

NEWS bytes

Walking Dead
breaks US cable
TV record



The fifth series opener of US drama The Walking Dead has been watched by 17.3m people, breaking cable viewing records.

It marks the biggest cable audience for a non-sports programme in the US, according to television viewing figures tracking company Nielsen.

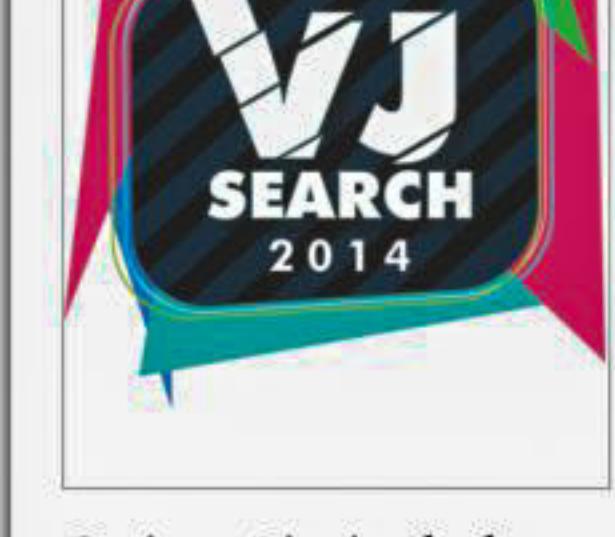
The post-apocalyptic horror, which stars British actor Andrew Lincoln, held the previous record of 16.1m for its fourth season debut last year.

The end of the series also set a new benchmark for a finale with 15.7m.

Sunday's return to the air also triumphed in the valuable 18-49 age range with 11 million viewers. Its nearest scripted rival was popular comedy The Big Bang Theory, which pulled in 6.9 million people in that key demographic.

Source: BBC

VJ Search
on for MTV
Bangladesh



Creinse Limited, the official programme syndication partner of Viacom International Media Network in Bangladesh (MTV and Nickelodeon) has initiated the VJ Search 2014. The hunt for the new VJ of MTV Programme Platform Bangladesh opened on September 26 and ends on October 20.

The VJ Search 2014 aims to unearth the new faces of MTV Programme Platform Bangladesh from a selected group of aspiring talents, says a press release. The aspirants will have to go register via a Facebook Application, available on the official Facebook page of Creinse. The top 50 will be selected from the initial applications, and from them, 25 handpicked talents will face the live auditions. The top five will surface after the live auditions and they will go through a detailed grooming session. From there, the one who fulfills the entire criterion, will join VJ Anya and become the new VJ of MTV Programme Platform Bangladesh.

The winner will be unveiled in a media session in front of the media and invited guests.

