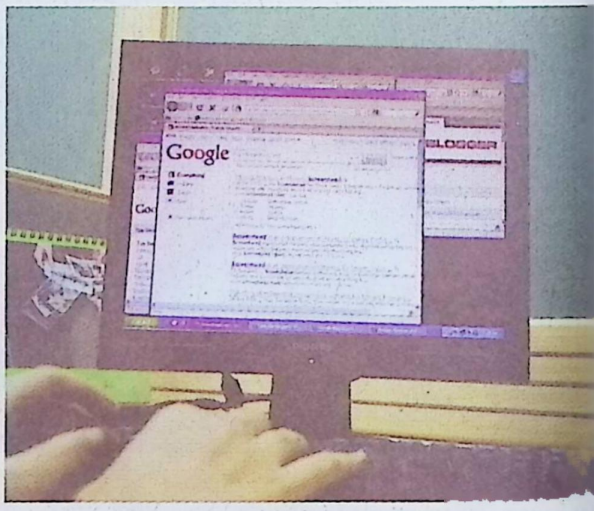
Our ancestors had no inkling of a possible world where news would take split seconds to travel right inside our homes - on the TV screen, laptop or cell phone. The first images of Taj Hotel bombing in Mumbai in 2008 were caught by hostages on their cell phones, which took a matter of seconds to reach the entire world. It goes without saying that sharing of information is what we do in every waking hour in order to keep our grips on our world. News channels and newspapers all deliver the latest breaking news on their online versions, complete with in-depth comment and analysis. So fast and complete is the news that people, especially those working at different corporate houses where tasks are mostly carried out over the net, find it more convenient to read and see stories as they happen with a press of a button. Nafid Imran Ahmed, IT Strategist & In-charge, Online Edition and IT Page of The Daily Star sees a day when print media might be replaced by their online counterpart. While comparing between the print and online versions of The Daily Star, he says that on a daily basis, the number of times the newspaper gets viewed online is more than twice as the circulation of the print edition. It is the general thought that the online edition of our newspapers is mostly followed by readers living abroad but Ahmed states different, "I have seen a complete shift in the reader demographic. 75-80% of our online readers are based in Bangladesh". Taking into consideration the present generation that finds it easier to follow news online, he says, "Our idea is to be present at all possible platforms and for you to be able to carry it in your pocket. Today everything is about miniaturization; The Daily Star widget on Nokia phones is our latest endeavour for you to see news as it happens".

Bdnews24.org, the first online news portal in Bangladesh providing around the clock news brought a competitive edge to news broadcasting in Bangladesh. Hasan Ameen, a recent graduate working as Trainee Broadcast talks about the work that he does. Selecting contents from online news sources, he compiles them and after editing, Ameen reads out the news for Grameen Phone news service, a collaboration of bdnews24.

In many foreign countries, working from home is part of the trend of "making money online", sometimes simply referred to as MMO. Stay-at-home moms have been greatly benefited from this. From creating databases for products to be sold to taking surveys or freelance writing, finding a legitimate online business is becoming one of the best ways to earn an extra income.

Cashing online is, however, still new to Bangladesh but the few fortunate ones who have made the leap seem to share the belief that the day is not too far away when Bangladesh too, is hit by the work-at-home trend. Sites like odesk.com hires writers to write reviews of the latest gadgets. Upon fitting a certain criteria for the job, a writer working from any corner of the world, gets paid according to the length of an article he submits. Payment is received through PayPal, an online banking, or sometimes directly into their personal bank accounts.

Blogging can still be considered a craze amidst the fast-changing faces of the Internet. The idea of blogging was very new only five years back, let alone the idea of getting paid to write on one. Bangladeshi blogs are increasing by the day, with the latest opportunity that allows users to blog in Bangla. Blogging has great potential of being a



Nearly all workplaces today demand high speed Internet to stay in touch with the rest of the world.

moneymaking source but it may not be as easy as many would like to think. Bangladesh has only a handful of blog sites that pay. Gamersworldbd is one of the few. Mushfiqur Rahman, an A'level student, and director of Gamersworld.bd, notices an increased level of interest among the younger people willing to earn while blogging, and trusts more such sites are soon to hit the market: "I see it growing over time. Everything depends on how many hits a site gets, so the more popular a site is, the more chances to generate a higher income." He considers it as one of the charms of blogging, that one can set up a blog and start making money without the need for any formal qualification.