with one of the best cameras to take snaps in low light- something we didn't expect at this price-range. The photos we took on broad day light were crisp, sharp and vibrant. The selfie camera took pretty good selfies. Upon inspecting the spec, we realised why the

phone was taking such excellent snaps. The phone comes with a 13MP camera on the rear with f/1.7 aperture. The white balance of the photos taken after the evening is good in most parts. In some blogs, we saw writers attributing the enhanced night mode to Galaxy S8's low light algorithm.

OTHER TWEAKS

For security, the phone comes with a fingerprint scanner. Unlike most of the Samsung devices, it's in the front. Takes nearly 0.4 seconds to open up the phone. Smart glow is another unique feature, about which we mentioned earlier.

SPECS

Display: 5.7 inches 1080X1920 Pixels
CPU: Octa-core 2.4 GHz Cortex-A53
RAM: 4 GB
ROM: 32 GB
Back Camera: 13 MP, f/1.7, autofocus
Selfie Camera: 13 MP, f/1.9,
Battery: 3300 mAh
OS: Android 7.0 (Nougat)
PRICE: TK 25,900/-

VERDICT

Galaxy J7 Max is Samsung's attempt to recreate a device that can easily make its way to the hands of consumers who are looking for a mid-range phone with a big screen. The Android 7.0 coupled with an awesome camera is indeed a good deal – only if the price of the device was a bit lesser. For the price-tag of J7 Max, you can easily get devices that are better speeded- at least on paper. But if you are looking for a phone with decent battery life and good camera then certainly this one is worth considering.

JUST IN

Walton brings new smartphone Primo GM2+

Walton has released its newest smartphone 'Primo GM2+' in the tech market. It's an upgraded model of 'Primo GM2' which was released in the market on last Eid-ul-Fitr. The new model features improved RAM, storage and camera that will increase its performance. The phone is powered by a 4000 mAh Li-Polymer battery, 5-inch HD IPS display, 1.3 GHz quad-core processor, 2 GB RAM, Mali-400, 16 GB ROM, BSI 13 Mega Pixel auto focus



rear camera and BSI 5 MP front camera.
Price: Tk. 8,350/-

Lexmark brings new mono laser printer



Lexmark has introduced a new mono laser printer at the local market through Tech Republic. This Lexmark MS312dn combines a powerful processor, flexible network connectivity, two-line LCD display, eco-conscious features, and output at up to 35 pages per minute. It can easily print up to 2,500 pages per month
Price: Tk. 17,000/-

TECH HAPPENING

Huawei to give away goodies signed by Shakib Al Hasan this Eid

On the occasion of Eid-ul-Adha, Huawei customers will get Shakib signed merchandises such as magic bag, t-shirt and cricket bat for purchasing of Huawei smartphones. Customers will also get Robi bundle offer for all available models. With every Huawei P10 and P10 Plus comes with a premium photo studio box. The

Huawei GR5 2017 Standard and Premium Edition as well as the Huawei GR3 2017 (golden and black colour) come with a magic bag with Shakib's signature and a flask. The Huawei Y6II is accompanied by a flask and the Y3 2017 comes with a t-shirt signed by Shakib. Moreover, along with the aforementioned handsets, the

Huawei Y6II Prime, the Huawei GR5 Mini, the Huawei Y5II, Huawei Y3II, and Huawei MediaPad T1 7inch come with free Robi 300 minutes talk time and 12 GB internet. Customer will get this talk time and data for 3 months. Every month customer will get 100 minutes talk time and 4GB data.

KONA Software gets new Managing Director

Kona Software Lab Limited (Kona SL) is recently announced the appointment of Mr. Minaoar Hossain Tanzil as Managing Director. Previously he was serving as the Deputy Managing Director for last 2 years. Mr. Tanzil is a CSE graduate from BUET with MBA (Finance) from IBA, DU. He has more than 10 years of experience in software industry focusing in financial and telecommunication domain.



International seminar on connectivity held in Dhaka

An international seminar on possibilities of connectivity in Bangladesh held in Dhaka on Saturday. Provident Technologies and Shanghai Baud Data Communication (BDCOM) organised the seminar at International Convention City in Bashundhara area. Some 14, 00 top technology executives from different agencies attended the seminar where a nine-member delegation from China was also present. Shanghai Bdcem President Chen Qun, Provident Technologies CEO Mohammad Zubair, among others, spoke on the inaugural session of the seminar.

Go Zayaan kicks off

To make travelling flexible and convenient for all, GoZayaan launched their website www.gozayaan.com recently. The event was inaugurated by State Minister of ICT Division Zunaid Ahmed Palak, Chairman of GoZayaan Syed Farhad Ahmed and Founder & CEO of the Company Ridwan Hafiz. Mr Mustafa Jabbar, president of BASIS & Mr Taufiq Uddin Ahmed, President of Tour Operators Associations of Bangladesh were also present during the event. Go Zayaan intends to serve the tech savvy travelers of Bangladesh by providing a one-stop travel solution online.

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW

5-6%

100

22,600

HANDSETS
SUPPORT 4G

MIN SPEED
MEGABITS PER SECOND

INVESTMENT
CRORE TAKA

SPECTRUM

LICENSE FEE
10 CRORE

ANNUAL FEE
5 CRORE

SPECTRUM AUCTION STARTS FROM
\$ 25M PER MHz

DESIGNED BY
SHAHRIAR RAHMAN & RAHIN SADMAN

TECH BITS Google's Sundar Pichai cancels internal meeting on gender issues.



Snap sinks as Q2 growth and revenue fall short



Benchmark sues former Uber CEO Travis Kalanick



SoundCloud faces do-or-die vote by investors



FlySpaces, an Airbnb for office space in Southeast Asia, raises \$2.1M

