

| ENDEAVOUR |

TEAM MOTOMIST INNOVATION OF A 'HYBRID CAR'

NILIMA JAHAN



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED



PHOTOS: COURTESY

“Hybrid Car”, the term may sound unusual to many, on the whole, it is a multi fuelled vehicle that can switch between a fossil fuel and an alternative fuel source.

This is also an exciting piece of news for the people who are thinking about a fuel economic car! Last year, on December 18, Bangladesh got country's first ever prototype of hybrid car invented by 13 brilliant students of Military Institute of Science and Technology (MIST) at 'Eco Run Bangladesh 2015' (A Fuel Efficient Vehicle Design Competition) arranged by 'JICA Bangladesh' (Japan International Cooperation Agency). The project was named after 'MOTOMIST'.

It was an effort of 'Team MOTOMIST'; a group of some youthful and passionate students of Mechanical Engineering Department, MIST lead by Chowdhury Raihan Uddin, a fresh graduate. “Actually, the history of 'MOTOMIST' did not start with this team”, says Raihan. “It was an official project group from Mechanical Engineering Department of MIST, for the competition "Eco Run Bangladesh 2013" organized jointly by Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)”.

During that time Raihan was a first semester student who joined the senior brothers of MIST and made the car within the budget. Unfortunately, due to an accident, they cannot make the test run on the competition. But he didn't give up his hope!

Afterwards, under the guidance of the faculty members and with the help of the students from other batches, he made his further research on it to find out the technical problems. That time, the design was modified. Instead of a metal body; plastic body was made for cost reduction and finally it was ready for 'Eco Run Bangladesh 2015' through many technical and financial obstacles.

“Our respected Dean of the Faculty of Mechanical Engg Brig. Gen Lutfor sir patronized MOTOMIST with the fund”, says 21-year old Mushfiqur Rahman Siddiqui, a member of Team MOTOMIST.

For MOTOMIST, a Walton 100 cc engine was provided by the Mechanical Engineering Department of MIST. While they were working on their vehicle, they came across the idea of hybridising which

provides the car both the engine drive and motor drive. They gathered the other materials from Dholaikhal, Bangshal, Kamalapur and many other areas of the city.

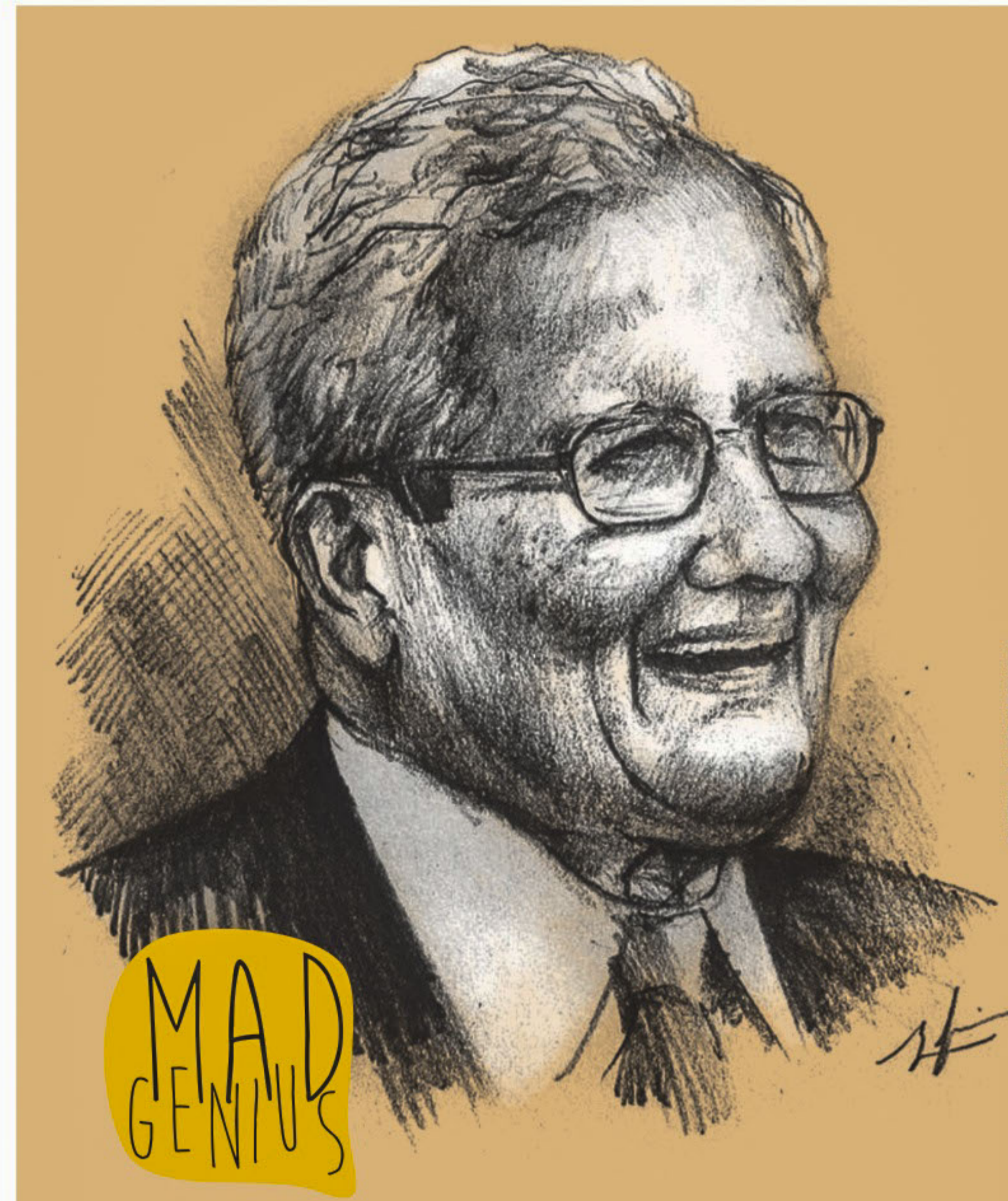
On the day of the competition, they stood 2nd runner up in the category of fuel economy. But in the category of 'Best Technical Innovation', they got the championship as they made it cost

