



The power to do more

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INFORMATION | GADGETS | TECHNOLOGY



AS IT HAPPENED

APPLE'S BID TO REGAIN THE INNOVATION LEAD

SHAHRIAR RAHMAN

Ever since the launching of the very first iPhone ten years back, Apple has been able to mesmerize the world with their mind-boggling technology and cutting-edge design. In these ten years, Apple has launched eighteen different models of smartphone, three generations of watches, seven different models of iPad and countless other devices. Each and every time, soaring number of audiences followed the Apple events – just to see what new gizmo has the tech giant build now. For the last several years, thanks to the high-speed internet, most people can enjoy the event live and every year the number rose staggeringly. In 2013, the number of people live streaming the event was estimated to be more than a 'one million'. If you are one of those who missed the event this year, then not to worry. Here we crammed every important announcement Apple made last week:

IPHONE X

Firstly, and most importantly: this is pronounced iPhone Ten not iPhone 'ex' and this is probably the most anticipated Apple device ever in its history. This phone has shattered every design speculation the fans had (till the leaks started to appear online) and is indeed a true testament of Apple's design and engineering marvel. All though, Xiaomi and Samsung have been doing edge-to-edge bezel-less screen for years now- but it was the first time for Apple. The phone has a "Super Retina Display," measuring 5.8 inches and Apple used OLED for the first time on any of its phones.

This is the first iPhone without any sort of home button at all. To wake up the phone you need to tap on the screen. Instead of Touch ID fingerprint, this phone has Face ID. Using the infrared scanner and depth of field sensors, iPhone X will map its users face. The phone also comes equipped with a dual 12-megapixel camera on the back. It can take much better pictures with higher resolutions compared to the previous generations. The front facing camera here supports portrait mode as well. The powerhouse of iPhone X is Apple's home-grown A11 Bionic chip with neural computing features. The phone also supports wireless charging which isn't a groundbreaking feature in even Apple universe. Still, we are actually happy that Apple thought about going with wireless charging. How well the battery will fare- that's something we can comment on right now but according to Apple it's going to run at least two hours longer than the iPhone 7. The iPhone Xs will be made available in 64GB and 256GB memory and a starting at \$999



(roughly BDT 80,000/-)
IPHONE 8 & 8 PLUS

Well, besides the anniversary special iPhone X, Apple also announced iPhone 8 and 8 Plus which looks and feels almost identical to iPhone 7 series. The iPhone 8 series did have some refinements though, but we don't consider them exactly as a showstopper. Rather at best we can say these features are just 'good-to-have'. The design got just one face-lift: glass back. Apple is now selling them in three different colours: silver, space gray, and gold (although it says gold, we think it should have been called rose gold, thanks to the pinkish hue). Just like the iPhone X, this too now comes with 64GB and 256GB models. The base model price starts from \$699 (roughly around BDT 57,000/-).

APPLE WATCH SERIES 3

Apple's premium wearable device, the Apple Watch got an upgrade too. The newest lineup is called 'series 3' and supports phone calls and LTE. This means your phone won't need to access the phone data making it one of the most usable wearables now in the market. The OS of the watch got an upgrade too. Now it functions much smoother and the heart rate monitor delivers more accurate results. It supports wireless charging like its predecessors and looks almost identical to the series 2. The base model of the Apple watch series 3 starts from \$329 (roughly around BDT 28,000/-).

APPLE TV 4K

Apple has already been operating in the set-top-

box market for several years now and this year it has unveiled another incremental update: Apple TV 4K. This device will be now streaming videos from Apple partners in 4K. Not only it will stream 4K video, it has enhanced HDR option to make the videos much more vibrant and colour accurate. Powered by A10X Fusion chipset, this set-top-box can process high-quality video streaming from games as well. The 32GB base model of Apple TV 4K will cost you around \$200 (roughly will cost you BDT 17,000/-)

WHAT ELSE

Even the venue itself was a wonder to many. The unveiling event was held in Apple's Spaceship campus called the 'Apple Park' in Cupertino, California. The main event took place in the new Steve Jobs Theater. The all-glass design of the exterior combined with white marble stone was reeking Apple's design principles.



THE BIG DEAL ABOUT THE IPHONE

Every time an iPhone comes out, all the 'idolatri' for and the 'ire' against the brand come out for an epic battle. And in the end, people happily sell their kidneys (if they still have one left after the last phone came out) for a chance to join this seemingly exclusive club.

So what is new about the iPhone X? It now sports glass on the back and front letting you relive those days of the original iPhone 4 where dropping it meant twice the fear factor. Face detection lets you unlock and purchase iPhone cases online. Unless of course you cover your face for religious or superhero purposes. Imagine Deadpool trying to remove his mask and then the phone still refusing because his face is always full of new shape changing scars.

People argue it is full of touted tech that existed previously: dual OIS cameras, bezel free screen design, OLED design and wireless charging. Ignoring the fanboy rants, it simply is one of those phones that generally work for a long, long time. Everything on the devices is so well optimised, it continues to perform smoothly even after the expiration date of modern technology.

