



RAPID FIRE

NIPUN

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Nipun, the National Film Award-winning actress, is a popular face on the silver screen, and also acts in TV plays occasionally. She also does modeling. The multi-talented artiste recently faced some quick questions from The Daily Star:

**How do you start your day?**  
Nipun: By reading a newspaper.

**Favourite moment of the day...**  
Nipun: Late into the night, in solitude.

**If there was no love in the world, what would it be like?**  
Nipun: Sounds creepy. I cannot think of such a world.

**What is your greatest fear?**  
Nipun: Of ghosts... but that was during my childhood.

**How do you feel when you are near the sea?**  
Nipun: I just think about the vastness.

**How would you rate Dhaka city?**  
Nipun: I love the city minus the traffic congestion.

**Do you enjoy leisure when there is no shooting?**  
Nipun: I do.

**What do you miss the most if you left home without it?**  
Nipun: My cell-phone.

**What do you miss most from your childhood days?**  
Nipun: The carefree days and the games that we played with friends.

**What does friendship mean to you?**  
Nipun: It means trust and only trust. The relationship cannot survive without this.

Int'l Dance Day programmes end at Shilpakala

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Marking International Dance Day on April 29, a weeklong long dance festival took place at Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA) from April 23. Bangladesh Nritya Shilpi Sangstha (BNSS) in association with BSA arranged the programme. The theme for the year was "Santrash Rukey Dao Nrityer Chhonde".

A seminar on the title "Santras Protirodh-e Nrityakalar Obosthan" was held on April 29 while a colourful procession and a grand celebration programme featuring a dance performance, discussion and felicitation of dancer Narayan Deb took place at BSA on the day.

Artistes of Dibya Sangskritik Sangathan set off the event with a prayer dance as tribute to the deceased of the recent earthquake massacre in Nepal. Later, the rendition of National Anthem and one minute's silence was observed in memory of the Nepal earthquake victims.

Cultural Affairs Minister Asaduzzaman Noor attended the event as chief guest, alongside other



guests Professor Abdus Selim, Dr. Ranjit Kumar Biswas, Amanul Haque and Laila Hasan. President Minu Haque and general secretary Mahfuzur Rahman of BNSS delivered the welcome addresses.

Later, artistes from different troupes -- Bangladesh Academy of Fine Arts, Pallavi Dance Centre, Kathak Nritya Sampradaye, Rewaz Performing Arts, Sukanya, Spondon, Jago Art Centre, Angikam, Nandanik, Nritym, Dhreeti Nartanalay, Bhabna, Soma Academy,

Shikhar Cultural Centre, Nrityabhumi, Chhando Monjuri, Nandan Kala Kendra, Nritya Chhando, Nrityalok, Nataraj, Benuka Lalitkala Academy and several organisations from Khulna, Noakhali, Sylhet, and Rajshahi performed classical, contemporary, srijanshil and folk dances at the event.

National Art Gallery Plaza of BSA was another venue for the festival where dance performances and a dance fair were held.

"NIRBAAK":  
Sushmita's homecoming

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

Bollywood actress and former Miss Universe Sushmita Sen, who makes her debut in a Bengali movie which hits the screens today, says the film is a fulfillment of her father Shuber Sen's dream.

"It was my father's big dream that I do a Bengali film. It is a big moment for him," said Sen a day ahead of commercial release of her maiden Bengali film "Nirbaak", directed by Srijit Mukherjee.

The 39-year-old actress, who has starred in Hindi films like "No Problem", "Main Hoon Na" and "Biwi No 1", said her father always wanted her to act in Bengali films,

something which never worked out for her.

"He was ecstatic when he heard that. He had watched Srijit's films before and said he is a fantastic director and you must do his film," she said.

Although born to Bengali parents in the southern Indian city of Hyderabad, the actress was worried about her command over the language while dubbing for "Nirbaak".

"I was scared whether I would be able to express myself in Bengali. The director made me do the dubbing like I was a child doing poetry recitation. He said every word had to be said exactly like a true Bengali," she said.

Sen said two-three years ago, she was in talks with the late maverick Bengali film

director Rituparno Ghosh for a Bengali movie.

"We were discussing a film but he left us before that happened. That was a film I would have done for sure. I will regret that. As a human being and as a director, both, he was honest, my kind of a person," the actress said.

However, she is now discussing a project with another Bengali filmmaker Anjan Dutt. Srijit Mukherjee says Sen has a perfect Bengali diction, "... perhaps better than many other Bengalis here".

"Nirbaak" has four stories strung together by Sen's character, who remains nameless.



The Daily Star



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