

RECOMMENDATIONS

Exhibitions

December 19-26
Shilpangan has arranged a 8-day-long art and craft exhibition in association with the Craft Department of the Institute of Fine Arts. The show will remain open for all from 10 am to 9 pm everyday.

December 19-31

The Alliance Francaise has organised a photography exhibition titled 'An Intimate Journal of Twin Nationalities' by Anwar Hossain. The display will remain open for all from 5 pm to 9 pm everyday.

December 22-January 04

A solo exhibition of oil paintings by artist Mohammad Fakhrul Islam is going on at the Bengal Gallery (Bengal Shilpaloy, House 275/F, Road 27, Dhanmondi). The display will remain open for all from 12:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

December 26-January 04

Artist Shamsul Alam Azad will be holding a solo painting exhibition at Gallery Chitrak (Road 4, House 21, Dhanmondi R/A), beginning from December 26. Professor Qayyum Chowdhury will inaugurate the exhibition at 5:00 pm at the gallery premises. The exhibition will remain open for all from 10:00 am to 8:00 pm everyday.

Book Launching

December 26

The launching programme of the book 'Jonmechhi E Banglay' by expatriate freedom fighter Dr. Nurun Nabi will be held at the CIRDP auditorium at 4:00 pm.

Theatre

Aatish Dipankar Shorpoja

A play by young and enthusiastic talents

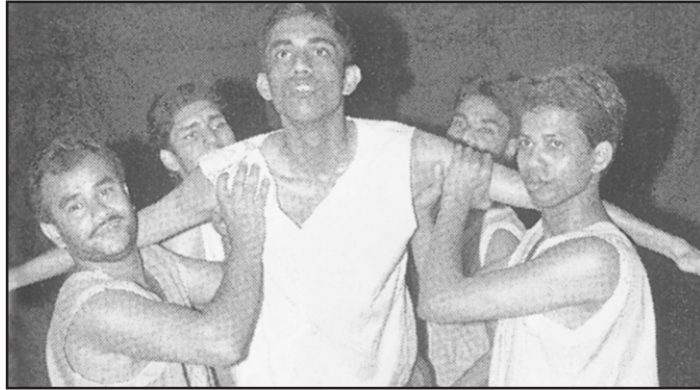
ERSHAD KAMOL

NATYADHARA staged the premiere show of its 13th production Aatish Dipankar Shorpoja at the Mahila Shomity Mancha on December 24. The new group got the logistic support from Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation in producing the play. They also got enough support from renowned theatre activists like Ramendu Majumdar, Jamil Ahmed, and International Buddha Bihar.

Alok Bashu, the playwright, has tried to represent the great sage

Aatish Dipankar in a new way. He thinks that we badly need Aatish to stop war in the present chaotic world. That is why, he has ignored the time barrier and has presented legendary Aatish in the backdrop of current political condition of the world.

Alok has used so many rhymes from the Charjapada and from Magodhi language, which is the origin of Bangla. His handling of the verses from the Tripitaka and the present political conspiracies simultaneously has given the play a unique tone. Again and again, he has reminded us of the genocide that the US President Bush is doing



The scene depicts the childhood of Atish Dipankar.

in Iraq through a successful application of the alienation technique. Alok has criticised the role of Kofi Annan, the UN Secretary General, during the war. Thus Alok Bashu's play is a sharp weapon against the imperialist aggression.

However, to introduce so many things in the play, he has failed to pay concentration on every sequence. That is why he has not properly been able to create the scene where Aatish acts to stop the war.

Alok Bashu has used the narrative technique in his direction. He has successfully used theatrical games for composition. His performers could create the dramatic atmosphere in an empty stage through their artistic body movement.

Kamaluddin Kabir has followed Peter Brook's concept, 'What is

better than an empty space?' in his set design. He has simply used few stools and two statues of Buddha in the set. Kabir has equally succeeded as a light designer. His symbolic light effects have helped the director to create the atmospheres.

Litu Sakhawat as a music composer has used Assamian tunes, which is logical for the theme of the play.

All the performers have played really well. Litu Sakhawat's voice modulation and unique body movements are enjoyable.

BGTF's initiative to give this type of courtesies is encouraging for the rising stars of the country whereas the young artistes do not get enough scope to prove their talents in the big groups.

Channel click

ntv goes round the clock

KAUSAR ISLAM AYON

DEAR viewers, are you ready to enjoy another TV channel twenty four hours? New year comes with yet another option for you!

