

Dhaka Day by Day

An Actress in Her Own Right

by Raffat Binte Rashid

A sailor, a doctor, a musician or a teacher— which one of the professions is more exciting and adventurous, Mita Vashishth could never decide. And like Rabindranath Tagore "Kothao Amar Harie Jawar Nei Mana: Mone, Mone (I am on the flight of the mind's wings) she wanted to be every thing that her restless mind desired — and that too, simultaneously.

But her only problem was the intensity of her desire, but the paradox is that it was always short lived. For, such cravings, acting was her only substitute. "I guess I was already an actress at that time" she recalls.

A native of Haryana, India, Mita is an actress of our times.

Mita's acting career started quietly during her college days, when she performed for college cultural shows. Her first stage play with gate-money was done when she was only 21 years old. "My presence on the stage was vibrating at that time so my friends suggested that I should take up acting as a career," she says.

Acting was not what she wanted to do, particularly at the time, when both her

mind and heart was craving for fun and adventure. "It is my life and I believe my work has to affect my life and there should be a connection, a strong bond between the world and me, both inside and out," she explains.

Mita graduated from the prestigious National School of Drama, India in 1987, which she ultimately joined, "acting helps me live more internally and externally, now," she reveals candidly.

Mita, a striking Indian beauty, has very strictly planned her career. From 1987 to 1992 she was busy shooting, but never a commercial one. "Running around trees," she says is not my stuff. "She has appeared in many TV serials like Sigma, Discovery of India and others. She has done three films for Monty Kaul and Kumar Shahani too. Currently, she appeared in Govind Nihalani's *durka* (The time of betrayal) opposite Nasiruddin Shah and Om Puri. The plot, based on terrorism, has some serious action in it," she explains.

As a result of selected performance. She did not work for a year and a half. "In Bombay this is a long time but whenever I felt the need or urge to say something, I always made it a point to at least write it out if not act it," Mita feels.



Mita Vashishth

Her creative urge is always seeking new dimensions and directions, she is now writing a screen play.

"It was initially an adaptation from a Russian story but now it is entirely my story — love with mystery," she explains.

Why should a woman always have to be seen in relation to someone? What is her real identity? These thoughts are what Mita wants to depict in her films, which she thinks she would be directing as well as acting too.

This film is not a reproduction of anything. Art cannot be a kind of personal indulgence, obviously experience incite, they help in the process of creation. But no matter what personal feelings you experience they have to be transformed she explains her plot. "What is me, actually, I have a fixed identity, I don't want my characters tied down to any fixed identity, she should be transformed inside and outside as well," Mita says very enthusiastically. "My character has its own logic now, I'll let it be, it really excites me, to see her grow." Success

is not what she is seeking and she does not even care for the film that may be a total flop, she is all ready and excited about the affair.

Talking about Bombay film world she depressingly says that "there's an awful lot of bad films being produced now, a total of 600 every year, among these 10 are watchable and three are really good." There is a solid competition between the art films and commercial ones now, it's a two-way race. The art-cinema which is a bit precious now are also to be made saleable by producers, so they add a bit of glitter and glamour to it, whereas the commercial film makers want their work to be regarded as intellectual art.

Hollywood is dangerous for Bombay, suddenly there is a good competition. "Pretty woman has been dubbed in Hindi and is released all over India now," she reports. South Indian films are also dubbed in Hindi and released every where in the Hindi film belt. "Roza was a big hit. South Indian stories are well crafted and tenderly soft, they too pose as threats," she explains.

In a curious way I feel that friendship and loyalty above all should be celebrated. In films and cinemas, archetypal values of human character should be portrayed," Mita Vashishth strongly suggests.

Citi Bank launches competition for Bangladeshi journalists

Citi Bank, N.Y. has launched a competition this year for Bangladeshi journalists writing financial, economic and business articles, reports BSS.

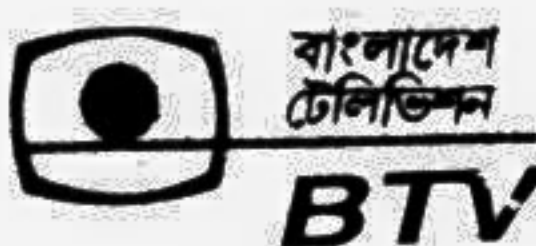
The articles, published between January to December, 1993 in the Bangladeshi newspaper or magazines — both in English and Bengali — would be eligible for consideration, a bank announcement said.

