

AR Rahman on board Farooki's 'No Land's Man'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Legendary Indian composer and Oscar-BAFTA-Grammy winner AR Rahman has joined noted Bangladeshi filmmaker Mostofa Sarwar Farooki's next film No Land's Man, as co-producer and composer.

In an interview with US entertainment magazine Variety, Rahman said that the film is about the challenges of a newborn world. The US-India-Bangladesh film features famed Indian actor Nawazuddin Siddiqui, celebrated Bangladeshi musician and actor Tahsan Khan and promising Australian actor Megan Mitchell. The film, which was shot in India, Australia and the USA, is predominantly in English with some dialogue in Hindi and Urdu.

"No Land's Man" was the recipient of the Motion Picture Association of America and Asia Pacific Screen Awards' Script Development fund in 2014. It was part of the Asian Project Market at Busan Film Festival, and was the Best Project at India's Film Bazaar that year. The film is a production by US outfit Dialectic and Bangladesh's Chabial, along with India's Magic If Films, Bangladesh's Sun Music & Motion Pictures and Bongo BD.

Shrihari Sathe, Nawazuddin Siddiqui, Mostofa Sarwar Farooki, Anjan Chowdhury and Nusrat Imrose Tisha were elated to welcome Rahman on the production team, says a press release.



A group of commuters jostle to get on a human haulier in the capital's Gulistan. last week. On one hand, many of these people, who are from low-income backgrounds, are forced to go back to work for their livelihood. On the other, there's an inadequacy of affordable transportation options on the roads, which leads them to cram into the few that are available, forgoing the social distancing advisory issued by authorities to stay safe from the pandemic.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

N'ganj man dies after assault

OUR CORRESPONDENT, N'ganj

An elderly man died on Friday, a day after he had been beaten by a Jubo League leader's father following a dispute over money in Narayanganj city.

The victim -- Siraj Miah (65) -- was a resident of the city's Jamtola area. Shajahan Miah, father of district Jubo League's cultural affairs secretary Sha Foyez Ullah, hit Siraj with a stick in the head and other parts of his body at Jamtola on Thursday noon, Fatullah Model Police Station Officer-in-Charge Aslam Hossain quoted witnesses as saying.

Shajahan fled the scene, said the OC. Locals provided Siraj primary treatment as he became unconscious, he said.

As his physical condition kept deteriorating, Siraj was taken to a local clinic on Friday morning, said the police officer. Doctors treated him and hours later sent him, home where he died in the evening, said the OC.

The victim's wife Hasina Begum filed a murder case against Shajahan, who is on the run, said the police officer.

Deceased's son-in-law Jashim Uddin said Siraj was a tenant at Shajahan's house around eight years ago. When Siraj left the house, he could not pay utility bill of Tk 3,600, he said. Although Siraj paid it later, Shajahan claimed that the money remained unpaid, triggering the feud, said Jashim.

Contacted, Foyez Ullah, leader of the ruling Awami League's youth wing, admitted that his father beat Siraj. "It was an untoward incident," he said.

Rent burden

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month told the Daily Star that they had received a request letter from the BGMEA to provide support to their workers.

"Based on the request letter from the BGMEA president, we have issued such letters to all city corporations, municipalities and union parishads to take necessary steps and reduce house rent by 50 per cent for RMG workers," he said.

The minister said the authorities concerned will sit with owners and tenants in this regard as they cannot impose this directly on owners.

Dhaka North City Corporation Mayor Atiqul Islam also said last month that it is indeed a dilemma and they have to sit with both parties (landlord and tenant) to come up with a solution.

An agonising

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surgeons in the districts said. Usually, it takes 3 to 10 days to get reports from the laboratories, they added.

At times, it also takes a long time to be able to give samples at the hospitals, said many locals.

After days of repeated attempts to give samples at Shamsuddin Ahmed Hospital, Shoaib Hassan of the city's Uposhohor area was able to do so on June 3.

He got the result on June 11, which showed he had tested positive. His wife tested positive at the end of May and he had been going to the hospital for a test since then.

"My mother is also ill. I tried for couple of days to give her samples but to no avail. Finally, I was able to admit her to a private hospital today [yesterday] and doctors took her sample for testing. God knows when we will get the result," he added.

Like him, many continue to live amid uncertainty and keep on waiting for results.

Sakib Ahmed, a resident of the city's Lamabazar area, gave his swab sample at Shamsuddin Ahmed Hospital on June 3

and came to know that he tested negative on June 11 from a colleague.

He is yet to receive any official message or confirmation from the authorities.

So far, 2,143 people have tested positive in Sylhet division till yesterday. Among them, 46 died, 451 recovered while 203 are undergoing treatment at different hospitals.

