

## The Bangladesh Times

17 JUN 1995

These are exciting times in information technology. A bit scary, perhaps, because some of the old ways seem to be crumbling so fast. But this is also encouraging, as we begin to develop the potential we have seen, for so long, in erasing distance as a barrier to learning and sharing and caring.

Part of the excitement is that we have entered an era in which there are more questions than answers. And it's the questions that really make us think.

For instance, what happened in a large, sparsely populated US western state. The state department of education had made a commitment to get every public school hooked up to a information computers network to facilitate communication among teachers, between teachers and subject matter experts, and other resources in the world beyond.

They convinced teachers, administrators and school boards how wonderful it would be to have these links. But even after they'd convinced them, the project was far from easy. This is a sparsely populated state. It's also very rugged and largely undeveloped, so building the network was a major challenge.

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