

Fun and Frolic

Zahid Hassan on Eid vacations

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Zahid Hassan has a larger than life presence in the world of Bangladeshi television. He has also appeared in several films. Unlike many other celebrities who choose to spend Eid vacations overseas, the award winning actor heads to his hometown of Sirajganj. He shared his vacation stories and plans with the Daily star.

How come you spend most of your Eid holidays in Sirajganj?

Zahid Hassan: There is a special joy in celebrating Eid with your parents. There was a time when I used to find every opportunity to go back home to spend Eid with my parents and siblings. Both my parents have passed away, yet I continue to go back to celebrate with my brothers.

How do you journey home?

Zahid Hassan: I travel by night so that I can reach at dawn. Usually there is a lot of traffic on the street the night before Eid, but I don't mind it at all as I am way too excited to go home and see my family. Once I even drove all night, and reached there by morning. Once I got there I went to attend Eid prayers right after I had freshened up.

How do you usually spend your Eid vacations in your hometown?

Zahid Hassan: They're always fun filled and carefree. I often end up spending much of my time with my friends, either at their homes or elsewhere, catching up on our lives and stories. Often the stories go on all night. Sometimes I take off to sit by the Jamuna riverbank.

Do you travel outside your hometown during vacations?

Zahid Hassan: Yes, I do travel once I reach my hometown. Once my friends and I had travelled very far by boat, and had a meal en route. We have also travelled to Kuthibari and Rajshahi.

What else do you enjoy doing during your Eid holidays?

Zahid Hassan: I am always out and about! I enjoy travelling around my town in a rickshaw the most, although sometimes I do travel by motorcycle. I rarely take my car out over there.

Don't you spend time with your family?

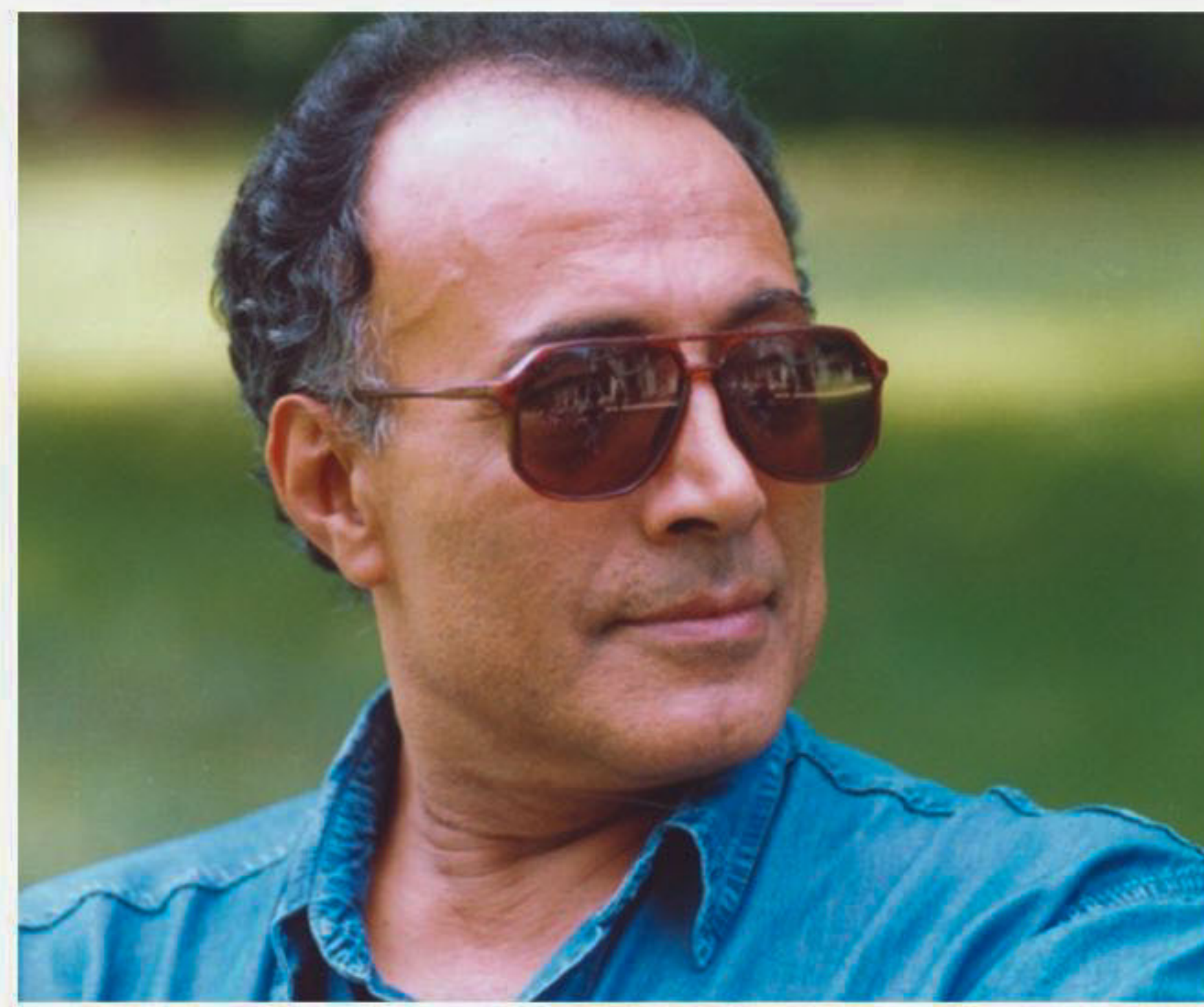
Zahid Hassan: Yes, of course. My sisters- in -law love to hear my stories and experiences, and we often spend our eve-



