

'Meghna Cloud': Bangladesh's first cloud data centre

Bangladesh Data Center Company Limited (BDCCCL) and Gennext Technology have recently signed an agreement to set up Meghna Cloud, Bangladesh's first cloud data centre.

According to a press release, this joint venture will be under the initiative 'Made in Bangladesh Cloud', which will make it possible

to keep the country's data stored within the country. By not depending on foreign data storage facilities, the government can save foreign exchange in purchasing and using cloud technology from other countries.

The new local data centre can provide services to both government



and private organisations in Bangladesh. The press release also states that a brand new Research and Development (R&D) Centre will be set up for Meghna Cloud, which will include teachers and students of government and private universities along with Bangladesh's data centre industry.

Meta fined \$414 mn for breaching data laws



Meta, the parent company of Facebook and Instagram, was recently fined 390 million euros (about \$414 million) on accounts of breaching EU's personal data laws. The announcement comes from a statement made by the Irish Data Protection Commission, which explains that Meta has breached their obligations in regard to transparency in how the personal data of Facebook and Instagram users are used. According to the Ireland-based regulatory commission, Meta has used an "incorrect legal basis" to process personal data to cater "behavioural advertising" to their users.

The statement indicates that the final decision regarding the fine has been made, and for violating EU's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), Meta will be fined 210 million euros (about \$223 million) for Facebook and 180 million euros (about \$191 million) for Instagram.

As a response, Meta said they will appeal the fine. The accompanying statement from Meta emphasised that the company "strongly believes" their approach respects EU's GDPR. Furthermore, Meta added that they comply with the targeted advertising standards set by the GDPR.

Samsung may reveal Galaxy S23 on February 1

Samsung might reveal their newest flagship smartphone, Samsung Galaxy S23, at their upcoming Unpacked event, leaks suggest. The information stems from a leaked screenshot of Samsung's Columbian website, which stated that the first Samsung Unpacked event of 2023 will be held on February 1.

Even though the screenshot did not specifically state that Galaxy S23 will be announced, it did say "meet the new Galaxy" in Columbian, which suggests that the S23 lineup will be announced on February 1. Last year, Samsung Galaxy S22 was unveiled on February 8. Following that timeline,



fans expect the release of Samsung Galaxy S23 to really be on this year's February 1. At the time of writing, the leak is no longer available on Samsung's Columbian website, and Samsung has not yet said anything official regarding their next Unpacked event.

As for expected features, rumours suggest that it will look similar in design to S22. The same leaker who posted the Columbian website screenshot previously stated that S23 Ultra will have a 200 MP main camera, which makes it slightly bigger than the iPhone 14 Pro but smaller than other Android flagship phone sensors coming in 2023.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Kickstarting the year with a bang!

The new year started with a lot happening in the local automobile scene and the global tech scene. The basement of Jamuna Future Park saw the congregation of some of the sleekest cars from the underground automobile scene recently. We have a 2-page feature dedicated to the meetup in this week's Cover Story.

For Bytes, we highlight some of the coolest gadget announcements from this year's Consumer Electronics Show (CES), which featured one of our very own local brands for the first time. You can also find a hands-on review of the Samsung Galaxy S22 Ultra today. We also jotted down the fundamentals of networking in this week's Next Step. As for the rest, flip through the pages and enjoy your weekend reading with Toggle.

Happy weekend.

Tanzid Samad Choudhury
Sub-Editor

OPPO launches A77s

OPPO has recently launched A77s, the latest addition to their A-series smartphones, in Bangladesh. OPPO A77s features 33 W SuperVOOC fast charging, 5000 mAh battery, 6.56-inch waterdrop notch HD+ display, 90 Hz refresh rate, 50 MP rear camera, 2 MP depth camera and 8 MP front camera. It also has expandable storage, dual speakers and IPX4 water resistance.

The smartphone comes in an ultra-slim retro design with ergonomic styling and uses the OPPO glow design, which utilises a glass mold that combines thickness and a sparkling visual effect. Previously, this glow design was only available in OPPO's high-end smartphones. OPPO A77s is available in two colours: starry black and sunset orange. It is currently priced at Tk. 24,990/-.



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Published by the Editor from Transcraft Ltd, 229, Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka on behalf of Mediaworld Ltd, 52 Motijheel C.A., Dhaka-1000.

Tesla slashes prices in Asian markets as sales stumble

Tesla cut prices in China for the second time in less than three months on Friday, fuelling forecasts of a wider price war amid weaker demand in the world's largest auto market. The U.S. automaker also cut prices on its best-selling Model Y and Model 3 electric vehicles in Japan, South Korea and Australia in what a person with direct knowledge of the plan said was part of an effort to help stoke demand for output from its Shanghai factory, its single largest production hub.

The shift is the first major move by Tesla since appointing its lead executive for China and Asia, Tom Zhu, to oversee global output and deliveries that have

been at the heart of the company's recent challenges after falling short of its 2022 delivery target. Tesla shares closed up 2.5% at \$113.06 last Friday. However, the stock has lost 70% of its value in the last year.



Tesla slashed prices for all its Model 3 and Model Y cars in China by between 6% to 13.5%, according to Reuters calculations based on the website prices. The starting price for the Model 3 was cut to 229,900 yuan (\$33,427), from 265,900 yuan. Those models are now priced 24% to 32% lower than those in the United States, Tesla's largest market, Reuters calculations showed, reflecting several factors including material and labour costs.