Master artists' works on display

K Masum Billah's art collection exhibited

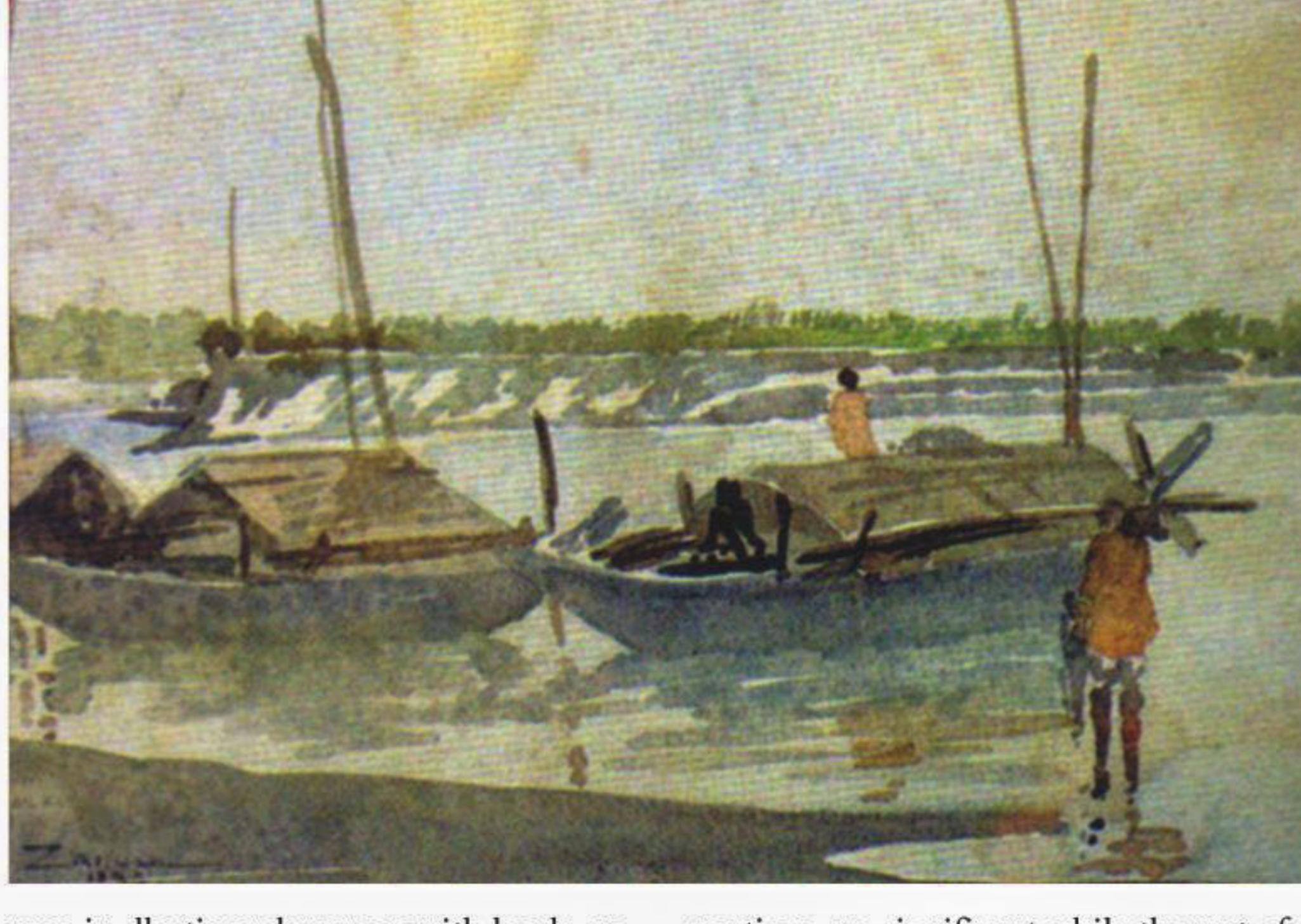
FAYZA HAQ

Art connoisseur K Masum Billah's personal art collection was exhibited recently at Dhanmondi's Gallery Chitrak.

Finance Minister AMA Muhith inaugurated the exhibition while eminent artist Professor Qayyum Chowdhury presided over the ceremony.

Some 60 artworks by stalwarts of Bangladeshi and South Asian art -- including Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin, Quamrul Hassan, Safiuddin Ahmed, Mohammad Kibria, SM Sultan, Jogen Chowdhury, MF Hussain, Murtaja Baseer, Qayyum Chowdhury, Aminul Islam, Mustafa Monwar, Rafiqun Nabi, Abdur Razzaque, Hamiduzzaman Khan, Monirul Islam, Abul Barq Alvi, Alokesha Gosh, Ranjit Das and Ahmed Nazir were on display at the exhibit. The works were in a wide range of media including oil, acrylic, ink, watercolours and prints.

Safiuddin Ahmed's "On the Way to the Market" is a delightful work of chiaroscuro. The children and dogs follow without questioning, as they did in the past. So do the women, and servant like



men in dhotis and women with loads on their heads. A man carries an umbrella, trees line the path and so the procession goes on.

There is a sketch by Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin with nude figures in which certain

rural life with broad strokes of the ink and brush. The delicateness with which the hair, torso and limbs have been done is remarkable. Like Safiuddin, he manages to say so much in so few lines and colours.

The pale colours applied in Shilpacharya's work brings in the truth of boats, poles, fishermen on the riverbank returning home from the day's task, other abiding with their boats portray a life of peace and harmony. The pale finding orange and earthy colours lend the effect of time on pale water colours.

We admire SM Sultan's portrayal of Bangladeshi fishermen, stronger than what they actually are, plying boats with houses, trees and purple clouds cascading in the sky. The beige of the men against the blue of the water is realistic and welcome. The idyllic picture puts men's jumbled mind in peace.

The grey and blue abstraction by Aminul Islam can give rise to whatever the viewer wishes to conjure up. The figures could be heads of horses, bisons, dragons or whatever fancy and imagination could usher in.



Traditional boat race on Brahmaputra River

AMINUL ISLAM, Mymensingh

A traditional boat race on Brahmaputra river was entertaining for thousands of spectators gathered on the river bank at Shaheed Quarter Park area on Monday afternoon.

The event was organised by Mymensingh Municipality marking Eid-Ul-Azha and Durga Puja celebrations.

The boat-race saw the participation of some 20 boats from different areas of Mymensingh, Jamalpur and Tangail.

The boat-men with their rhythm of sari gaan accompanied by beats of huge drums enthralled the audi-

ence greatly.

The boats raced in two groups -- small boat or dingi nauka, and large boats ranging from 50-feet and over from Jaihkhana Ferry Ghat and Kachari Ferry Ghat.

Talking to this correspondent, the participants said that Taka 1,75,000 to 2,00,000 is required to make a large race-boat. The boats are made with the financial support of the villagers, a practice that goes back many years.