nings chatting on the rooftop. We also have great home-cooked meals.

How many TV plays directed by you was telecast this Eid?

Zahid Hassan: This year four TV plays under my direction was aired. "Eid Mubarak" which has seven episodes, will air on Asian TV. It will be aired everyday for a week from the first day of Eid. Another TV play titled "Martial" will telecast on Banglavision. The other two TV plays are titled "Firey Jabo Na" and "Bojha Na Bojhar Bhul," will premiere on RTV and ATN Bangla respectively.



Abbas Kiarostami's demise

Vacuum in the film world

"A work of art doesn't exist outside the perception of the audience."

The lines between truth and fiction are ambiguous in Abbas Kiarostami's cinematic works. A prolific film career that began in the 1970s, Kiarostami is not only one of the key figures in the Iranian New Wave; his cinematic style has a unique blend of elements that single him out as an individual of his own invention. Born on 22nd June 1940, Kiarostami had been involved in over forty films, and his death at the age of 76 on 4th July following a battle with a difficult illness since March, has been a sad shock to filmmakers and movie aficionados all over the world.

His first film in 1970, "The Bread and Alley," marked his archetypal protagonist - the ten minute sequence that was filmed over forty days, depicted the struggle of a young boy walking home with a loaf of bread, when he is suddenly confronted by a hungry dog. His use of child protagonists reflects the independent nature of his films, where the actors' performances determine the script-writing process and the direction of the narrative. "Children are very strong and independent characters and come up with more interesting things than Marlon Brando," the director had said, "and it's very difficult to direct or order them to do something." The use of children also emphasizes the complexity of life as they are forced to deal with the real world and its challenges.

Kiarostami's intriguing films owe their success to the filming process behind the scenes. In "Ten," the director was absent during much of the filming. Many scenes were shot from inside a moving car, with a camera

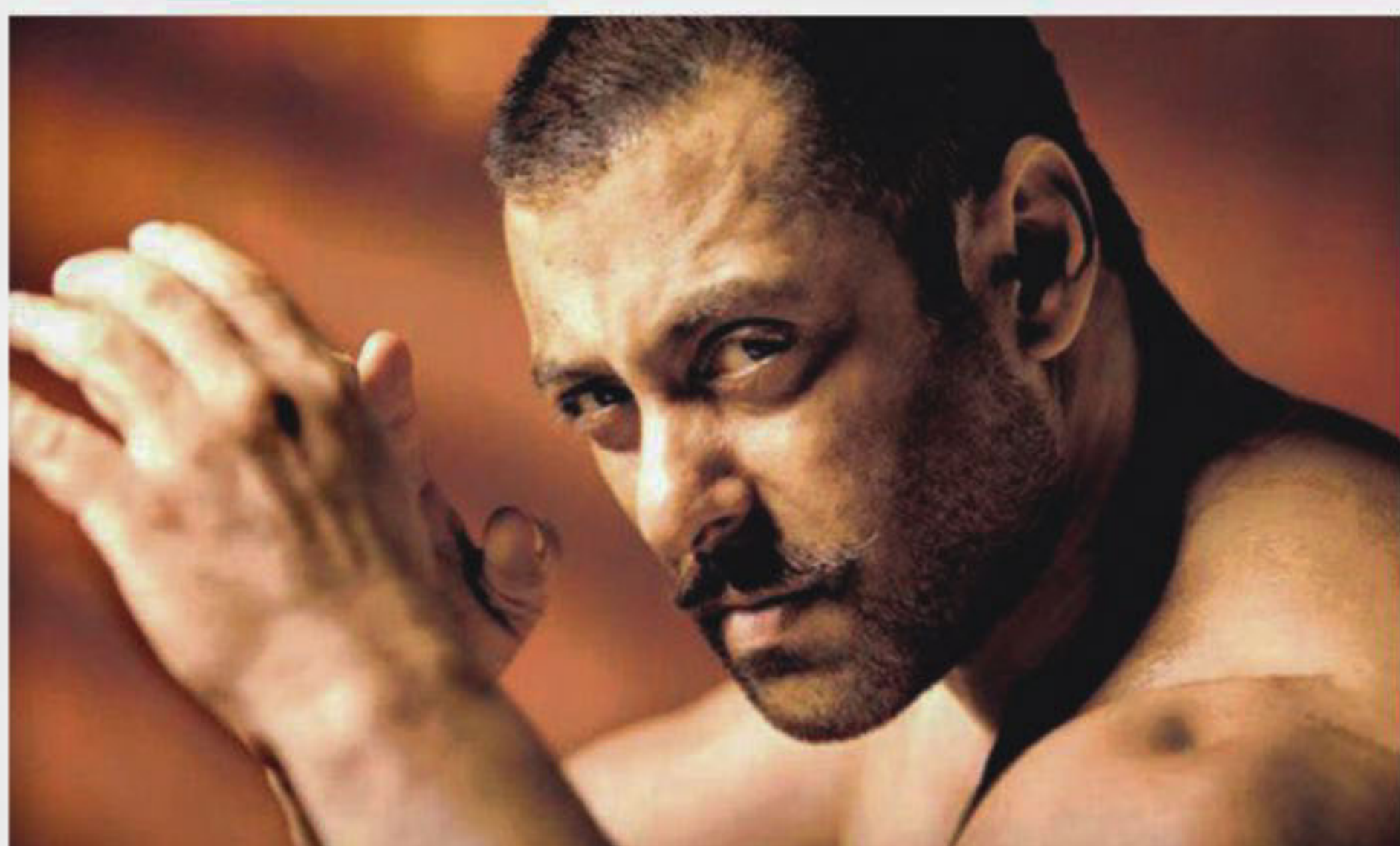
placed on the dashboard. The scenes then unfold as the actors interact with each other, every little nuance of expressions captured on camera. This style of filmmaking has been aptly described as "evidence" by the director, refraining from labeling his films as documentaries or works of imagination - presenting profoundly the duality of life and the complexity of existence. As Kiarostami has said, "We can never get close to the truth except through lying."