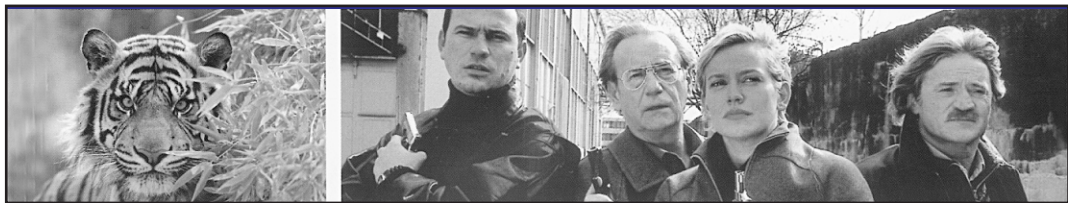
Ntv, the third private TV channel in Bangladesh is starting its transmission round the clock from January 01, 2004. Ntv started eight-

lacking of professionalism in the electronic media. We are very much cordial to fulfill the demand of recreation, at the same time we want to provide our viewers with latest news also. Ntv includes a lot of new programmes and increased news hour into its schedule.

The morning sessions mostly contain Islamic programmes. We are also making programmes in our own extended studio; besides, we have collected some

movie' informs the authority.

Two more news bulletins will be there at 7:30 am and at 2:00 pm and an informative programme *Ajker Shakal* in the morning. The entertaining programmes include film-based shows *Dhakar Cinema*, *Movie of the Month*, *Taray Taray* featuring celebrities and more telefilms, drama serials, band music, fashion shows, music video shows.



Documentary shows on wildlife and other subjects will be shown in the new programme schedule of ntv.

hour daily transmission in July this year. After only five months the channel is now prepared for its extended schedule.

What will the enlarged schedules contain? Enayetur Rahman Bappi, Managing Director of ntv says, 'It is tough to continue twenty four hours telecasting for a channel in Bangladesh, as still there is

programmes from different sources,' Enayetur Rahman adds. The schedule will be enriched with family game show, everyday musical programme, *Shuprobhat Bangladesh*, rural news. Ntv is also going to introduce screening of feature films. Three selected films will be shown every week and 'one of them must be an award winning

But ntv programmes are not just all fun. There are some educational programmes too that include quiz shows and game shows. Documentary programmes from Deutchche Welle, CNN will surely add to the attraction of ntv's menu.

During this extended schedule, programmes will be repeated from 1:30 to 6:00 am.

Film show

Ekdin and Tara

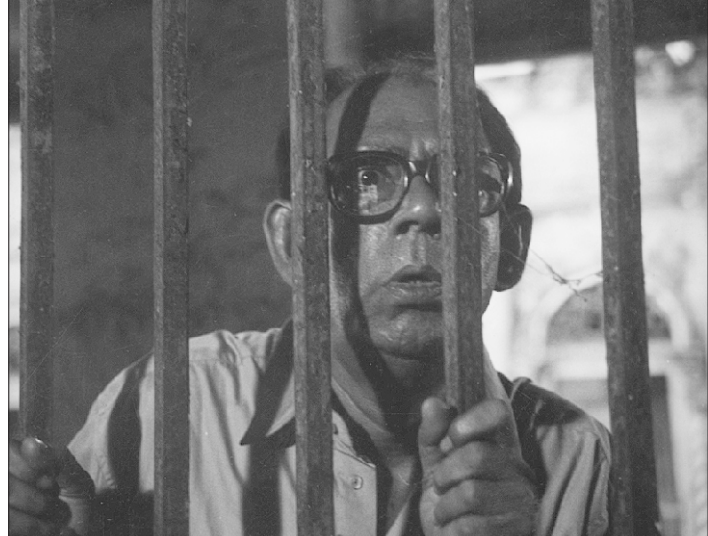
CULTURAL CORRESPONDENCE

Debut shows of two drama films titled *Ekdin* (One Day) and *Tara* (They) will take place today at the *Lichutola* of the Institute of Fine Arts, Dhaka University.

Based on the writings of Dhrubo Esh, a renowned bookcover illustrator turned writer, the films are made in beta format. Ashfaqul Alam Rony and Shafiq Faruk direct the films.

Social fiction *Ekdin* features Fazlur Rahman Babu, Shamsul Alam, Animesh Aich, Marjuk Russel and others. The cast of science fiction *Tara* includes Monirul Islam Badol, Marjuk Russel, Prithibi and others.