Earlier, a discussion was held.

Deputy Commissioner of Mymensingh Mustakim Billah Faruqui was the chief guest while Mymensingh Police Superintendent

Moinul Haque was the special guest while mayor of Mymensingh municipality Ekramul Haque Titu chaired the event. Other distinguished guests were also present.

The speakers said that boat races are a traditional form of entertainment in rural areas but now urbanites also enjoy the sport and the presence of thousands of people is encouraging. Now the aim should be to familiarise the younger generation with boat races, which symbolise the rich cultural history of the country.

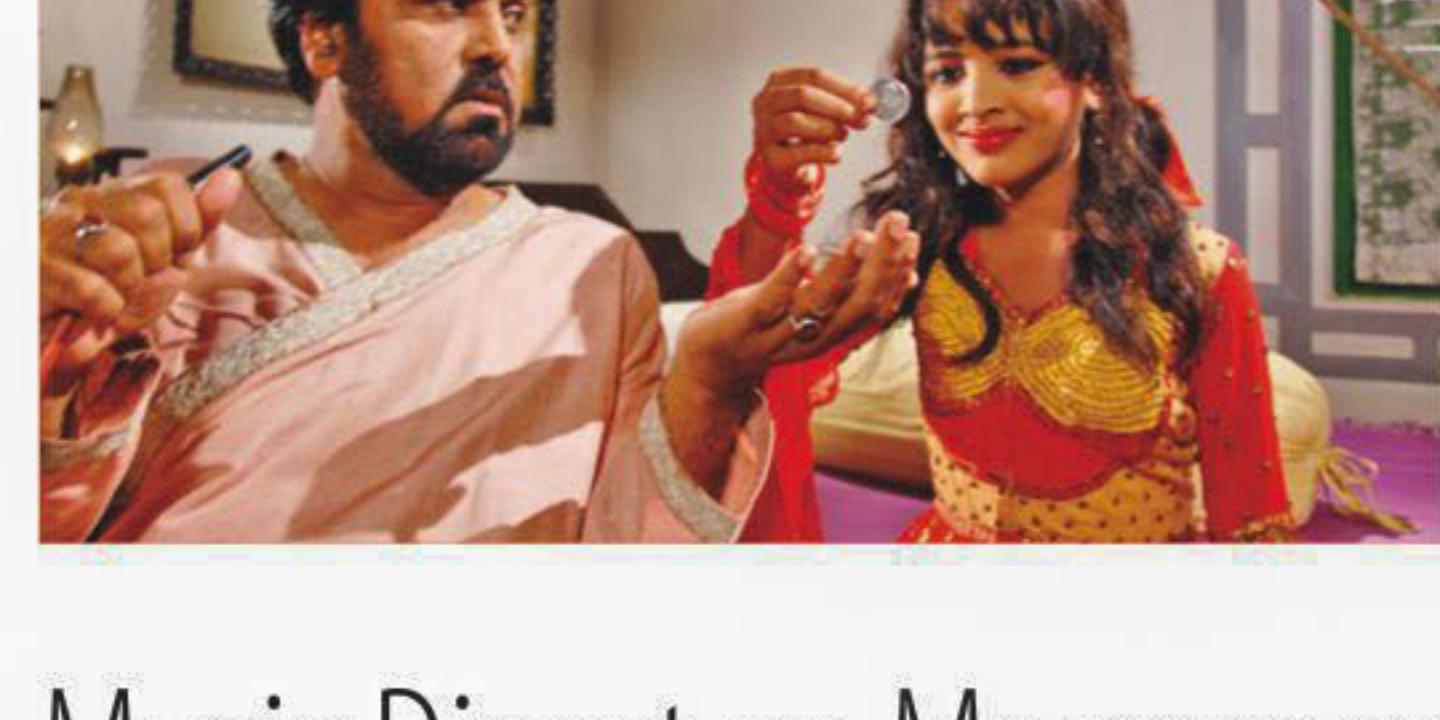
Later, the guests distributed prizes among the winners.

Poet Sajal Quaishy was the presenter of the event.

Ghetuputro Komola at

Religion Today Festival in Italy

Humayun Ahmed's film "Ghetuputro Komola" will be screened at Religion Today Film Festival in Taranto, Italy, says a press release. The film will compete in "exploring the differences" category at the festival. The festival has begun in Taranto on October 10 with a view to promote a journey both in religious practices and beliefs and in cinematic styles and languages.