All this leaves the 8 in the background. The 8 is not a significant upgrade over the 7, but you buy it because you must and also because the X is a little too pricey for most. Starts at about USD 1000. The good news is, iPhone 7 prices are dropping.

EHSANUR RAZA RONNY

JUST IN

Huawei Y7 Prime launched for local market



Huawei has introduced the Huawei Y7 Prime – the newest product of the Y series smartphones. With all new design features plus long-lasting performance, the Huawei Y7 Prime is built for independent and enthusiastic smartphone users who expect their device to do everything. The phone packs a 4000 mAh battery, 5.5" large HD display, 2.5D curved screen, Octa-Core Snapdragon processor, 3GB RAM, 32GB ROM, 12MP rear camera and 8MP F2.0 front. The phone also offers Emotion User Interface (EMUI) EMUI 5.1, skinned on Android 7.0 Nougat, straight out of the box. EMUI 5.1 provides a clean and simple interface allowing users to accomplish 90 percent of the frequent actions in 3 steps and blocking junk adverts.
PRICE: TK. 19,900/-

CORSAIR Enthusiast Series TX650M now available in Bangladesh

CORSAIR Enthusiast Series TX650M power supply is now available in Bangladesh. The power supply has modular cabling system and includes a complete set of flat, detachable cables that allow you to use only the ones you need. It supports the latest ATX12V v2.31 and EPS12V v2.92 standards and backward compatible with ATX12V v2.2 and ATX12V v2.01 systems. It's rated for full, continuous 650w power delivery at an ambient temperature of up to 50° Celsius.
PRICE: TK. 9,500/-



SIX FACTS ABOUT THE SECOND SUBMARINE CABLE OF BANGLADESH



CAPACITY

Second submarine cable comes with 1500-gigabit per second (Gbps) bandwidth capacity.

LONGEVITY

The longevity of the cable has been fixed at 20 years initially, which may go up to 25 years with its optimum maintenance.

CONNECTION

The SMW-5 comprises of a core cable section that will pass through Singapore, Sri Lanka, Saudi Arabia, Djibouti, Italy and France.

LENGTH

The total length is approximately 20,000 km. The Bangladesh branch section involves extra 1900 km from the main core cable section to the cable landing station at Kuakata.

COSTING

The entire project cost is BDT 660 Crore. Bangladesh government paid BDT 166 Crore and BSCL paid BDT 142 Crore. Rest of the amount was loaned by IDB.

EQUIPMENT

Japan's NEC and France's Alcatel Lucent were the provider of the key equipments for the landing station.

DESIGNED BY: SHAHRIAR RAHMAN



Second international data centre summit ends in Dhaka

Bangladeshi technology organisation DCicon and Data Centre Professionals Society of Bangladesh jointly organised international data centre summit for the second time. Hundreds of technologists from 30 international organisations of nine countries attended this congress. Post telecommunications and Information Technology Ministry affairs parliamentary committee Chairman Imran Ahmed and BTRC Chairman Shahjahan Mahmood were special guests of the opening session.

International data centre standard organisation UpTime Institute South Asia Managing Director Jhone Duffin said, there are some Bangladeshi organisation under procedure to get certification from Uptime. And two organisations will be get certificates by end of this year.

Regarding Bangladesh, Duffin said, there are huge potentials in the country. As a disaster prone region, local companies can introduce renewable energy in data centre to get effective result. However, the economic growth will be driven by the technology of data centre.

Mr. Imran Ahmed, MP said, "Government has developed the four tire National Data Centre to manage the information of 16 crore of citizens. However, the computer graduates produced from the universities are not 'skilled' to manage the data centre. Universities should input the sector study in their curriculum.

Regarding the data protection act, Imran Ahmed said, the government is ready to prepare data protection act. Before that the local data centres have to maintain international standard according to UpTime Institute.

BTRC Chairman Shahjahan Mahmood said, "The volume of data has been increasing by time as the country is moving toward Digital Bangladesh Vision. As of now, the mass are using technology at union levels. Hence data centre technology has become a vital aspect to ensure security of the large volume of data produced by this country. For this, we should focus on enhancing local expertise."

Among others, International Data centre certification authority UpTime Institute's south Asia regional Managing Director John Duffin, Bangladeshi data centre company Coloasia Director Mehreen Nasir, Sterling and Wilson Vice President Sudipta Sanyal, Shark Limited Chairman Joseph B Ulysses were present.

TECH BITS Alphabet is reportedly mulling a \$1B investment in Lyft



Nestlé acquires a majority stake in Blue Bottle Coffee at a valuation north of \$700M



Renault-Nissan lays out plans for 12 new EVs and 'robo' global ride-hailing service



Facebook is the latest tech giant to hunt for AI talent in Canada



The wireless chargers at Starbucks will get updated to support iPhone X and 8