FOUR NEW LABORATORIES IN THE OFFING

To tackle the backlog, a proposal for four more laboratories in Sylhet division is in the offing, Dr Anisur Rahman, assistant director (disease control) of Sylhet divisional health office, told this correspondent yesterday.

Two labs will be installed at Sheikh Hasina Medical College and Hospital at Habiganj and at Sylhet Agriculture University respectively; while the other two at Sylhet Chest Disease Hospital and Sunamganj Chest Disease Clinic under National TB Programme, the assistant director said.

"It might take 15-30 days to have them ready and with the new laboratories, we believe that we can mitigate the crisis," he said.

Lost a

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he played a unique role in establishing the ideals of the Liberation War and the spirit of secularism," she added.

Yesterday, Chief Justice Syed Mahmud Hossain; Speaker Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury; Deputy Speaker Fazle Rabbi Miah; Awami League general secretary and Road Transport And Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader; Liberation War Affairs Minister AKM Mozammel Huq; Finance Minister AHM Mustafa Kamal; Agriculture Minister Muhammad Abdur Razzaque; Law Minister Anisul Huq; Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan; Planning Minister MA Mannan; Education Minister Dipu Moni; Information Minister Mohammad Hasan Mahmud; Expatriates' Welfare And Overseas Employment Minister Imran Ahmad; Post And Telecommunications Minister Mustafa Jabbar; Foreign Minister AK Abdul Momen; Local Government And Rural Development Minister Tajul Islam; Environment, Forest and Climate Change Minister Shahab Uddin; Health Minister Zahid

Maleque; Land Minister Saifuzzaman Chowdhury; Commerce Minister Tipu Munshi; Textiles and Jute Minister Golam Dastagir Gazi; Railways minister Nurul Islam Sujon; Fisheries and Livestock Minister SM Rezaul Karim and PM's private industry and investment adviser Salman Fazlur Rahman expressed shock at his death.

Besides, State minister for Foreign Affairs M Shahriar Alam; Primary and Mass Education State Minister Zakir Hossain; State Minister For Shipping Khalid Mahmud Chowdhury; Women And Children Affairs State Minister Fazilatun Nessa and others also expressed shock.

Jatiya Oikyafront, led by Dr Kamal Hossain, also condoled the death of the veteran leader, reports UNB.

In a condolence message, top leaders of the alliance said the role of Mohammad Nasim in all democratic movements of Bangladesh, including the Liberation War, will ever be remembered.

Gonoforum president Dr Kamal Hossain; BNP secretary general Mirza

Fakhru Islam Alamgir; standing committee member Dr Abdul Moyeen Khan; JSD president ASM Abdur Rob; Nagorik Oikya convener Mahmudur Rahman Manna; Gonoforum general secretary Dr Reza Kibria; Gonoshasthaya Kendra founder Dr Zafrullah and Prof Nurul Amin Bepari jointly issued the message.

Meanwhile while addressing a virtual press briefing from his Uttara residence, Mirza Fakhru said, "We mourn the demise of Mohammed Nasim."

Besides, Communist Party of Bangladesh; Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal; Workers Party of Bangladesh; Bangladesh National Awami Party; Oikya NAP; Sammilito Samajik Andolon; Ekattorer Chatak Dalal Nirmul Committee; Bangladesh Hindu-Buddhist-Christian Oikya Parishad; Bangladesh Medical Association; Dhaka University and National University and former cabinet member Syed Abul Hossain, along with many others also condoled the death of Nasim.

Ensure

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Ruling Awami League lawmaker Saber Hossain Chowdhury said there were pre-Apmhan activities to save the lives but "we must go for a long-term plan on construction and sustainable management of embankment".

This should be a priority issue for the 8th Five Year Plan, said Saber, also chair of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Ministry of Forest, Environment and Climate Change.

Another AL lawmaker Md Akhteruzzaman said emergency embankment has to be built in Khulna and Satkhira areas.

Rezaul Karim Chowdhury of COAST said the government needs to follow a model used in Sri Lanka that saw coastal afforestation in the either sides of embankments.

3 new mango

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varieties, including 60 foreign ones. Internationally reputed scientists from home and abroad have visited the centre on different occasions.

Nearly 70 extinct varieties of mango, like boichi, dumur, dewa, paniwala, betul, gab, chalta and arborio have brought variety to the centre, said Md Moniruzzaman, a research fellow.

Besides mangoes, the centre has shown its capability to develop foreign fruit varieties, which are in

great demand in local markers.

In recent years, the centre has released four new foreign fruit varieties for farmers. Santol from Thailand, Rambutan from Indonesia, Dragon Fruit from Vietnam and Persimmon from Japan have added splendour to the huge gardens of the centre.

