



Apu Biswas going full throttle promoting RAJNEETI

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

After an extended hiatus, Dhallywood heartthrob Apu Biswas has recently reappeared in the film industry. She is now going full steam ahead promoting her new movie "Rajneeti". In a recent talk with The Daily Star, the celebrated actress spoke about her new life, career plans and films:

You are back on the scene with "Rajneeti" How do you view the film's prospects at the box office?

Apu Biswas: I'm very hopeful about "Rajneeti". From the core of my heart, I want to see our film industry flourishing. Besides my career, I'm very serious about the industry's betterment. As one of my films is going to be released after a long pause, I'm expecting more than before. I hope that the audience will receive "Rajneeti" warmly.

What are your career plans now that you are back in film industry?

Apu Biswas: My focus is on getting back in shape, after the birth of my first child. I'll dive in to films again when I feel fit. Besides, I'm taking some time off to look after my baby boy. So all in all, I am just getting everything in place to get back to work. I cannot stay away from films too long.

You must be getting offers for new films?

Apu Biswas: Oh, I am flooded with film offers, but I'm not looking to sign anything right now. I am just focusing on getting back in good shape. Offers will come, and I will have the chance to select those I like.

How are promotions going for "Rajneeti"?

Apu Biswas: I am putting all my efforts to promote "Rajneeti" at the moment. I plan to attend different TV talk shows, do press interviews and be active in social media like Facebook for the promotions.

Can you tell us a little about your role in "Rajneeti"?

Apu Biswas: I don't want to reveal my role right now, but I can promise that the audience will see me in a new light in the film.

What else keeps you busy?

Apu Biswas: I mostly just stay home taking care of my boy. I also go to the gym every day. That's pretty much all that's going on.



PHOTO: SHEIKH WEHEDI MORSHED

"I have a particular fondness for animated films" ...Nazia Haque Orsha

ROBINA RASHID BHUIYAN

Television actor Nazia Haque Orsha has gained much popularity over the years, as well as notable acclaim for her roles, particularly in the mega-serial "Saatkahon". Her path to success would not have been possible without her dedication and hard-work, and The Daily Star reached out to the busy actor for a chat about her moments of respite.

What do you love doing during week-ends?

Orsha: I prefer to stay in and watch movies, or listen to music. I have a particular fondness for animated films. **If you could be anyone for a day, who would it be?**

Orsha: That would be my younger sister! We are extremely close, and know each other best.

What do you usually have for breakfast?
Orsha: I normally don't eat much in the morning. My breakfast staples are limited to fruit, oatmeal, eggs, and milk.

What songs have you been listening to lately?

Orsha: I love folk songs. Some of my favourite artistes are Paban Das Baul and Parvati Baul.

What are you currently working on?

Orsha: Right now I am working on a TV series for Banglavison titled "Ful Mohol." It's directed by Shokal Ahmed, and we are still shooting for the drama.

NEWS bytes

"Wonder Woman" banned in Lebanon

Lebanon has officially banned the Warner Bros. DC super-hero movie "Wonder Woman", just hours before the film was set to premiere in Beirut.

The decision was made by the Lebanese government, taking issue with the fact that the film's lead star, Gal Gadot, is Israeli and served in the military (all Israeli citizens serve in the military). Lebanon is officially at war with Israel.

The move isn't expected to make much of a dent at the box office. The movie was only scheduled to play in 15 locations. It is tracking to open domestically at \$87 million and is expected to do brisk business overseas.

The ban was decided by a six-member Ministry of Economy committee. The film's Lebanese premiere was scheduled on Wednesday evening (a sneak preview took place the day before as planned).