Articles written by editors of newspapers, magazines or wire services and also appeared in trade or professional journals would not be accepted. Entries to be submitted only through the editors.

While last date for submission of the entries is January 17, the bank has requested to contact its Assistant Vice-President Irshadul Islam for further information. The award will enable the winner to attend a Citi Bank sponsored two week seminar at the Columbia University, New York.

One rescued from a city hotel

The Detective Police rescued a man from a city hotel yesterday, nine days after he had been abducted, and arrested three people for their alleged involvement in the kidnapping, reports UNB.



Sunday

- 4:30 Opening announcement Al-Quran
- Programme summary
- 4:35 News in Bangla
- 4:45 Cartoon show: Tom and Jerry Kids Show
- 5:20 Anu Paramanu
- 5:50 Sports programme: Cricket World Cup Cricket '92 New Zealand VS West Indies
- 6:40 Population programme: Jiboner Jannya
- 7:05 Open University
- 7:35 Tagore songs
- 8:00 News in Bangla
- 8:30 Band Show
- 9:05 Drama series: The Sword of Tipu Sultan
- 10:30 Sur Lahari
- 11:30 Khabar/The News
- 11:40 Tomorrow's programme summary
- 11:45 Closing



The Padmanidhi Social Welfare Association brought out a procession yesterday in the capital with a call to make the January first UN anti-Drug Day a success. — Star photo

Weather

Temperature may fall

By Staff Correspondent

Dry weather with a fair sky is likely to continue over the country in the next 12 hours commencing 6 am today (Sunday).

The Met Office forecasts night temperature may fall by one degree Celsius over Bangladesh.

The country's highest temperature of 29.5 degrees Celsius was recorded in Teknaf and the lowest of 10.8 degrees Celsius was recorded in Rangpur yesterday.

The sun sets today (Sunday) at 5.23 pm and rises tomorrow (Monday) at 6.42 am.

The maximum and the minimum temperatures and relative humidity recorded in some major cities and towns of the country yesterday were:

Cities/Towns	Temperature in degrees Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	9am	6pm
Dhaka	26.5	13.4	71	66
Chittagong	28.0	17.0	85	67
Rajshahi	25.8	11.0	93	86
Khulna	26.6	14.0		70
Barisal	26.6	16.4	85	80
Sylhet	27.0	14.5	85	74
Dinajpur	25.0	11.6	98	69
Cox's Bazar	28.8	17.0	74	75

Tk 323.75 crore for rural electrification

Over 1200 villages will be brought under the Rural Electrification Programme (REP) by installing 12 sub-stations and constructing about 6000 kilometres of distribution power lines in the country during the current fiscal year, reports UNB.

To achieve the target, the government has allocated Tk 323.75 crore including Tk 300.70 crore in foreign exchange, in 1993-94 fiscal.

Disclosing this, Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Dr. Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain said the government for the first time also allocated an additional amount of Tk 100 crore in rural electrification sector this year.

He was inaugurating a 33/11 KV sub-station under district Palli Bidyut Samity (PBS) in Cox's Bazar Friday.

Briefly outlining the Rural Electrification Programme, the Energy Minister said about 12,300 villages have been brought under the programme through installation of 121 sub-stations and construction of about 50,000 KM distribution power lines.

So far, about one crore people have been provided with rural electricity covering 18 per cent of the rural population, he added.

Dr Mosharraf Hossain said the Rural Electrification Network has so far extended to 203 thanas under 40 Palli Bidyut Samity (PBS). The government has formed 15 more PBS to bring another 100 thanas under the network.

Citing a comparative study of the BIDS on electrified and non-electrified villages, he said production activities in the electrified villages increased by over 27 per cent compared to the non-electrified villages.

The Cox's Bazar PBS started

functioning in early 1992 for providing electricity in the rural areas of Chokoria, Cox's Bazar Sadar, Ramu, Ukhia and Teknaf thanas, all in Cox's Bazar district. Later, it also included Moheshkhali, a remote thana of the district, at a cost of Tk 60 crore with financial assistance of the World Bank.

The PBS will provide electricity to some 596 villages of the six thanas through construction of 2200 KM of power distribution lines. About 17,986 domestic, 420 industrial, 827 irrigation and 2,757 commercial consumers will get electricity facilities in phases.

