

WHAT'S ON

Theatre
Play: Crutch'er Colonel
Troupe: BotTala
Venue: Experimental Theatre Hall, BSA
Date: April 5; Time: 7pm



Solo Art Exhibition
Title: Face-to-Face
by Moon Rahman
Venue: Kala Kendra, 1/11, Iqbal Road (3rd floor), Mohammadpur
Date: Apr 1-24, Time: 5-8pm



Theatre
Play: Konjus
Play: Loko Natyadal
Venue: National Theatre Hall, BSA
Date: April 4; Time: 7pm



Group Art Exhibition
Title: Exhibition 2017
Venue: Gallery Chitrag, H-4, Rd-6, Dhanmondi
Date: Mar 28-Apr 20
Time: 10am-8pm



Group Mask Exhibition
Title: Mukh O Mukhosh-7
Venue: Galleri Kaya, H-20, Rd-16, Sec-4, Uttara
Date: Apr 8-18
Time: 11am-8pm



NEWS bytes

"Boss Baby" dethrones "Beauty" at BO

Fox-DreamWorks animated movie "Boss Baby" has bottled up \$15.5 million upon release, ending the streak for Disney's "Beauty and the Beast" which had ruled the box office with record-breaking grosses since it hit theatres in mid-March. The Emma Watson-starrer earned just over \$13 million on Friday. The projected opening weekend total for "Boss Baby" now stands above previous expectations at over \$50 million. "Beauty" will also continue its fantastical run, and should land in the \$45 to \$50 million range. Paramount's "Ghost in the Shell", meanwhile, showed a comparatively meagre draw. The action film starring



Scarlett Johansson earned \$7.7 million on Friday and tracked for about \$20 million in its opening weekend. "The Boss Baby" — loosely based on the 2010 picture book of the same name written and illustrated by Marla Frazee — features a voice cast that includes Alec Baldwin, Miles Christopher Bakshi, Steve Buscemi, Jimmy Kimmel, Lisa Kudrow and Tobey Maguire. Tom McGrath directed the film about a secret agent baby who engages in a war between babies and puppies.

Source: Variety



An exhibition of film stills is an attraction of the day's programmes. STAR FILE PHOTO

ELABORATE PROGRAMMES TO MARK NATIONAL FILM DAY TODAY

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Bangladesh Film Development Corporation (BFDC) is celebrating National Film Day (April 3) with elaborate programmes in the capital today, under an initiative of the Information Ministry.

Information Minister Hasanul Haq Inu will inaugurate the programmes at 10:30am at BFDC premises, along with Nayak Raj Razzak, chairman of the National Film Day organising committee. Members of the film industry will then bring out a rally from the BFDC premises.

A seminar on "The current presentation and screening method is the biggest obstacle to the development of our cinema" will be held at 3pm. Industries Minister Amir Hossain Amu will be the chief guest at the seminar. Other guests include

Information Minister Hasanul Haq Inu, member of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on the Information Ministry Sukumar Ranjan Ghosh and Information Ministry secretary Mortuza Ahmed. Former chief information officer of the Information Commission Dr. Md. Jahangir Hossain will present a paper, while RAB Director General Benzir Ahmed will be special discussant. Other discussants will include Mushfiqur Rahman Gulzar, Khorshed Alam Khosru and Iftekhar Uddin Nowshad. BFDC managing director Tapan Kumar Ghosh will chair the session.

Mohammad Hossain Jemy will host a talk show from 5:15pm, after which a cultural programme will be held from 7:45pm. Prominent film stars Omar Sani, Mahiya Mahi, Amit Hasan, Pori Moni, Ferdous, Bobby, Emon, Nusraat Faria, Nirob, Misha

Sawdagar, Purnima and Moushumi, among others will perform at the programme. Hridoy Khan, Kona, Ankhi Alamgir, Konal, Samina Chowdhury, Kumar Bishwajit and others will also sing at the event.

BFDC will be abuzz with other activities throughout the day, which has been named "Tara Mela", including publication of a souvenir, red carpet, a fair, photo exhibition and other festive arrangements. ATN Bangla will broadcast the entire day's events live from 10am to 9:50pm.

On April 3, 1957, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the erstwhile Minister of Industries and Commerce of East Pakistan, introduced the East Pakistan Film Development Corporation Bill at the Constituent Assembly. To mark that day, April 3 is observed every year as National Film Day in Bangladesh since 2012.

NATIONAL FILM DAY
"It's definitely a praiseworthy initiative by the government"

..Riaz

National Film Award-winning actor Riaz came into the spotlight soon after the demise of Dhallywood heartthrob Salman Shah, and led numerous mainstream commercial movies in the late 90s, 2000s and beyond. Although Riaz has recently shifted his focus to the small screen, he still has big dreams about the country's cinema. The popular star talked about the National Film Day and the industry in a recent chitchat with The Daily Star. Excerpts:

What is your opinion of the National Film Day?
Riaz: April 3 was declared as National Film Day and it is definitely a praiseworthy initiative of the government. While this is a positive step for Dhaka cinema, it would be great if we could celebrate our cinema every day.



