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Most popular games that are in esports right now also require very little resources and can be played on low-end devices as well."

This digital inclusivity truly levels the playing field. Unlike traditional sports tethered to expensive facilities or broadcasting deals, esports allows anyone with a basic setup to watch or participate. Esports streamer and Valorant tournament regular Samiha Anjum Raima ("Scarr") commented on the inclusivity: "Esports tournaments are way more interactive, where you can watch, cheer, and even talk to your favourite players in real time. That kind of closeness just doesn't exist in traditional sports or TV."

"When it comes to accessibility, engagement, and innovation, traditional sports and TV shows often fall short of esports," Zonaed noted. "Esports is driven by adrenaline and unpredictable moments. From clutches, comebacks, to the crowd hypes,

esports events are guaranteed to keep you glued to the screen. As such, viewers feel like a part of the event, not just spectators."

Live commentary, just like with traditional sports, elevates esports into a full-fledged spectacle. "Commentary adds glamour, emotional connection, and makes it more exciting. I don't think esports tournaments would be possible without commentary," said Abdullah Al Noman ("FinixOP"), a veteran of the local esports scene with seven years of professional commentary experience. Vivid play-by-play narrations in esports amplify every moment, making even virtual battles feel larger than life.

#### ONLINE PLATFORMS: ESPORTS' GROWTH ENGINE

One of the biggest drivers of esports' explosive growth as an entertainment spectacle is its native habitat: online platforms. "Platforms like Twitch and YouTube are the main reasons behind the growth of esports," Zonaed asserted. "The new generations and most people nowadays prefer consuming content on digital platforms over traditional television, which aligns with their preferences, facilitating higher engagement and viewership."

Unlike television, these platforms prioritise interaction with live chats, community polls, and influencer watch parties that transform viewers into participants. "The online platforms also provide detailed analytics on viewer behaviour, enabling organisers to tailor content and marketing strategies effectively. This data-driven approach supports continuous growth and adaptation to audience preferences, which cannot be done on traditional TV," Zonaed added.

SI Anik, who represented Bangladesh on the