These South-East Asian fruits have huge demand all over the world. Rambutan is a major fruit export of Malaysia, Philippines and Thailand, sources said.

The centre started researching these fruits in 1999 and went on sapling production in 2007. So far, 100,000 saplings of these fruits have been produced and most have been distributed among farmers through various channels, said Dr Rahim.

Some of these distribution channels are: District Nursery Owners Associations, Brac, Department of Agriculture Extension and Bangladesh Agriculture Development Corporation, he added.



A boy squeezes through a slight extra gap in a divider on Mirpur Road, in front of Chandrima Super Market in the capital, despite there being a footbridge close by. Jaywalking is one of the most common malpractices seen on the streets of Dhaka, and with roads being relatively less packed with traffic, the risk of accidents is higher now than it usually is. The photo was taken last week.

PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

Confirm treatment

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Covid-19 patients and private hospitals and clinics cannot refuse treatment to patients, Covid-19 or otherwise, if they have the requisite facilities/equipment.

It said if a private hospital or clinic does not have the requisite facilities/equipment to treat a patient, then it may refer the patients to another hospital and the transfer has to be done only after ensuring treatment in the other hospital in consultation with the Covid-19 hospital control room of DGHS.

As evident from newspaper reports, several private hospitals and clinics have violated the DGHS directives by refusing to treat patients without a Covid-19 test result and by refusing to cooperate in any other way including arranging transfer to a hospital designated for testing and/or treating patients displaying Covid-19 symptoms, they said in the petition.

Barrister Ehsanur Rahman, a petitioner, yesterday told The Daily Star that the HC bench of Justice M Enayetur Rahim may hold hearing on the petition today through virtual system.

General holidays

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time, people of the 'red zones' will travel to other areas, he said, adding "A technique will be applied in this regard."

Health Ministry's media cell chief and additional secretary Md Habibur Rahman Khan told the news agency that a meeting was held on Friday, that finalised the decision about zoning. "Now a specialised team is working to finalise the zones," he added.

"The announcement over zoning will be made within a day or two so that people can't move from one place to another," he said."

Dr Abul Kalam Azad, director general, Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), told the agency that local administration will start enforcing lockdowns in Dhaka and other parts of the country.


Letters have been sent to all Deputy Commissioners in this regard, he added. City corporations, municipalities and district administration may bring any area under lockdown if needed, he said, adding

that the local administration of an area in Manikganj took permission yesterday for it, and permission was given.

Meanwhile, the religious affairs ministry yesterday issued a gazette notification, saying all places of worship will be kept closed in areas marked as 'red zone', to contain the spread of coronavirus. Mosques may operate daily congregations with five people who are staff of the mosque, and Juma prayer with 10 people. All others, including people of other faiths, have been requested to pray at home, the gazette said. The decision was made at an inter-ministerial meeting on Friday, it added.

Earlier on Friday, Local Government and Rural Development (LGRD) Minister Md Tajul Islam instructed local committees of the ministry to become active after government's announcement of zonal lockdown to fight coronavirus.

Bangladesh yesterday reported 2,856 new coronavirus cases and 44 deaths, bringing the total of infections to 84,379 and deaths to 1,139.



CONDOLENCE

We express our deepest sorrow and condolence at the sad demise of **Mrs. Tahera Akhter**, The Honourable Chairman of the Popular Group. We remember her with endless respect for the contribution she made for the society and country.

We pray to almighty "Allah" to bless her soul. Rest in peace. Ameen!

Employees of

Padma Group of Converters

সিরাজুল ইসলাম চৌধুরী
সম্পাদিত
সাহিত্য-সংস্কৃতির ত্রৈমাসিক

৭২নদিয়া

অষ্টদশ বর্ষের তৃতীয় সংখ্যা
প্রকাশিত হয়েছে

স্টলে খোঁজ নিন/গ্রাহক হোন

প্রতি কপি ৬০ টাকা
বার্ষিক চাঁদা (সডাক) ৩০০ টাকা

এজেন্সী ও পুরাতন সংখ্যার
জন্য যোগাযোগ করুন

সম্পাদকীয় যোগাযোগ
উচ্চতর গবেষণা কেন্দ্র
কক্ষ ২০৪ (টিএসসি সংলগ্ন)
ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়, ঢাকা-১০০০
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Dhaka Water Supply and Sewerage Authority

Vacancy Announcement

শেখ হাসিনার কৃপিত
এম শহরুর ইতি

Dhaka WASA is seeking applications from Bangladeshi Nationals to fill up the Position of **Assistant Engineer**. Interested candidates should apply for the position through Online. For details information and full notice, please visit our website: www.dwasa.org.bd

The last date of receiving application: 12/07/2020.

Sd/-
Managing Director
Dhaka WASA