PIB training course begins

A week-long training course on "Reporting Women Issues for Media" began at the Press Institute of Bangladesh yesterday, reports UNB.

Problems of reporting women issues for newspaper, women literacy, rights of women and gender discrimination, health and nutrition, working women and development of women and environment, the family ordinance, childcare and role of mothers are the major contents of the course.

Director General of PIB Prof Dr Tawhidul Anwar inaugurated the course.

Happy Birthday

to
ASIF
from
Nana, Nani, Mamu
&
Abbu, Ammu & Ajin

In Loving Memory of



Abdul Matin
Head of the Dept. of English,
Govt. Jagannath College
& an Hon. teacher,
Central Women's College.

Who left this world for Eternity this day, the 2nd January, 1986 from their paternal house at Segun Bagan.

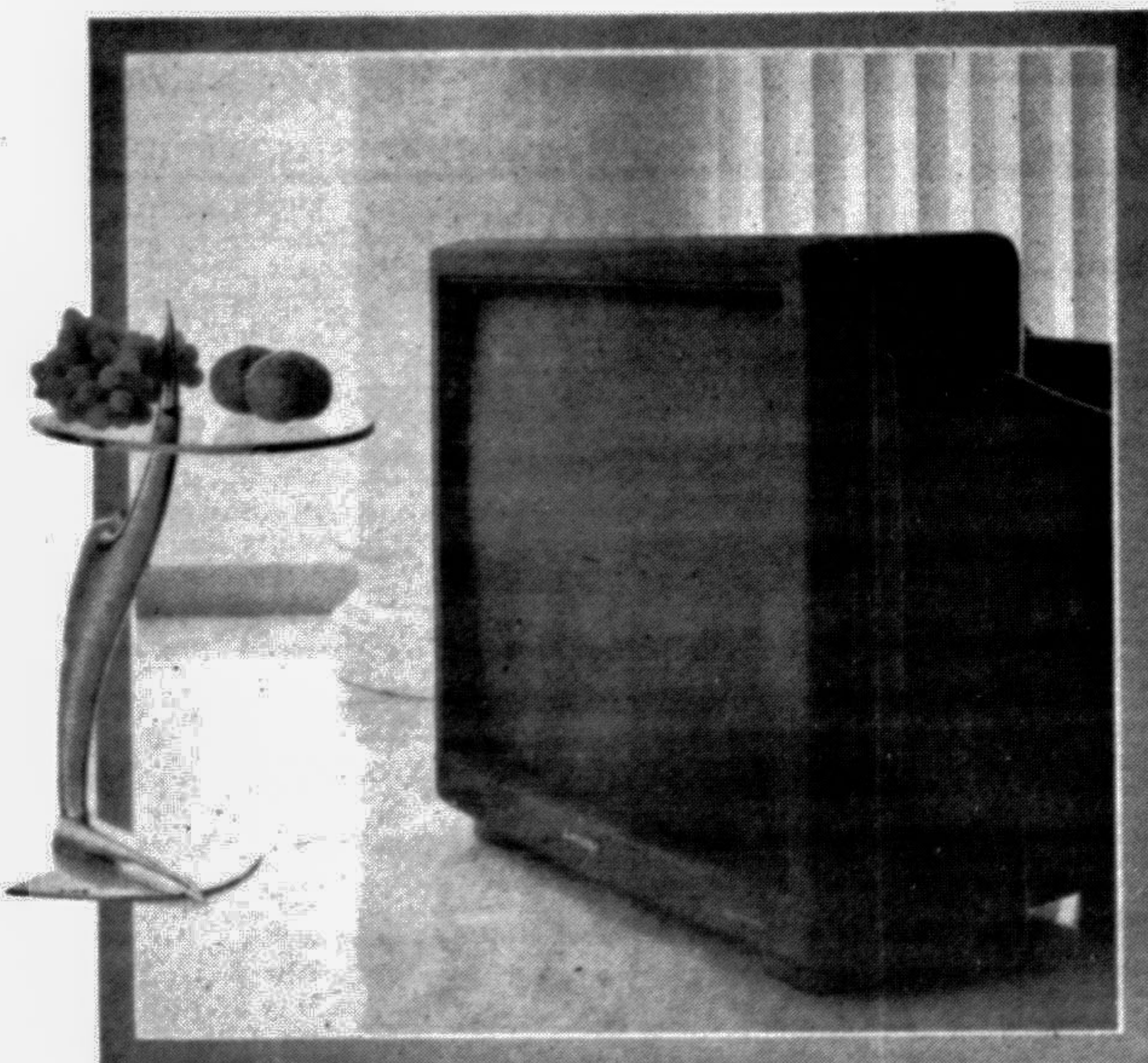
You live in the prayers of millions of your pupils, friends, relatives, colleagues and your dear ones.