The show starts at 6:30 pm.



Monirul Islam Badal in a scene from Tara.

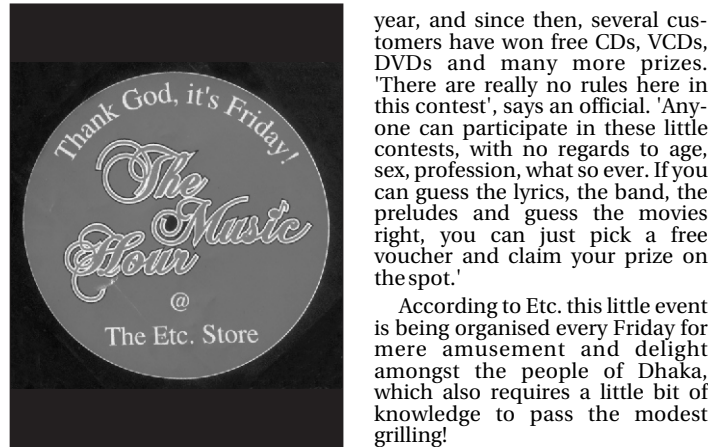
Entertainment

Music Hour at Etc.

ELITA KARIM

'THANK God, it's Friday!' is the watchword every Friday at the Etc. bookstore. For a whole hour, customers enjoy a music hour at the store, where contests are held at the far end, which starts from 7 in the evening. Several music videos are shown and audio tracks are played as well, to which the contestants pay attention. Afterwards, questions are asked based on the videos played and the tracks played at the store. The videos and audio tracks are mostly from across the border or from the west.

This began early in October this



year, and since then, several customers have won free CDs, VCDs, DVDs and many more prizes. 'There are really no rules here in this contest,' says an official. 'Anyone can participate in these little contests, with no regards to age, sex, profession, what so ever. If you can guess the lyrics, the band, the prelude and guess the movies right, you can just pick a free voucher and claim your prize on the spot.'

According to Etc. this little event is being organised every Friday for mere amusement and delight amongst the people of Dhaka, which also requires a little bit of knowledge to pass the modest grilling!

Photography

In quest of depicting the depths of mankind

Anwar Hossain talks about his recent exhibit at Alliance Francaise

FAYZA HAQ

ASKED why he had gone into photography at the outset, Anwar Hossain, who had his recent exhibition at Alliance Francaise 'A Journal of two nationalities', said, 'I wanted to go into painting but my family, being a conservative one, objected to it as in the sixties, in Bangladesh, the profession of a painter was not considered a laudable one. I had stood 5th in my school exams and my family wanted me to study something 'worthwhile' which would get me a name and bring in money to the coffers at home. By the time I was in 3rd year of Architecture I was old enough to carve out a career of my own with a Tk 30 second-hand camera, which removed the pain of not being able to paint.

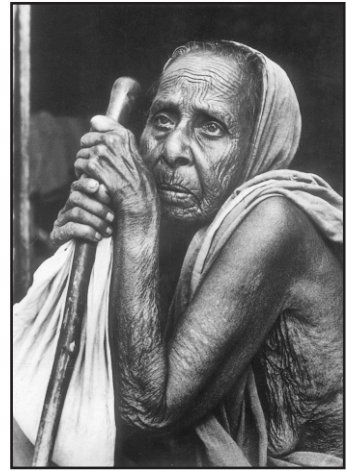
By now I was 24 and had enough guts to defy my teachers and the home front. The rest is history. My passion for painting and education in architecture catalyzed it. I got a scholarship to study cinematography at Pune in India, which taught photography on the side but by that time I was into photography, and my education in India encouraged me to go into the cinematic side of my career.'

Talking about his preference for black and white images rather than coloured ones, Anwar said that globally the more serious people

prefer black and white as it brings in simplicity; in black and white one sees only the content form whereas colours may distract one and deviates the eye from the theme quite often. The recent exhibition contained coloured pictures along with black and white photos to depict Bangladesh alongside France. Anwar said, 'My wife has green eyes fleck with red and they remind me of the Bangladeshi flag. France and Bangladesh have two very different cultures and values. In this exhibit there are more coloured images: perhaps this is because my life is brighter than before, with the company of my wife and two sons.'