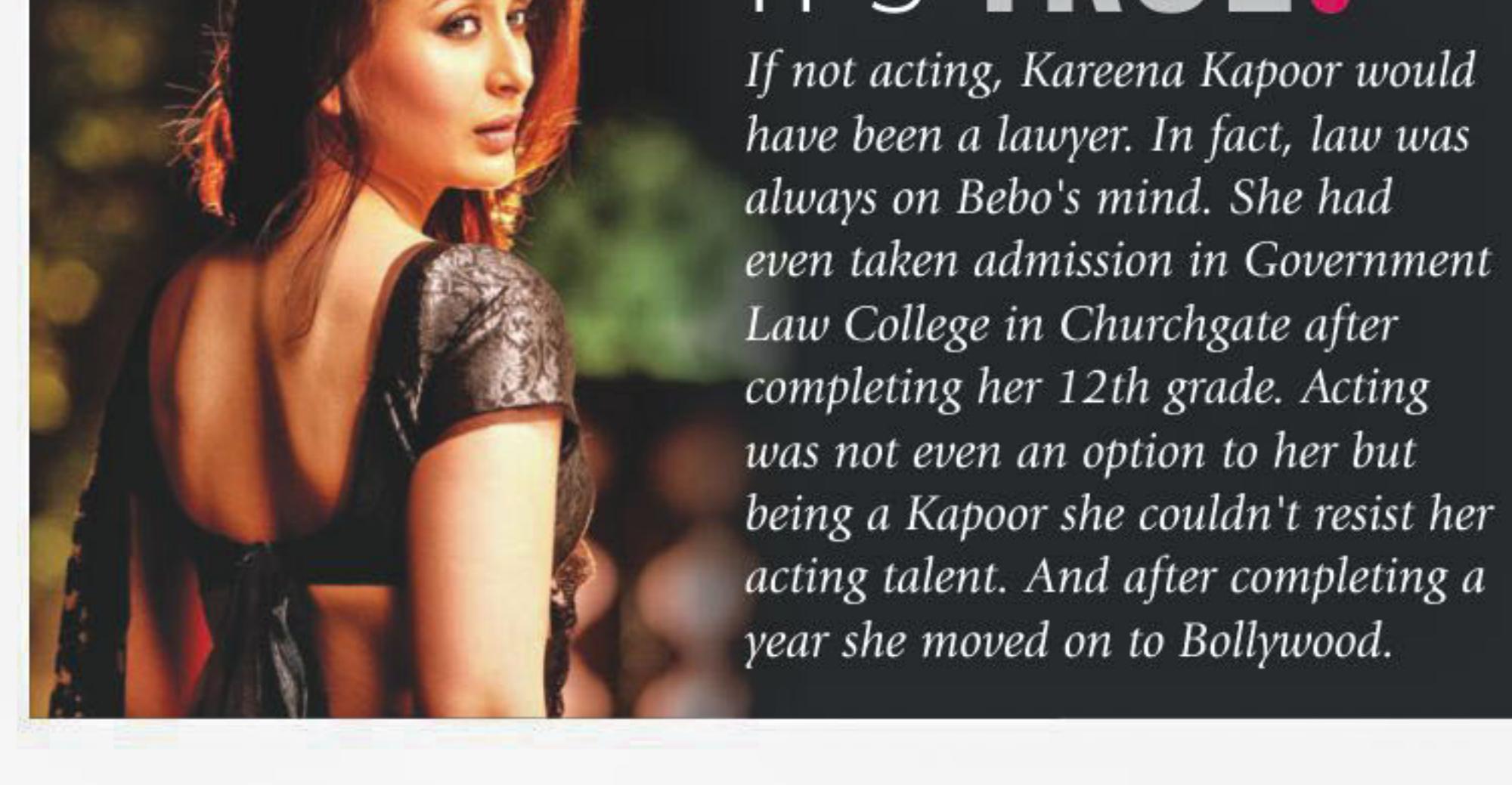


Music Digest on Maasranga

A CORRESPONDENT

Magazine programme "Music Digest" will go on air on Maasranga Television tonight at 11pm. Segmented in five parts, the show features news from the global music scenario, latest billboard updates, top charts, popular music videos, singer profile and tribute.

Z.I Foysal has produced the show, with Jhumur as the host.



POOJA BHATT

returns to big screen as a detective



Bollywood actress Pooja Bhatt will return to face the camera after a 13-year self-imposed hibernation. She was last seen in Rahul Bose's directorial debut, "Everybody Says I'm Fine", in 2001. After that she concentrated on producing and directing movies. Pooja will now play a detective in Reema Kagti's romcom, Mr Chaalu, which goes on floors in January 2015.

The film's producers, Ritesh Sidhwani and Farhan Akhtar, thought that Pooja is suited to play a Lady Sherlock Holmes, informed a source close to the production.

"Mr Chaalu" has Saif Ali Khan playing a Casanova while Kangana Ranaut is his love interest, Richa Chadha will be seen playing one of the other girls in his life.

Confirming the news, Pooja said, "Once an actor, always an actor." She appears in the film just before the interval and stays till the end.

Source: Times of India

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