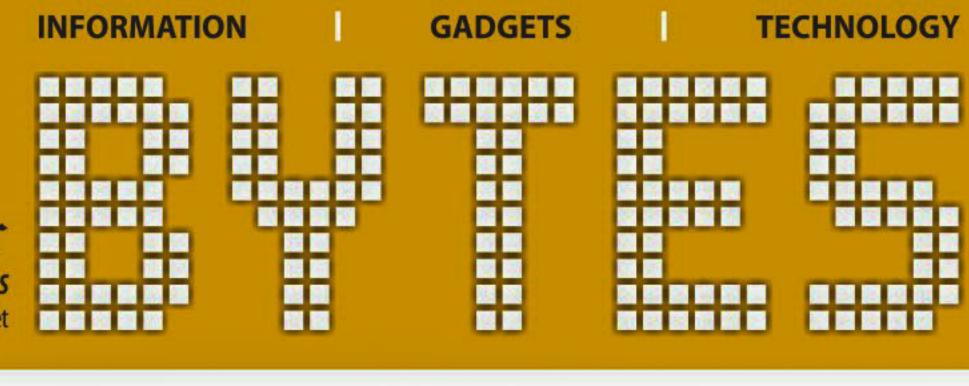


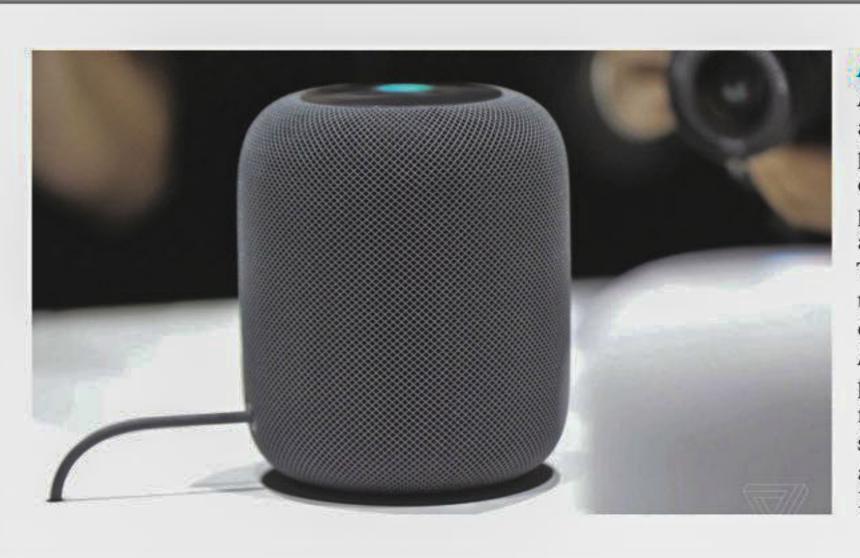
The Daily Star

DHAKA, MONDAY, 29 JANUARY, 2018, MAGH 16, 1424 BS e-mail: bytes@thedailystar.net



MWC 2018 What's coming!

Mobile World Congress or MWC, as it is most popularly known, is undoubtedly the mother of all mobile event globally. All the top dog smartphone, tablet, mobile network and gadget industry throng to this event to show off their latest offering. This annual tradeshow, which is organised by GSMA, will be hosted at Barcelona Spain almost a month from now. Like every year, we follow this event religious to bring you all the scoops and leaks surrounding this event. Here's what top brands like Samsung, LG, Huawei, Apple etc. are expected to bring to Barcelona for this iteration of MWC:



APPLE

Apple doesn't usually unveil any of their most anticipated products during any public event. They prefer dedicated private event so that all the attention is on their product. This year won't be an exception. But they are though expected to show off their new Alexa rival- Homepod. This product was made available for sale just a few days earlier so these will the centre of attention at the Apple Pavilion.



SAMSUNG

Initially it was rumoured though, Samsung would be unveiling their next flagship at CES earlier this year. But it didn't. So the obvious next choice to unveil a device of such stature would be the MWC. And to everyone's delight, a few days ago Samsung did confirm- it is finally going to unpack the S9 on February 25, 2018. Samsung also plans to live stream the event for the eager fans that won't be able to attend the event. For folks in Dhaka, livestreaming is all we are going to get!

SONY

Following the last years' trend where Sony launched their XZ premium line up, we are expecting something similar from Sony this time. A newer model of XZ premium might be launched during the event. Reports suggest the new flagship is to be named Xperia XZ Pro. Moreover, Sony did previously communicate about launching an array of low to midlevel devices during the mobile world congress. Definitely, something we are looking forward to.