Anwar had concentrated on portraits and here again he had gone in for simplification. 'One eliminates, the body and the long shots, and one goes closer to the subject until one can't cut off any more.' Anwar said, 'This gives one a powerful image of the essence and content. I've tried to bring in a lot of varieties such as my wife's picture enveloped in clouds and beside her is the portrait of an old Bangladeshi villager from Shilaidohe, wearing an Air France T-shirt, and so the connection between the two images. There is always a link between the photos framed together.'

Similarly the old Bangladeshi lady photographed in 1981 is juxtaposed with the image of an old inhabitant in an old home in France.



Great Expectations, Dhaka, 1971.

The portrait of the actress Naila Azad Nurpur was taken in 1981 in Rangamati, when she was a model, and it depicts her bathing and scattering jets of water. Now living in USA, she turned up in France, and Anwar photographed her decades later in 2003, along with the hands of one of Rodin's sculpture pieces. In another frame are two torsos of women, one in France with a toy guitar hanging along with the hair and the other from Bangladesh, bearing two flamboyant 'shola' cockatoos against the bare body and flowing hair.

Dwelling on what he searched for as he went about his work, Anwar said, 'It has always been my quest to depict humanity, and the different aspects of life that one leads from birth to death. Once in a while, here and there, landscape is also brought in.' Touching once again on why he had taken up the particular theme in his exhibit, Anwar said for the last ten years, he had been a person of two worlds, living in France and Bangladesh. Leaving his family, he has to come very often to Bangladesh to do his filming. When he's at work in Bangladesh, he naturally misses his family in France. In his display he wanted to bring the two worlds together.

Asked if photographs are valued as they should in the market, Anwar said, 'I'd rather value a good photograph than a bad painting; I might treasure a good rickshaw painting which speaks of culture, and is raw and basic, rather than a hypocritical painting. However, in the west, it is quite some time that photography has been accepted as an important and strong medium.'

Touching on his favourite photographers, he named Ananul Haque and Naibuddin Ahmed; among the new generation he admired Saifuddin Chandan. In India, his choice was Sunil Jana and Raghu Rai, and in Europe he loved Henri Cartier Bresson (who captured various incidents in the same

image) and Sebastio Salgado originating in Brazil but now living in France (whose portrait had been cleverly juxtaposed in the display). For Anwar the most committed photographer was Eugene Smith, from USA, (who brought out into public the incident of mercury poisoning in Japan).

Recounting the films that he has made, Anwar said that they included *Surjo Digol Bari*, *Purohskar*, *Emiler Goenda Bahini*, *Onno Jibon*, and with Tanwir Mulkamal, *Sujur Mia*, *Chitr Nodir Pare*, *Hulia*, *Nodir Nam Modhumati*, and more recently *Lal Shalu and Lalon*. Anwar said that for instant satisfaction her preferred still photography, which ultimately end up in a book or an exhibition, but cinema provides a family when you work together with others. 'A film is produced after a lot of procedures and pain: if it works out it gives immense pleasure. As for books, I've made four of them so far, the first one being *The Bangladeshi image, A journey through Bangladesh* (in colour), *Dhaka portrait* in colour and black and white, *Women* (with pictures of 29 countries in black and white) and more recently, *A voyage through Bangladesh*. Anwar has over 60 international awards for his photography and about a dozen awards in cinematography in Bangladesh.

TV GUIDE

All programmes are in local time. The Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in the programme.

News Bulletin

BTV
News Headlines(Bangla) at 9:40 am, 12:10 pm, 2:00 p.m 3:10 pm, 4:00 pm, 7:00 pm.
News(Bangla) at 8:00 am 1:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 8:00 pm.
News (English) at 3:00 pm, 10:00 pm.
Late Night News(Bangla and English) 11:30 pm.
CHANNEL-i
Breakfast News 07:15 am, 9:00am
News(Bangla) at 7:15 pm, 9:00, 10:30, 12:15 am.
Telecast of BTV news(Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.
ATN BANGLA
News(Bangla) at 8:00 am, 12:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm, 11:00 pm.
Telecast of BTV News(Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.
10
News Headlines(Bangla) at 5:02 pm, 6:30 pm, 9:45 pm.
News (Bangla) 7:30 pm, 10:30 pm.
TARA BANGLA
News-Headline(Bangla) at 5:30 pm, 7:30 pm.
Tara News(Bangla) at 8:30 pm, 11:30 pm.
Tara News Bangladesh(Bangla) at 9:30 pm.
BBC World
Every hour on the hour

