

<p>WHAT'S ON</p>	<p>Solo Art Exhibition Title: Deyaal - Solo Exhibition by Farhana Afroz Bappy Venue: Jatra Biroti, Banani Date: Dec 2 - 15 Time: 11 am - 9 pm</p>	<p>Musical Soiree Title: Tubes & Wires, A Jazz Music Concert Venue: Experimental Theatre Hall, BSA Date: Today Time: 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm Register at:</p>	<p>Group Art Exhibition Title: Winning With Art Venue: Bay's Galleria, Gulshan 1 Date: Dec 1 - Dec 31 Time: 10 am - 6 pm</p>	<p>Photography Exhibition Title: American Landscape - A Photography Exhibition by Shibly Shiraj Venue: EMK Center Date: December 8 - December 20 Time: 9:30 am - 8 pm</p>	<p>Drummers' Union Title: Bangladesh Drum Day Venue: Russian Cultural Center Date: December 7 Time: 3:30 pm - 10:30 pm</p>
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The cast and crew of 'Project Omni'.

PHOTO: KAZI SALAHUDDIN RAZU

ASADUZZAMAN NOOR returns to cinema

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

After a hiatus of 11 years from the silver screen, Minister of Cultural Affairs Asaduzzaman Noor is prepping for a comeback. He will be seen portraying the role of a politician in *Gangchil*, the cinematic adaptation of Awami League General Secretary, Obaidul Quader's novel by the same name. His last film appearance was in 2007, in Humayun Ahmed's *Daruchini Dwip*, and now he will make a special appearance in *Gangchil*.

Asaduzzaman Noor confirmed his role in the film adding that he is yet to read the novel. Since the general election is around the corner, he is rather busy with the proceedings. Hence, the actor-turned-politician will feature in just two scenes of the film.

Apart from Asaduzzaman Noor, Ferdous, Purnima and West Bengal's Rituparna Sengupta will also star in the film.

Cyberpunk debuts in the country with PROJECT OMMI

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After his first feature film *Udhao* and web series *Kali*, young director Amit Ashraf announced his new film, *Project Omni*, a cyberpunk sci-fi thriller set in the not-too-distant future in the ship graveyards of Bangladesh. This film is the first of its kind in the country. It takes its inspiration from a

successful campaign of an international charity called Terre des Hommes, where an AI child was designed to expose criminals operating in the 'Darknet'. It also deals with moral dilemmas and how human beings relate to artificial intelligence.

The main leads of the film, Shaan Rahman and Kazi Istela Imam, went through a tough regime to portray their

characters. "I followed a plan of six meals a day to gain weight and stamina for the action scenes," says Shaan. Graphic designer Istella makes her film debut with *Project Omni*. "Through the process, I learnt a lot about myself and my limitations," she says. Child artiste and sci-fi enthusiast Kayaan Hossain, who plays Omni, is the heart and soul of the film.

"I had fun but it is hard to be a robot for a long time," laughs Kayaan.

For the project, Amit Ashraf and his team reached out to the audience for crowd funding through Kickstarter, which is a great way to connect to not just people in Bangladesh, but around the globe. "We will also come up with a graphic novel and an augmented reality app," informs Ashraf.



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

Google to honour TAREQUE MASUD

This coming December 6, Google will pay tribute to late filmmaker Tareque Masud on his 62nd birthday with a commemorative doodle that will appear globally on its home page.



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Catherine Masud expressed her gratitude to Google for honouring her late husband's memory. "It brings me great joy to have Tareque Masud's legacy recognised by Google," she said, "Tareque was a visionary and a pioneer of Bangladeshi cinema, an inspiring figure for young people in his own country and beyond. Although he made films for the people of Bangladesh, his films also spoke to the world through their universal themes of tolerance, compassion and justice."

Also launching in December will be a new book on Tareque Masud, titled *Cholochitra Kotha*. This book contains an inspiring collection of Masud's lectures and interviews, through which Masud's ideas about the role of cinema in society are elaborated. The book will be published by Kotha Prakash, in partnership with the Tareque Masud Memorial Trust. It has been edited by Catherine Masud, Proshoon Rahman, Belayet Mamun, and Aftab Hossain.



Thousands of people from all walks of life paid their final respects to legendary photographer Anwar Hossain, who passed away on December 1. Eminent personalities, including Shahidul Alam (Left photo) placed wreaths on his body.

M A Taher's 'Boats of Bangladesh' at Shilpakala

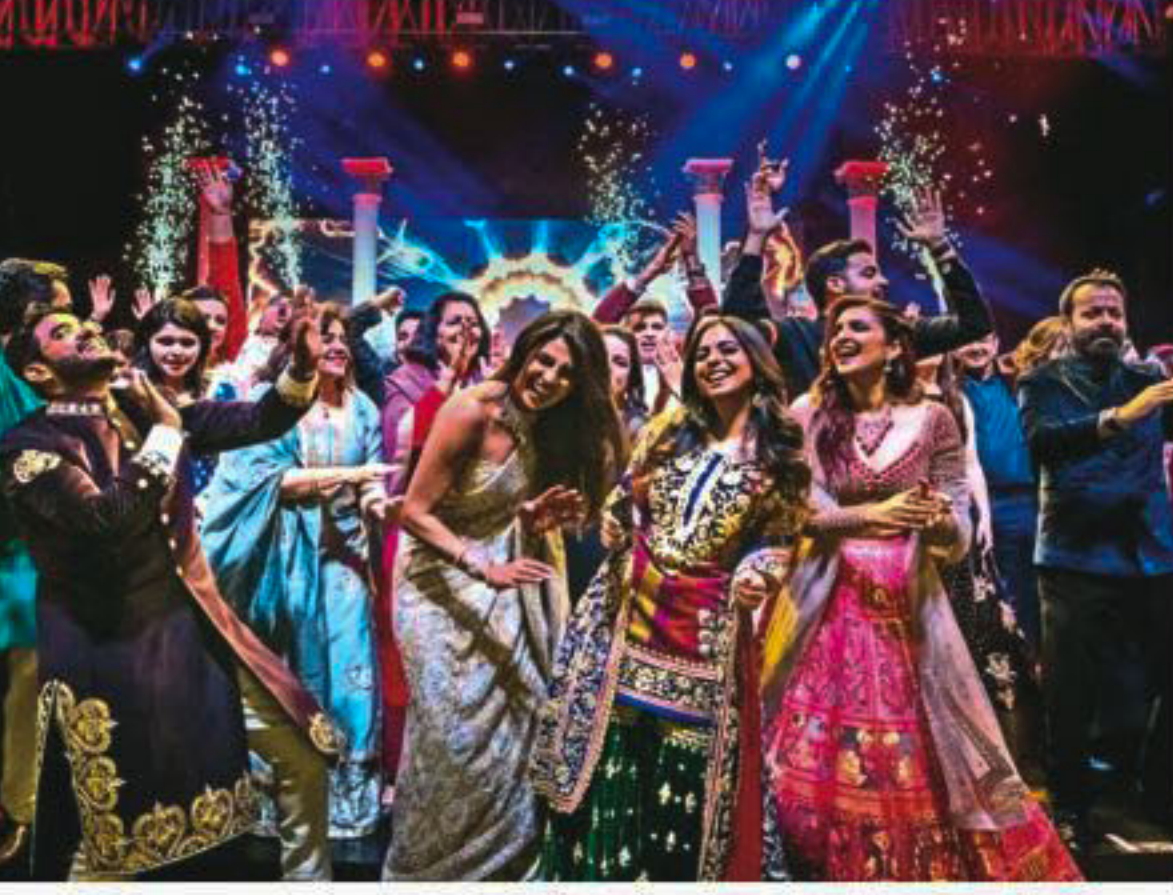
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"The history of boats were captured through the camera of artist M A Taher. Boats appeared to be a great weapon for us during the Liberation War of Bangladesh. Freedom fighters with the help of boatmen carried out many operations through boats. So boats have become an integral part of our history," said renowned artist Hashem Khan, while inaugurating the solo photography exhibition titled, *Boats of Bangladesh*, by MA Taher on December 1.

The fortnight long exhibition, held at the Gallery No 1 of the National Art Gallery of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA), was organised to mark the 47th Victory Day of Bangladesh. Professor Harun-or-Rashid, Vice-Chancellor of National University, renowned cultural personality Ramendu Majumdar and eminent historian, Professor Muntasir Mamun, attended the event as special guests. Ashraf Alam Paplu, Director of the Department of Fine Art, BSA, delivered the welcome address while Liaquat Ali Lucky, Director General of BSA, presided over the programme. Apart from the featured photographer, internationally renowned artists Monirul Islam and Jamal Ahmed were present among others at the opening ceremony.

"Boats, as a part of our art and culture, symbolise the rising of our national power. Boats are also the symbol of our advancement and progress," said Professor Harun-or-Rashid.

The show, opening daily from 11am to 8 pm, will run until December 16.



PRIYANKA CHOPRA & NICK JONAS' extravagant 'sangeet' night at Jodhpur

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International superstar Priyanka Chopra and American singer-songwriter Nick Jonas had their picturesque sangeet ceremony at the Umaid Bhawan Palace in Jodhpur, India this week. The bride and groom's family and friends performed quite competitively in turns, in what looks like a royal music and dance concert combining Indian and North American flavours.



PHOTO: COURTESY