Ten essential films that mark different points of Kiarostami's career, and the evolution of his filmmaking are "The Traveler" (1974), "The Report" (1977), "Where is the Friend's Home?" (1987), "Close Up" (1990), "Life, and Nothing More..." (1991), "Through the Olive Trees" (1994), "Taste of Cherry" (1997), "The Wind Will Carry Us," (1999), "Ten" (2002), "Certified Copy" (2010).

Compiled by Cultural Correspondent



A scene from "Through the Olive Trees" (1994).



Sultan enters 100 crore club in three days

Salman Khan has proved that he is Bollywood's numero uno when it comes to ruling the box office. Salman's Eid release "Sultan" continued its fantastic run for the third consecutive day. The Salman Khan, Anushka Sharma starrer has entered the coveted Rs. 100 crore club in just three days of its release.

This is Salman Khan's tenth movie to cross Rs. 100 crore mark and with "Sultan" the superstar now holds the record of maximum films in the Rs. 100 crore club followed by Shah Rukh Khan who has six

films to his name.

The film made Rs 36.54 on opening day and followed it up with Rs 37.2 crore on Eid holiday on Thursday.

Analysts predict that this weekend, the movie will make anything beyond Rs 150 crore. Salman's "Prem Ratan Dhan Paayo" and "Bajrangi Bhaijaan", Shah Rukh Khan's "Happy New Year" and Aamir Khan's "Dhoom 3" are the other big films which made Rs 100 crore in three days.

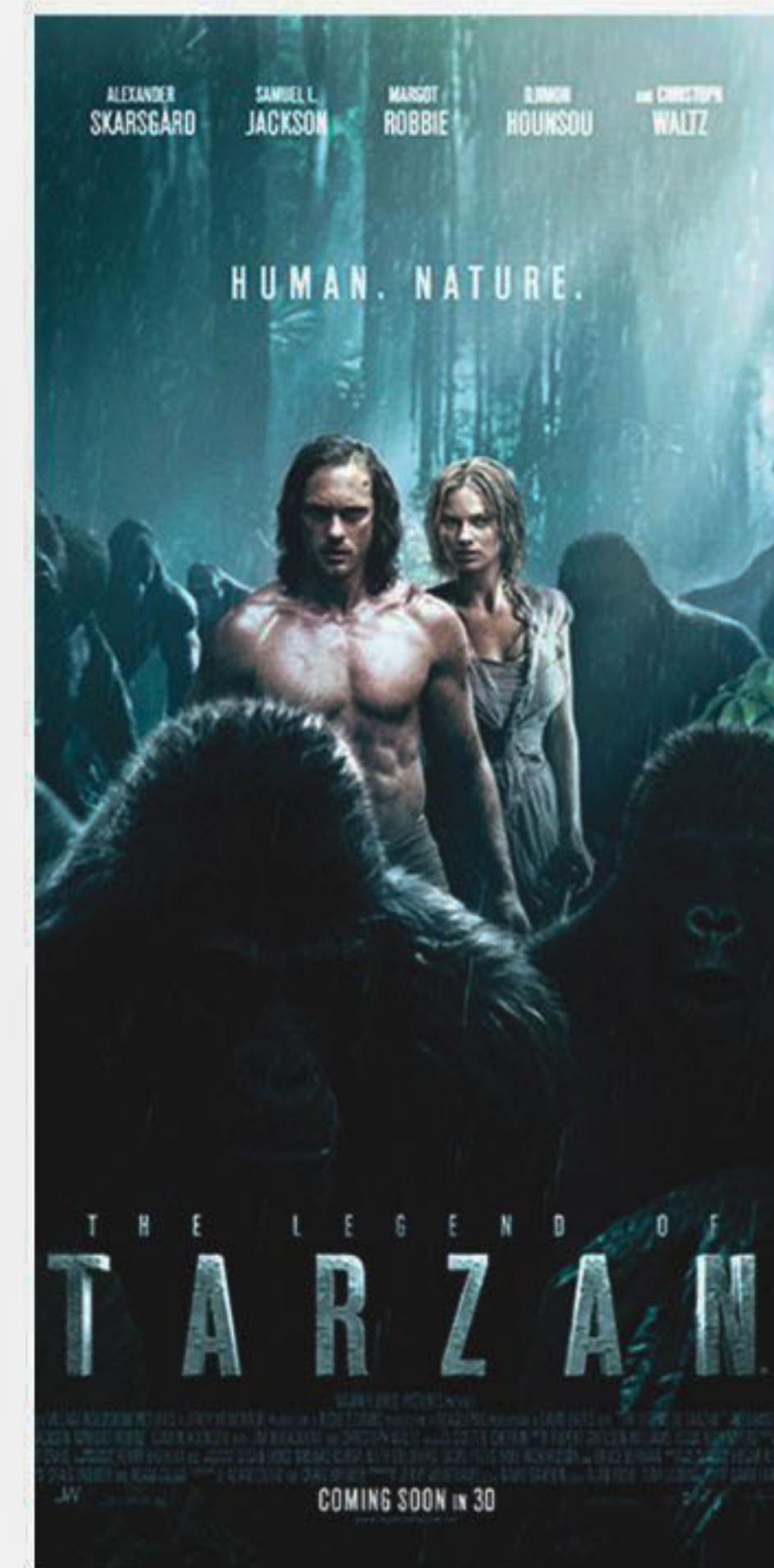
Source: Indian Express

NEWS bytes

Star Cineplex in Cox's Bazar!

Star Cineplex, the country's first multiplex cinema halls, has extended its service to Cox's Bazar, says a press release.

The new movie theatre, situated at Sayeman Beach Resort Hotel, has started its journey on Eid day through the screening of three latest Hollywood films—"The Conjuring 2",



"The Legend of Tarzan", and "The Jungle Book".

The Cineplex has been jointly developed by Star Cineplex and Sayeman Hotel. The new hall, offering state-of-the-art technologies including Dolby Sound System and 2K Digital Projection System, can accommodate 200 moviegoers at a time.

Star Cineplex believes that this new hall, at the heart of world's largest sea beach, will add a new dimension to the country's entertainment arena.

TV WATCH

Tele-film "Tumimoy" on Maasranga today

A CORRESPONDENT

Tele-film "Tumimoy" will air on Maasranga Television today at 2:40pm. Written and directed by Rumman Rashid Khan and Nuzhat Alvi Ahmed respectively, the cast of the tele-film includes Shajol, Momo, Kalyan and Piyal.

The story revolves around university classmates Mithila and Ahsan. Despite many arguments, the two share a close bond. At one point, Ahsan falls in love with Mithila and secretly sends her gifts and poems. Mithila eventually manages to find her secret admirer, but it's too late by then.



"Current Gele Bhoi Paben Na" on GTV Studio Concert "Ananda Gaan" on Ekushey Television

A CORRESPONDENT

Single-episode TV play "Current Gele Bhoi Paben Na" will air on GTV tonight at 10:30pm.

The comedy circles two bachelors Sentu and Khaled in search of a house. Then out of the blue they find a three-room flat and that too at a low rent. However, many unusual happenings occur when they move there.

Written and directed by Imel Haque, the cast of the play includes Mosharrar Karim, Saju Khadem and Nisha.

A CORRESPONDENT

Popular singers Asif Akbar and Ankhi Alamgir will perform songs in a stu-

dio concert "Ananda Gaan" to be aired on Ekushey Television tonight at 11:30pm. The show is produced and anchored by Farhana Nisho.