BTV
07:35 *Suprobhat Bangladesh*
08:25 Documentary: *Janmabhumi*
08:35 Programmes From BTV Archive
09:05 *Natur Kuri 2003*
10:30 *Hello Anakey Bonchhi*
11:30 Drama Serial: *Shwapner Deshey Sangbadpater Pata Thekey*
03:15
03:25 Bangla Feature Film
05:40 Cartoon Show
06:10 *Ey Shoptaher Asia*
06:35 Programme From Chittagong Centre
07:05 *Maloncha*
07:30 Film Show: *Alif Laila*
08:30 *Apar Charpash*
09:00 Cine Magazine
10:30 Magazine show: *Aina Believe It or Not*
CHANNEL-i
09:45 *Tritia Matra*
10:30 *Tele Somoy*
12:00 *Islam Ki Boley*
02:00 *Satyer Sandwaney*
03:30 *Tritia Matrai Aponi*
05:35 *Jonopoder Khabor*
6:10 *Music Plus*
06:45 Musical Prog. *Amader Gaan*
07:50 Drama Serial: *Dwandha Sangat*
08:25 Flop Show
09:35 Drama Serial: *Ekannyabarti*
10:00 Drama: *Kalpurush*
ntv
05:02 *Ithasher Ei Diney*
05:10 *Potrikar Khabor*

05:30 Cartoon: *Remy*
06:00 *Alice In Wonderland*
06:32 *Shubho Shondhya*
06:52 *Kahaborer Swandheney*
08:00 *Megha Serial: Ronger Manush*
08:35 *Pepsi Music Express*
09:10 *Kichu Katha Kichu Gaan*
09:47 Drama Serial: *Teen Boner Kasida Din Darpan*
11:00
12:00 *The Cell*
2:15 *Nothing Hill*
4:45 *Final Destination*
6:45 *King Kong*
9:30 *The Mummy Returns*
12:00 *Flypaper*
2:15 *I Dreamed of Africa: A True Story*
STAR MOVIES
9:00 U.S. Marshals
11:15 *Kiss Of Death*
12:45 *Three Amigos!*
2:30 *Julius Caesar*
5:00 *Bad Company*
7:00 *Bridget Jones's Diary*
8:10 *Soldier*
8:45 *Wicked Minds*
11:45 *Slam Dunk Ernest*
1:30 *The Ticket*
ZEE CINEMA
10:30 *Raja Babu (Govinda, Karisma Kapoor)*
1:30 *Baazigar (Shahrukh Khan, Kajol, Shilpa Shetty)*
5:30 *Kya Yehi Pyaar Hai (Altab Shivdasani, Amisha Patel)*
9:30 *Market (Manisha Koirala, Suman Ranganathan, Aryan*

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

AXN: 11:30 pm. *The General's Daughter*. Drama / Mystery / Thriller
John Travolta, Madeleine Stowe, James Cromwell. The naked corpse of Captain Elisabeth Campbell, daughter of Lieutenant General "Fighting Joe" Campbell, is found staked out on the urban warfare range of Fort MacCallum. Army CID detectives and ex-lovers Paul Brenner and Sara Sunhill are called in to investigate, and find themselves wrapped up in a maelstrom of sexual impropriety and misguided face-saving.

STAR MOVIES: 7:00 pm. *Bridget Jones's Diary*. Comedy / Romance
Renee Zellweger, Gemma Jones, Celia Imrie. Bridget Jones (Renee Zellweger) is an average woman struggling against her age, her weight, her job, her lack of a man, and her many imperfections. As a New Year's Resolution, Bridget decides to take control of her life, starting by keeping a diary in which she will always tell the complete truth.

STAR PLUS

3:30 *Kalash*
4:00 *Kundali*
4:30 *Aur Phir Ek Din*
5:05 *Meri Saheli*
5:55 *Taaza Hits*
6:00 *Hum Saath Aath Hain*
6:30 *Fox Kids*
7:30 *Sonpari*
8:00 *Karishma Ka*
8:30 *Karishma*
9:30 *Hatim*
9:30 *Shararat-Thoda Jaadu*

PICK OF THE DAY



The Mummy Returns
On HBO at 9:30 pm.
Genre: Adventure / Action / Fantasy
Brendan Fraser, Rachel Weisz, John Hannah
The story is set in 1933, 10 years after the events of the first film. Rick O'Connell is now married to Evelyn and the couple has settled in London, where they are raising their 8-year-old son Alex. When a chain of events finds the corpse of Imhotep resurrected in the British Museum, the mummy Imhotep walks the earth once more, determined to fulfill his quest for immortality.