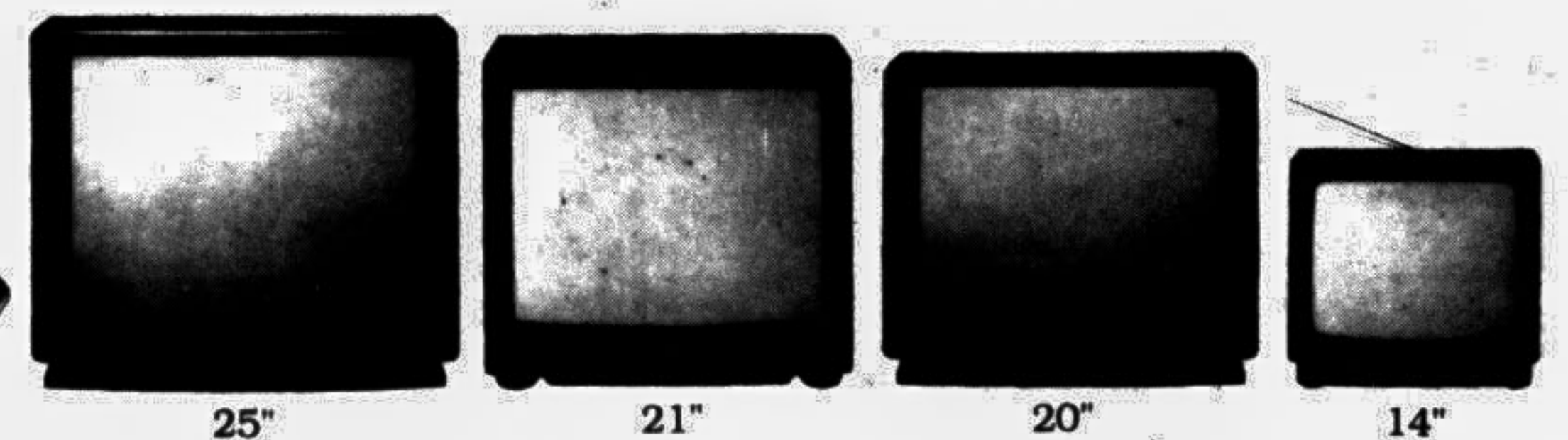
A. E. Taslimuddin Quaderi
FRCS
Consultant Surgeon,
Abdullah Fuad Hospital,
Dammam

WORLD FAMOUS MITSUBISHI TELEVISION

NOW AVAILABLE IN BANGLADESH



29"



GOOD NEWS !

The world famous Big Screen Mitsubishi television is now in Bangladesh!

You can also be a proud owner of Mitsubishi TV.

Various technological advances, previously featured on the big screen alone are now incorporated in other size televisions also. The slimmer, and contemporary look of Mitsubishi TV will add a touch of class to any interior decor.

Mitsubishi sound systems make the most of the latest advances in broadcasting and video software as well as giving you access to the increasingly popular NICAM digital stereo broadcasts.

REMOTE CONTROLLABLE AUTO TURN

The powered swivel base of the Auto Turn television means that the viewer always gets the full glory of the TV's superb image and stereo sound.

The AT button of the remote allows you to turn the TV either way, for the perfect on-axis viewing angle wherever you sit in the room. Now, every corner of the room can be the best corner to watch TV.

MITSUBISHI TV - NEW TECHNOLOGY FOR NEW GENERATION.

Sole distributor of Mitsubishi TV in Bangladesh.

RANGS INDUSTRIES LTD.

113-116 Old Airport Road
Tejgaon, Dhaka-1215, Bangladesh
Tele: 325001-4, 319199

Chittagong Office:

Plot No. 3, C. D. A. Avenue
Sholo Shahor, Chittagong



MITSUBISHI TELEVISION FROM THE HOUSE OF MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC