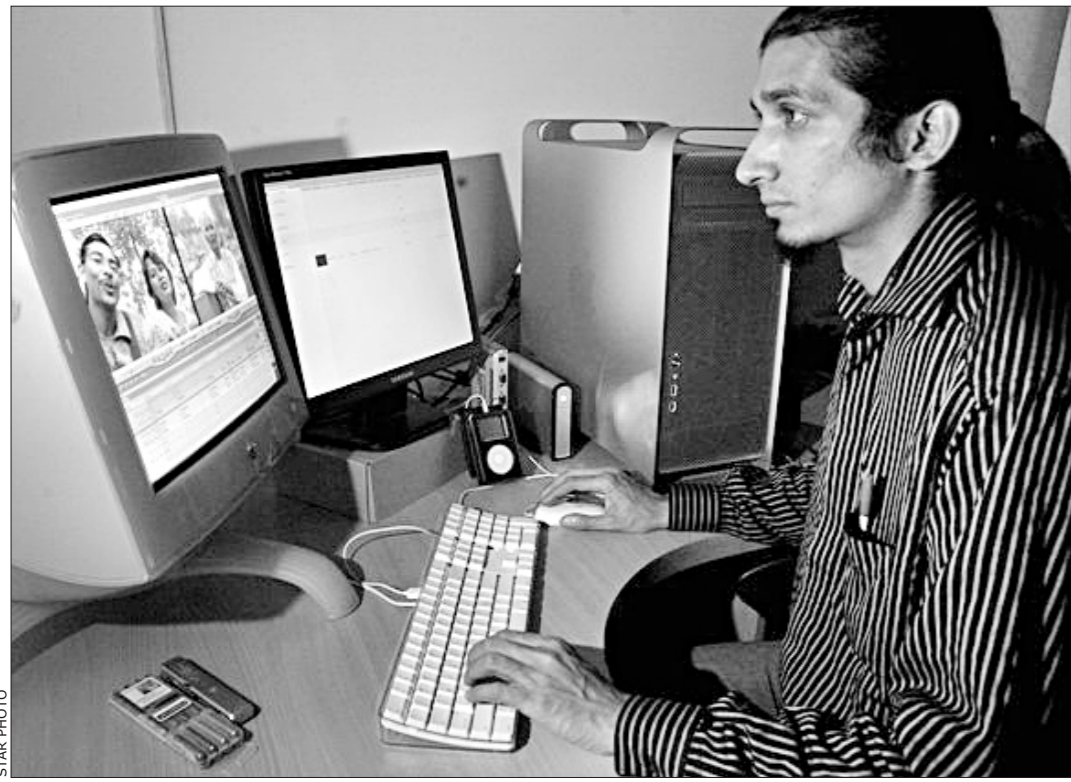


VIDEO EDITING

# Self-learners reign professional field



Video editing is a lucrative career option for young in the city.

DURDANA GHAS

Ahsanul Kabir Rupam, 38, is working on the editing panel of a computer, with eyes glued to the screen and his brains straining for ideas of special effects using latest editing software -- Final Cut

Pro and DPS Velocity.

Rupam, a commerce graduate, had no idea of video editing when he first started looking for a job. He is now a video editor of RTV and has been in the same field for eight years.

His interest in electronics gave him his first break -- working in his

friend's electronics shop in stadium market. He worked with the accessories when the 'dish culture' or cable channels stepped into the country in the early 90s.

In 1996 he joined Post Production House and then moved to Look Lens -- the

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institution that brought a beta camera for the first time to the country.

His enthusiasm and curiosity in operating camera grew while accompanying his friend for shoots, and began working as a member of the camera crew.

With the experience he gained, he joined the editing panel of Tele Frame. Luck favo-ured him. The shortage of video-editing

manpower and his knowledge of computers took him a long way.

Two further years at Compact taught him more about video editing and when in 1997 the first editing software Edit, came to Bangladesh, Rupam took the opportunity of studying the ABC of video editing terms.

At RTV where he is presently employed and working with the Presentation Department, he makes watching cards indicating what is playing currently, up next cards -- which indicates what is coming up next, menu cards -- the selected shows of the day and promotional cards -- highlighting the day's main shows.

Oliur Rahman, 30, a graduate from Bangla College, too works as an executive of network control in the Broadcast Operation and Engineering Section of RTV without any formal training. He started with graphic designing and went on to video editing along with Md. Abu Bakar Siddique, 33, a management post-graduate,

now the video editor, news of RTV.

Film director Mostofa Sarwar Farooki is yet another self-learner in the film -making, camera operating and video editing fields.

"I did not have any formal training in video editing. I learnt from mistakes," said Farooki.

"There are two parts of video editing operation and basic principles. Operation is the science and basic principle, the art. Any computer literate person can learn operation, but the art needs common sense and experience," he said.

"Though I work with video

editors I prefer doing my own work. The editor is just an operator. I decide the artistic principles," he added.

About the security of his job, Rupam said that there is no fear of losing it as many channels are coming up.

"There aren't many technical and skilled people. I know the job and so I have nothing to fear," he said, but confessed that some formal training in video editing could have helped a lot.

"It is not too late for formal training even now. We need a well equipped institute for the up and coming generation to operate in the field of video

editing," Rahman said.

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Because of the high costs, it is not possible to set up video editing institutes, as an editing panel by itself costs Tk 10 lakh.

"I did not feel that I am short of knowledge in this field, but not everyone would want to take the trouble of self-study," said Farooki.

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12x2

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