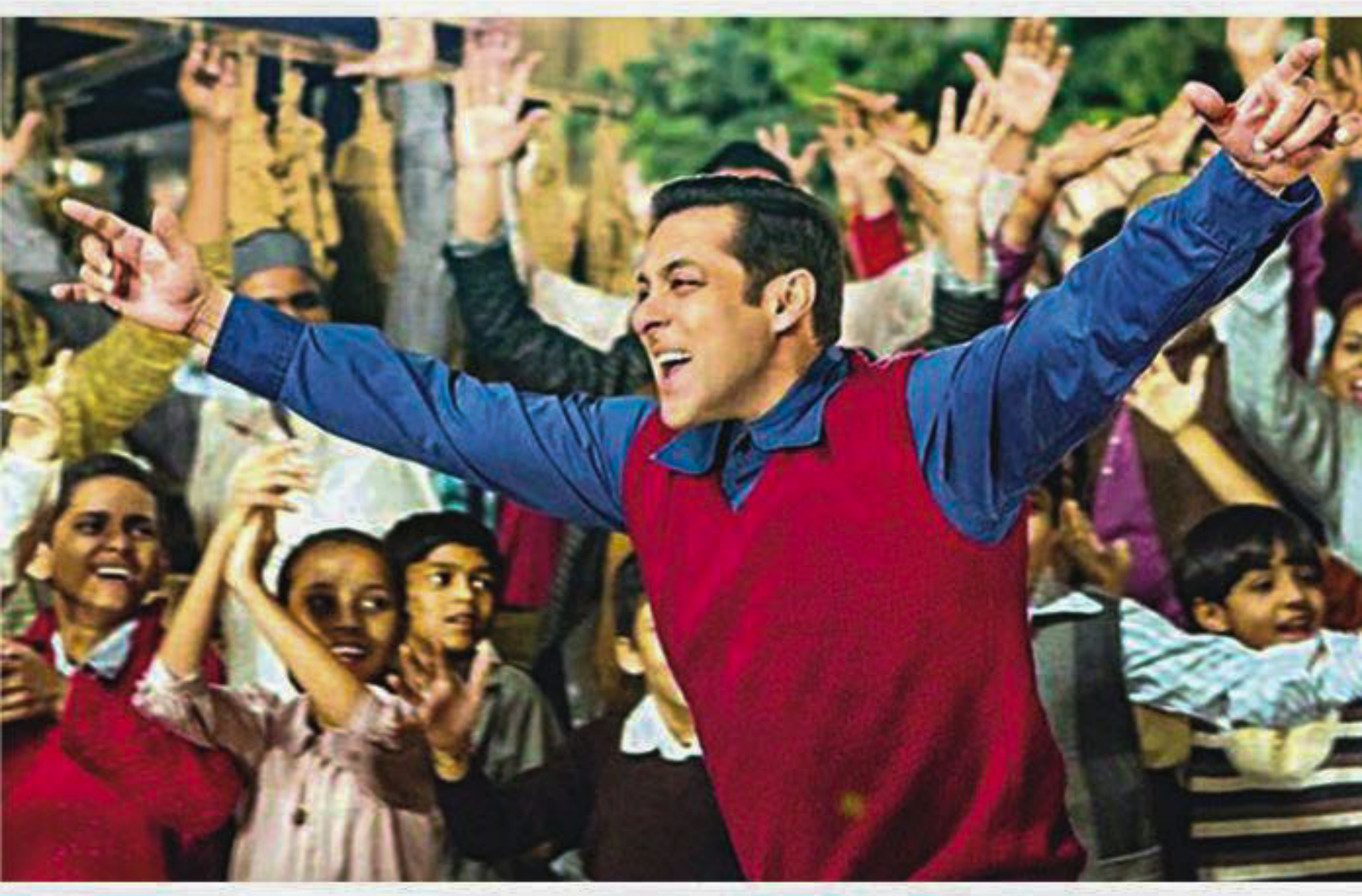
How do you think the film industry can do better?
Riaz: We can do so many things to promote the industry. The industry cannot be hostage to any individual. After releasing a movie, we have to ensure its screening in all theatres across the country. The most important task is to stop piracy and this needs technical support. And then there is the question of improving our theatres. Finally, we have to make quality films to draw cine-goers' attention.

Do you think that the quality of films has improved in recent times?
Riaz: Yes, but more needs to be done on this front. When better films become a more regular feature, audiences will throng the halls automatically. Basically, we have to highlight the script of the films because viewers always want a good script.

What other steps do you feel are needed for the development of the film industry?
Riaz: First and foremost, we need a film institute. Although many universities have started courses on filmmaking, we need an independent institute. Technical knowledge is a must for a good production.