HUAWEI

Everyone remembers the launch of P10 last year at MWC. This year, the unveiling of an improved version was expected to happen. P20, which most media is citing as the successor of P10, was expected to be launched with a cheaper version P20 Lite and bigger version P11 Plus. But just couple days back, a report surfaced saying Huawei is not unveiling any new device at the MWC this year. Bummer!







HTC

Guess who else has joined the 'No Show' list - Google's mobile device manufacturer HTC. Their flagship, which was reported titled HTC U12 won't be launched during the MWC 2018. Analysts have speculated two reasons for HTC to not launch a device this time: firstly, Samsung S9 will steal the show and secondly, poor financials. HTC is undergoing financial turmoil hence they want to focus on their upcoming flagship device.



INBANGLADESH

DESIGNED BY SHAHRIAR RAHMAN



40 out of the 57 banks in Bangladesh offer the internet banking facility.



As of October 2017, there are nearly 17 lakh users of internet banking



6.61 lakh transactions Tk 2,300 crore were made in October 2017



Most used functionality of internet banking is Fund Transfer



Customers has to pay Zero to Tk 300 annually for the service



City, EBL, Mutual Trust, BRAC and Standard Chartered bank has the most customers.

JUST IN

Tech Republic brings 3D ProLink modem

Tech Republic Ltd has introduced ProLink PHS 301, a three-dimensional modem, in the local market. This 3.75G WCDMA and GSM wide area portable modem has the facility to call and send SMS from laptop / PC. Apart from using the internet, important information-data can be stored in this modem. For this, the modem has the ability to use up to 32GB micro SD card. Modal downlink and uplink speed of this modem is 7.2mbps and 5.7 mbps.

Price is Tk. 1,700/-



Entry level OPPO A83 with Al & full screen display

OPPO recently launched its latest camera phone - The OPPO A83. The A83 is equipped with a full screen display, 3GB RAM and 3180 mAh battery and an 8 MP front lens + 13 MP rear lens, and uses the A.I. Beauty Recognition Technology to bring out the best in photos. The OPPO A83 will be available in gold and black color variants from 25 January 2018 across country through offline stores. Price: Tk. 19,990/-



WALTON RELEASES A NEW ENTRY LEVEL SMARTPHONE

Walton has released 'Primo NF3', an entry level entrant in the market. This device was manufactured at the mobile phone plant of Walton Digi-Tech Industries Ltd. in Chandra of Gazipur. The six-inch large screen comes equipped with a 1.3 GHz Quad Core Processor, 1 GB of RAM with 8 GB ROM (expandable up to 32 GB), Mali-500 GPU and 8MP rear and front camera. The phone runs on Android Nougat 7.0 and features a 3300 mAh lipolymer battery. Price: Tk. 7,099/-



TECH HAPPENING

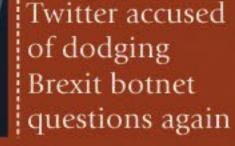
Huawei brings an internet offer with new device purchases

Huawei has brought an internet offer for buying Huawei smartphones. All Grameenphone subscribers can avail the offer in buying specific Huawei smartphones. For buying Huawei Nova 2i, Y7, Y6II, Y6II Prime, GR3 2017, GR5 2017 (Standard), GR5 2017 (Premium) and Mediapad T3 10 Tab, Grameenphone subscribers will get free 4 GB internet data with a validity of 14 days.

Banglalink's 'Healthlink 789' service comes up with doctor's appointment

Banglalink has introduced "Doctor's Appointment", a new feature in its "Healthlink 789" service that will help Banglalink customers get over-the-phone appointments of specialist physicians. By dialing 789, Banglalink customers will be able to contact especially trained healthcare professionals, who will provide medical suggestions along with appointments of specialist physicians based on the particular health conditions and locations of the customers. Through this 24/7 service, customers can get access to more than 7000 doctors and renowned hospitals such as Square Hospital, Apollo Hospital, Samarita Hospital etc. Charge for this is only Tk.5/min (10 sec pulse applicable).



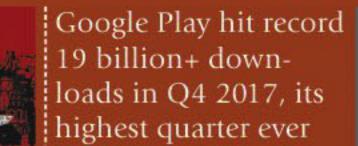




Annual smartphone shipments in China declined for the first time in 2017









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