effective with multi fuel system like gas, petrol and battery.

Though the competition is over, the journey of MOTOMIST is not. “In near future we want to make a unique hybrid, high-efficiency car that uses hydraulic fuel to store and provide energy to power the car”, says, Iffat Ara Bari, the youngest member of Team MOTOMIST. “This hydraulic power system could have cost

and power advantages over electric hybrid systems”, she adds.

Hybrid car is a new concept which is gaining its popularity day by day. Around the world, many groups are researching on it. Though Bangladesh has limited resources, Team MOTOMIST is working on developing it in such a way that it will fulfil the demands of next generation of Bangladesh.



SKETCH: YAFIZ SIDDIQUI

AMARTYA SEN

(November 3, 1933)

The name Amartya (meaning immortal) was given by another legend, Rabindranath Tagore. He is an Indian economist and philosopher of Bengali ethnicity. Sen has spent a great deal of his life teaching and working in the United Kingdom and the United States. Throughout his life, Sen has made significant contributions to welfare economics, social choice theory, economic and social justice, economic theories of famines, and indexes of the measure of well-being of citizens of developing countries. Among many awards that he has bagged till now, he was awarded the 1998 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences for his contributions to welfare economics and in 1999.

“While I am interested both in economics and in philosophy, the union of my interests in the two fields far exceeds their intersection.”

It is important to reclaim for humanity the ground that has been taken from it by various arbitrarily narrow formulations of the demands of rationality.

The notion of human right builds on our shared humanity. These rights are not derived from the citizenship of any country, or the membership of any nation, but are presumed to be claims or entitlements of every human being. They differ, therefore, from constitutionally created rights guaranteed for specific people.

Unceasing change turns the wheel of life, and so reality is shown in all its many forms. Dwell peacefully as change itself liberates all suffering sentient beings and brings them great joy.”

SOURCE: WIKIPEDIA AND BRAINY QUOTES

STARSTORY

BEHAVING RESPONSIBLY

Last year I went to Chittagong and visited the Parade Ground, a vast playground enjoyed by the people living in the neighborhood as well as the students of Chittagong College. As I went there, I was impressed by the developments to turn it into a better recreation centre which included a sprawling walkway around the playground. It seemed a clean well maintained place, and nobody had much to complain about it. The place was buzzing with youngsters playing cricket, football and other sports. There were many health-conscious people jogging or walking on the walkway while many youngsters were found playing different sports. I thanked the Chittagong Development Authority in my mind for their effort. However, two weeks ago, on another visit to Chittagong I found a different scenario of the very same playground. All the spiked grills serving as the boundary to the ground were locked. There was dust and decaying leaves everywhere. The paint on the grills was peeling off at places. People were using a corner of it as a urinal. I found that the whole place was ruined by sheer negligence. Why such dramatic change? I was unofficially told that this was a result of some people's personal grudge against the authority. I wish we could let go the grudges and bitterness to make the world a better place.

Mahbubur Rashid
Bashundhara Residential Area,
Dhaka



PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

LET'S NOT WASTE IT!

The other day I visited my cousin living in Gulshan. As I went to her kitchen to get a glass of water, I found both the stoves on. On the other hand, we the residents in Rampura have been suffering from the gas crisis this winter, like every year. There were days when we had to rely on store-bought food, restaurants and alternative methods of cooking. In our area gas comes at around 7 am in the morning, that too at a very low pressure. We need to rush to finish cooking. While we keep ranting about the shortage in gas supply specially during winter, we too need to act responsibly while using it. Equally wasteful is the practice of leaving your tap open while washing your clothes. We often tend to forget that natural resources like these are limited and we need to be careful while using them.

Farhana Nowshin
Rampura, Dhaka

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The Dhaka Mercantile Co-operative Bank Ltd.

Head Office

19, Indira Road, Farmgate, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1215

Phone: 914-3318, 812-9438, 914-3727, Fax: +88-02-910-2124, E-mail: info@dmcbl.com

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