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

2:30 *Tomorrow's World*
3:00 *Human Edge*
3:30 *Hot Science Medical Breakthroughs*
4:30 *National Geographic's Taboo*
5:30 *Return To The Wild*
6:00 *Sea Stories*
6:30 *Dogs With Jobs*
7:00 *Toyota World Of Wildlife S3*
7:30 *Animal Inventors*

8:30 *Scientific American Frontiers*
9:30 *Tomorrow's World*
10:00 *Human Edge*
10:30 *Runaway Universe*
11:30 *National Geographic's Taboo*
DISCOVERY
2:30 *New Detectives Blood Lust*
3:30 *Wild Discovery*
4:30 *Truth or Scare*
5:00 *Zach's Ultimate Guide*
5:30 *Globe Trekker Central China*
6:30 *Sea Legends/Sailing*
7:30 *Treks in a Wild World*
7:30 *Cycling the Viking Trail*
7:30 *Wild Discovery Night Underwater*
8:30 *Friday Spotlight*
9:30 *Islands of War*
10:30 *Friday Spotlight*
11:30 *Missions Street: Life in the L.A. Country*
Coroner's Office
ANIMAL PLANET
2:00 *Reality/Rescue Four*
2:30 *Wild Encounters*
3:30 *Emergency Vets Holly's Triple Bypass*
4:00 *Animal Doctor*
4:30 *Emergency Vets Holly's Triple Bypass*
5:00 *Animal Doctor*
5:30 *Emergency Vets Holly's Triple Bypass*

4:30 *Wild Rescue*
5:00 *Breed all about it*
5:30 *Frise*
6:00 *Monkey Business*
6:30 *Planet's Furnist*
7:00 *Amazing Animal Videos*
7:30 *Wild Encounters*
8:30 *Reality/Rescue Tortured Tortoise*
9:00 *Reality/Rescue Lake Mburo National Park*
9:30 *Reality/Rescue New Beginnings*
10:00 *Reality/Rescue Second Chances*
10:30 *Best of Animal Planet*
11:30 *Blue Planet*
STAR SPORTS
8:00 *Australia Vs India 3rd Test Day 1 Lunchtime Show(L)*
8:40 *Australia Vs India 3rd Test Day 1 2nd & 3rd Session(L)*
1:00 *Australia Vs India 3rd Test Day 1 Review(L)*
1:30 *English Premier Football League 2003/04*
3:30 *Manchester England*
4:00 *Manchester Star City Vs Leeds United (T)*
4:30 *Programming*
5:00 *Strongman World Cup 2003/04*
5:30 *Highlights(T)*
6:00 *Football Mundial (T)*
6:30 *English Premier League Preview (T)*
7:00 *Nba Inside Stuff (T)*
7:30 *Nba Basketball Los Angeles Ca Usa*

8:00 *Sportsline (L)*
8:30 *Australia Vs India 3rd Test Day 1 Highligh Ts(S)*
10:30 *Sportsline (R)*
11:00 *Australia Vs India 3rd Test Day 1 1st Session(R)*
ESPN
12:30 *South Africa Vs West Indies 1st Test Day 5 Highlights(R)*
1:57 *South Africa Vs West Indies 2nd Test Day 1 1st Session(L)*
4:00 *Goals! (R)*
4:30 *South Africa Vs West Indies 2nd Test Day 1 2nd & 3rd Session(L)*
7:00 *Sportscenter India (L)*
9:30 *New Zealand Vs Pakistan 2nd Test Day 1 Highlights(S)*
11:00 *Hitz (R)*
11:30 *Sportscenter India (R)*
12:00 *Australia Vs India 3rd Test Day 1 Highligh Ts(S)*
TEN SPORTS
1:00 *Legends: Inzamamm*
1:30 *Western Union Football Show*
3:30 *Cricket Classics*
4:30 *Robot Wars Extreme (Int'l Version)*
5:30 *History of Football*
6:30 *Velocity*
7:00 *WRC Junior H/Ls: Great Britain*
7:30 *Football Week UK*
8:00 *Speed (Karting) Goa*
9:00 *Legends: Inzamamm*
9:00 *Womens Champions Trophy Final*
12:00 *Velocity*