

# Bangladesh to digitally preserve 40 ethnic languages

The government's ICT division has initiated efforts to preserve and digitise 40 ethnic languages, including 14 endangered ones. To further this initiative, a discussion meeting titled 'Font and keyboard construction of ethnic languages of Bangladesh' was held last week, which was presided over by the Project Director of the "Enrichment of Bengali Language in Information Technology through Research and Development" Project (EBLIC). The event was attended by poets, writers, technologists, and



common language representatives from various languages, including Chakma, Marma, Santal, Mro, Tanchangya, Telugu, Dhakaiya Urdu, and Thar. The Bangladesh Computer Council

under the ICT Department has been implementing the 'Digitisation of Ethnic Languages of Bangladesh' initiative since January 2022. 37 out of the 40 scheduled languages have already been sampled, and the construction of fonts and keyboards for languages with their own alphabets has been started. If successfully implemented, this effort will ensure the presence of ethnic language speakers in the digital world by enabling them to use their mother tongue on the keyboard.



## Samsung Galaxy A04e launched in Bangladesh

Samsung has recently launched their Galaxy A04e smartphone in Bangladesh. The phone comes with a 5,000 mAh battery, a 6.5-inch Infinity-V display with HD+ technology, and RAM Plus, which allows users to add extra virtual RAM of up to 4 GB.

The smartphone features an octa-core processor, 7 GB (3 GB + 4 GB with RAM Plus), and 32 GB of storage that can be extended up to 1 TB with a microSD card. As for the camera, it has a 13 MP primary lens, 2 MP depth and a 5 MP front camera setup. Samsung Galaxy A04e is available in three colours: black, light blue, and copper. It is priced at Tk. 12,999/-.

## OPPO to shut down chip design unit: reports

Oppo, the Chinese smartphone manufacturer, recently stated that they will shut down their chip design unit due to uncertainties in the global economy and the smartphone industry. The company will reportedly cease operations of their Zeku unit, which was set up in 2019. This unit's products include the MariSilicon X chip, which is a neural processing unit (NPU) that improves images for video and photography taken on smartphones.

"Due to the uncertainties in the global economy and the smartphone industry, we have to make difficult adjustments for long-term development," a company representative said. Oppo and their Chinese rivals such as Xiaomi had set up in-house chip design units in pursuit of self-reliance after the U.S. crippled Huawei Technologies' smartphone division with sanctions that prevented it from sourcing key components.

## 57% users believe mobile internet can generate new income sources: study

57% of mobile internet users in Bangladesh believe that mobile devices can generate new sources of income, according to a new study conducted by Telenor Asia. The study titled 'Digital Lives Decoded' was conducted among 8,000 users from Bangladesh, Pakistan, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

As per the study, 57% of Bangladeshi mobile internet users believe that new income streams can be afforded by mobile devices, with 54% admitting its ability to help them access new job and

career opportunities. Also, 57% users showed over 20% increase in productivity due to mobile devices and technology, while for 26% the productivity increase was over 50%.

While delineating the positive impact of mobile devices and technology on career and skills development, 69% of Bangladeshi respondents reported were found to have significant improvement - states the study. Additionally, 61% of Bangladeshi respondents said that privacy and security were the most significant barriers to fully utilising mobile technology at workplaces.

## Tesla to patch software in over 1 mln vehicles due to Chinese regulations

Tesla Inc. will reportedly fix software problems in more than 1 million vehicles, according to China's official market regulator. The software fix is being mandated to reduce accidents in Tesla's automated vehicles, states the regulator.

The action is described as a product recall under Chinese regulations, the regulator said, but it was not immediately clear

if drivers might need, or would be eligible, to return vehicles to Tesla for refunds. From 29 May, the US automaker will issue over-the-air software updates to 1.1 million units of its Model S, Model X, Model 3 and Model Y cars, both imported and China-made, the State Administration for Market Regulation said in a statement. The regulator said the vehicles

concerned did not allow drivers to turn off regenerative braking or provide enough warnings when drivers stepped on the accelerator pedal hard, which, combined, could increase the risk of collision. The update will restore the option of switching off regenerative braking and warn drivers when they step hard on the accelerator pedal, it added.



### EDITOR'S NOTE

## Folding a new generation

Foldable phones had a humble beginning, garnering mainstream popularity during the 90s well into the 2000s, with many dedicated users proudly owning them well after their popularity had declined globally. However, it seems foldables are having a comeback, with the likes of Samsung and Google recently leading the charge.

This week, we talk about the potential of foldable phones and what they could mean in the global smartphone market - are they here to stay, or are they a fad doomed to fade yet again? As for other pages, we cover the latest Google announcements in the latest I/O event, which of course, includes another new foldable!

With that, another weekend folds out. Until then.

Shams Rashid Tonmoy  
Sub-editor & Feature Writer

## TOGGLE

Editor and Publisher  
Mahfuz Anam

Editor (Toggle)  
Shahriar Rahman

Team  
Zarif Faiaz  
Shams Rashid Tonmoy  
Tanzid Samad Choudhury

Graphics  
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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.