How do you feel about the Kolkata films flooding our theatres?
Riaz: Their films, serials and artistes are dominating the market, but the question is how are we benefiting from this? You have to think about your own culture first and then of others.

Salman Khan's "Tubelight" to release on Eid



The release date of Salman Khan's upcoming movie "Tubelight" has been announced, and it is not a big surprise. Trade Analyst Taran Adarsh announced on Twitter that the forthcoming movie "Tubelight" will be released on June 23 this year. "Gear up Salman Khan fans. Tubelight release date finalised: 23 June 2017. Kabir Khan - Salman Khan back after BajrangiBhaijaan," Taran Adarsh's tweet read.

Interestingly, like a number of Salman's recent movies, "Tubelight" is also releasing in the week of Eid. The film also features the late Om Puri, Salman's brother Sohail Khan and Chinese actress Zhu Zhu, who makes her debut in Indian cinema through this film.

Last month, "Tubelight" director Kabir Khan announced that the shooting of the movie has been wrapped. This is Salman Khan's third movie with Kabir Khan. The actor-director duo has earlier collaborated for 2012's "Ek Tha Tiger" and 2015's "Bajrangi Bhaijaan".

The movie will also see Shah Rukh Khan making a cameo appearance.

The war drama film, was extensively shot in Ladakh and Manali. Salman is playing the role of an army man in the film. "Tubelight" has already made a pre-release business of Rs 20 crore, selling the music rights to Sony Music, which reportedly has only three songs.

Source: NDTV Movies

84th birthday of Ustad Sunil Dhar celebrated



AMINUL ISLAM, Mymensingh

The 84th birth anniversary of classical music maestro Ustad Sunil Kumar Dhar was celebrated at his Aatharabari Road residence on March 28 evening.

Local classical music enthusiasts and his disciples organised the event to honour the veteran artiste.

Prof Sumita Naha, a noted Tagore artiste; Ashik Sarker, a lecturer of Music Department at Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University; and the some other students of the maestro performed on the occasion. Sunil Dhar also delighted the audience with a live classical performance as well.

Ustad Shamsul Islam on tabla, Ustad Dhanesh Chandra Saha on violin, Professor Bimol Dey, Dr PN Sarker and Md Nuruzzaman

Chowdhury were present, among others.

Born to late Dr Akhmoym Kumar Dhar and Surabala Dhar at village Tarati in Muktagacha upazila of Mymensingh in 1933, the maestro was fortunate to receive lessons from the legendary classical music guru Ustad Allauddin Khan when the latter was residing at the palace of Muktagacha zamindars, in 1952.

The dedicated Dhar also took lessons from another guru, Jagadananda Barua on Dhrupad and Dhamar.

During his long innings, Dhar performed with reputed artistes of both Bangladesh and India.

Founder principal of Mymensingh Nazrul Academy (since 1966) and president of Dhruba Parishad Mymensingh unit, he was also associated with Mymensingh Shilpakala Academy and Muktagacha Sangeet Vidyalaya.

TV WATCH
Channel i programmes on Nat'l Film Day

A CORRESPONDENT

To celebrate National Film Day, Channel i will air special programmes throughout the day today. Starting with "Gaane Gaane Shokal Shuru" at 7:30am, where participants of "Shera Kontho" and "Khudey Gaanraaj" will perform. This will be followed by "Bishesh 25 Minute: Mukh o Mukhosh" at 11:05am, hosted by Arun Chowdhury.

At 12:30pm viewers can tune in to a discussion on books about films with the programme "Pathok Shomabesh Boi Porichiti". Next at 12:35pm, the celebrity talk show programme "Taroka Kothon" will feature noted actors Ilyas Kanchon and Himi and director Mushfiqur Rahman Gulzar as guests. The programme is produced by Ananya Ruma.

Musical programme "Ebong Cinema'r Gaan" featuring film songs will air at 1:05pm, directed by S Arman. At 2:40pm, children's film "Durotto" will be aired, directed by Morshedul Islam. A talk show will follow at 5:30pm, titled "Tara Jhilmil" featuring guests Mishti Jannat, Tania Ritu and Amrita Khan. The programme is hosted by Abdur Rahman. At 6pm, "Amar Chhobi" will be aired, a programme that centres on the film industry of Bangladesh and will feature renowned actor Alamgir as guest.

Shafiuzzaman Khan Lodi hosts the show. Musical reality TV show "Khudey Gaanraaj" will air two special episodes celebrating the occasion today and tomorrow (April 3-4) at 8pm. The sixth season's final round of performances will be graced by legendary artiste Runa Laila as a guest judge.

The artiste will be joined by the show's regular judges: Ferdous Ara, a noted Nazrul exponent, and popular singer-composer SI Tutul. The episodes will feature the young contestants rendering Runa Laila's hits from the '80's, many of which were featured in films and lip-synched by child actors. Mim Chowdhury is the host of the programme which is directed by Ijaz Khan Swapan.

