



## HANDS-ON REVIEW

## Symphony i95

*A lion shares of Symphony's revenue come from feature phones and entry-level smartphones. With more and more people opting for smartphones, Symphony wanted to make sure an array of entry-level devices is out there for first time budget-conscious users. Symphony i95 is an entry-level device that was introduced in the market last month. Our review unit had a sizzling red back. Here's what this device felt like after using it for a couple of weeks:*

The feeble build of the phone reeks 'budget phone' throughout the phone. The back cover, although a rather funky colour, can amass dust and smudges easily. After the initial glow fades, the phone looks just like any other entry-level phone. The phone comes boxed with just a wall-charger. This is probably the first phone in the last two years that comes with a removal back. The battery is stored separately in the box. The phone doesn't have any fingerprint scanner but does have the first generation (therefore unsecured) face unlock technology for quick unlocking.

The display of the phone is a 5.45 inch IPS panel with 720 x 1440 resolution. The colour rendition lacks depth and saturation of the colours were a bit high. But that wasn't a deal breaker for us. The touch screen felt responsive and accurate. The viewing angles are good although under the direct sun we had a hard time understanding texts on the screen.

The performance of the phone was moderate. None of the basic apps were bogged down but there was a little stuttering when we juggled between a few apps. The phone is powered by Spreadtrum SC9832E processor with ARM Cortex A53 chipset. The four cores had 1.4 GHz clock-speed which

in modern standards is extremely basic. This chipset is mainly used in entry-level devices like the i95. It does what it's supposed to do - running the low-intensity apps smoothly. The 2GB RAM doesn't help either, and so, if you have more than 20 tabs open on your chrome, you are bound to feel some lag.

The camera isn't the strongest part of the phone. In an outdoor environment, the phone's rear camera will provide you photos good enough for small screen viewing. There's almost no image stabilisation so taking photos on the move might be a bit tricky. The front snapper is good enough for video calls.

One of the best parts of the phone is the OS: Android Oreo (8.1). This is probably the first entry phone this year I reviewed coming with Android Oreo. Whatever the phone lacks in performance is compensated with the fluid smooth OS experience. However, there are some Bloatware apps albeit a minimum amount.

The phone comes with a 3000mAh battery. But the low clock speed and low DPI display consumes significantly less battery. We got a full work day coverage with one charge. The battery seemed to drain faster after the first 50%. We couldn't find any specific reason since the load on the phone remained even throughout the day.

SHAHRIAR RAHMAN

## SPECS

Display: 5.45" Full Vision HD+ 2.5D

IPS 720 x 1440

OS: Android O OS 8.1

CPU: Quad Core 1.4 GHz

GPU: Mali 820

RAM: 2 GB RAM

ROM: 16 GB

Camera: Rear- 13 MP, Front- 8 MP

Battery: 3000 mAh

Price: Tk. 7,990/-

## VERDICT

Symphony i95 is a device for someone who has been intending to buy his or her first smartphone after ages of using a feature phone. To us, it's a solid device which will provide you decent performance. Although competition has made way for some competent devices too but under BDT 10K, if you are planning to buy a phone then you can certainly consider this device. We recommend the one with red back cover... it will definitely jazz your mundane lifestyle.



## THE BIRTH OF THE INTERNET AS WE KNOW IT

When you think about the internet, the first thing you'll draw a parallel with the World Wide Web or "WWW". It's the first thing most people type into their browsers search box in order to reach their website of choice and it's been thirty years since the introduction of the technology which shaped the internet into what it is today.

Although the internet has existed for almost fifty years, it was in 1989 that Sir Tim Berners-Lee decided to connect all of its existing pieces, thus setting in motion the internet as we know it. While working as an independent contractor for CERN in 1980, he developed a prototype called ENQUIRE. In an effort to streamline communication between researchers, Tim Berners-Lee sought to link hypertext with Transmission Control Protocol and domain name system during his second tenure at CERN. And so, by using similar ideas from the ENQUIRE prototype, he wrote and submitted his proposal for

the project in March 1989. The document which was titled Information Management: A Proposal would be the birth of the World Wide Web.

The first website to ever go public is the CERN HTTPd way back on August 6, 1991, which was created as a means for sharing information about the World Wide Web Project. And the internet blew up from that point onwards. Tim Berners-Lee's creation and the subsequent release of the patent to the public in 1993 meant that anyone and everyone could host a website. These actions gave birth to consumer internet and by 1995 there were already 23,500 websites already registered on the internet. And that number currently stands at 1.6 billion, making the World Wide Web synonymous with the internet.

Without Tim Berners-Lee's idea which was dubbed as "vague, but exciting" at the time, we would not have had Google, Facebook, Amazon or anything the mind can conceive when thinking

about the internet. Shortly after the inception of the World Wide Web, students at McGill University would create the world's first search engine known as Archie. The search engine is still credited as being the building blocks of Google and Yahoo!

When we talk about the internet today, the conversation is often marred by everything that's wrong with it - all the avenues for misinformation and wrongdoings finding its place on the World Wide Web. But currently, more than half the world's population has access to seemingly infinite amount of knowledge and information, 4.3 billion users as of 2018 to be exact. And much of the political, socio-economic and technological revolutions of the 21st century wouldn't have happened if it wasn't for the existence of the World Wide Web.

ASIF AYON

A LOOK AT HEAVYGARI  
The platform which lets you book commercial vehicles

*HeavyGari is an app which allows users to book trucks and minivans for transporting bundles of goods and materials by the bulk while also letting people book buses for long distance trips. The app is free and is available on both the Play Store and the iOS App Store.*

The platform currently comes with the full Booking option and it offers vehicles for moving goods and materials. Truck, Cover Truck, Trailer Truck 2XL, Trailer Truck 3XL, Pickup Van and Mini Pickup Van - essentially all the vehicles you can imagine. The app has a separate option for capacity, with maximum capacities given for each individual vehicle. You can book these vehicles for now or later. HeavyGari also offers you the option to book for a round or one-way trip. The platform also lets users choose whether the payment will be collected by the recipient of the goods or by the users themselves. The app also comes with three options for buses - AC, Non-AC and Business Class.

The app's pickup and drop off points work just like any other ridesharing app you've seen before except HeavyGari will first queue your request till it is accepted on their end. The pricing is upfront with no bargaining or bidding. HeavyGari also offers free tracking for your vehicles and 24/7 customer support. HeavyGari will ensure door to door pickup for their Parcel Booking service. Currently vehicle owners can register their vehicles and drivers at HeavyGari's Dhaka and Chattogram offices, through the HeavyGari Driver app and their website. They will start offering Parcel delivery and insurance for all registered vehicles soon. Although the service offers six vehicles at the moment, they will also add Tanker Truck, Mini Bus, Freezer Truck, Ambulance and other commercial vehicles for rent in the future.

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