Source: THR



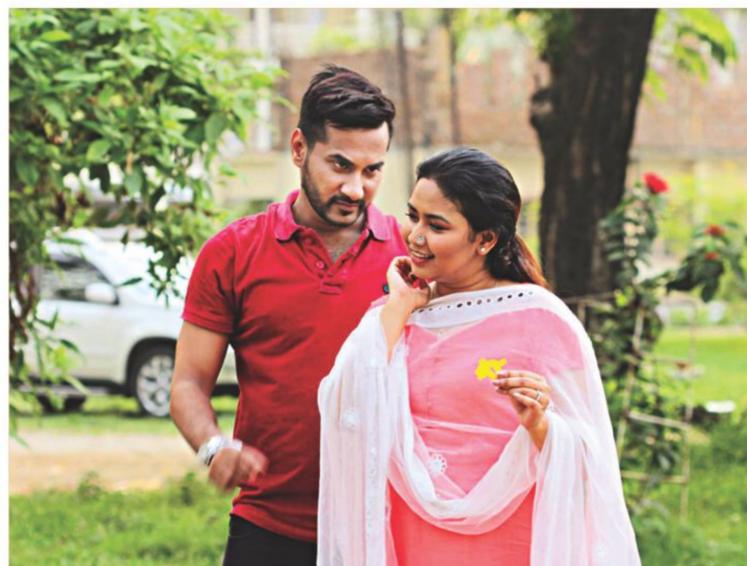
Bhabna and Shajal get set to gamble

A CORRESPONDENT

Popular small screen stars Shajal and Bhabna will pair up for a new venture, directed by Zahir Raihan. Titled "Baaji", the play will be released under the banner "Ghashphoring" and is slated to air during Eid. Actor Ananta Hira is also

appearing in the play in a special role.

Scripted by Maru Chatterjee, the romantic narrative zooms in on a couple who bet each other on everything, culminating in interesting outcomes. Shooting for the play will take place in various locations around the capital.



Salman to reprise both his roles in "Judwaa" sequel

"Judwaa 2", starring Varun Dhawan, Taapsee Pannu and Jacqueline Fernandez, is all set to release in theatres on September 29. Ever since filmmaker David Dhawan announced the sequel to the 1997 hit-film "Judwaa", several reports suggested that superstar Salman Khan will be making a cameo appearance in the film. The 51-year-old actor, who featured in dual role opposite Karisma Kapoor and Rambha in that film, will reportedly be seen in the climax scene of "Judwaa 2".

"Salman will appear as both Raja and Prem, his twin characters from the film who have aged by 20 years. His twin characters will come face-to-face with Varun's double role, possibly bantering in the climax scene," mid-day quoted a source as saying.

"The team recently wrapped up the London schedule. They will begin the final leg of shoot in Mumbai next month with Salman joining them for a few hours," a source told mid-day.

In an earlier interview to Mumbai Mirror, director David Dhawan said that the Dabangg actor is 'all heart'. "Salman is all heart. When

we need him, he'll be there," Mumbai Mirror quoted the 61-year-old filmmaker as saying. "It's a surprise, let it remain a surprise. People will be happy with it. All I can say is we are working on it. We are all aware it's a big responsibility and we will try and do our best," he added.

"Judwaa 2" also features Anupam Kher in a pivotal role.

Salman Khan was last seen in 2016 movie "Sultan", co-starring Anushka Sharma. He is currently prepping for the release of his film "Tubelight", directed by Kabir Khan. The film also stars Chinese actress Zhu Zhu and Sohail Khan. "Tubelight", which is set in the 1962 Sino-Indian War, is scheduled to release in theatres on June 23.

After "Tubelight", Salman Khan will feature in Ali Abbas Zafar's "Tiger Zinda Hai" along with Katrina Kaif. The film is a sequel to 2012 movie "Ek Tha Tiger". Salman will be seen reprising the role of Tiger, a RAW agent. "Tiger Zinda Hai" is slated to release on Christmas.

Source: NDTV Movies

Coachella 2018 dates announced

Beyoncé officially has her first tour dates for 2018 set: Coachella just announced its festival dates for next year. The two-weekend music and arts festival will take place from Friday, April 13, through Sunday, April 15, and Friday April 20 through Sunday, April 22, respectively.

"Queen B" was originally a 2017 Coachella headliner, but after announcing that she's pregnant with twins in February, she had to cancel her appearance, despite delivering a show-stopping performance at the Grammys. To make up for her unexpected cancellation, Beyoncé signed on as a headliner for 2018.

Because of Beyoncé's move, fans who plan to attend next year's fest already know one headliner they'll get to see, which isn't typically the case with Coachella. Even with line-ups being announced long after tickets go on sale, passes sell out at a rapid pace -- so with someone like Beyoncé confirmed for the bill, they will probably vanish fast. Advance tickets for Coachella 2018 will be available starting today. Coachella, officially the Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival, is held annually at the Empire Polo Club in Indio, California, and is one of the biggest music festivals in the world. The lineup of the festival remains identical for the two weekends. Since its inception in 1999, Coachella has hosted some of the biggest stars of world music, and in the last four years has had a daily average attendance in excess of 90,000.

Source: Pitchfork



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