



PHOTO: COLLECTED

# In memory of Subir Nandi

AFSANA AZIZ NITOL

Deceased Ekushey Padak winning singer Subir Nandi was remembered at a commemorative programme yesterday, at the National Theatre Hall of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA). Presided over by BSA Director General Liaquat Ali Lucky, State Minister for Cultural Affairs KM Khalid attended the event as the chief guest, while noted singer Sabina Yasmin was present as the special guest.

BSA organised the event to pay tribute to the musical icon, in the presence of many singers, artistes, lyricists and Subir Nandi's fans. Musician Syed Abdul Hadi also spoke fondly about Subir Nandi at the event.

Subir Nandi's daughter and wife were also present. "It has only been a few days since Baba passed away," said Subir Nandi's daughter, Falguni Nandi. "I used to come to Shilpakala with him. Now that he's not with us, I am not sure when I will be coming here next." She further added that the last few moments with her father were the hardest for her. She also requested everyone to support artistes across the country, while they are alive. Young musicians, including the likes of Sabbir, Rafat, Parvez and Konal among others were also present. Singer Konal talked about the legacy that Subir Nandi has left behind, describing him as not only a mentor but a father figure to emerging musicians.



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

## "I absolutely love being in front of the camera" – Apurba



SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Prominent actor Apurba has a rather hectic schedule during Eid with his long list of tele-fictions. He is busy shooting almost every day. We caught up with him to find out more about his work and Eid plans. Do you enjoy having such a busy schedule, especially with Eid nearing by the day?

I stay pretty busy throughout the year, but the projects that I work on for Eid are truly special. I absolutely love being in front of the camera and I am dedicated to the work that I do. So, I enjoy every moment on the sets.

As you are busy completing multiple shoots, what does a typical day look like for you right now?

Well, I am working full swing in the month of Ramadan. Consequently, many of my shoots are completed late at night. There have been times when I went home at six in the morning, after pack up. It's a lot of hard work, but I love it.

Tell us a little about the Eid projects that your fans should look forward to.

I am shooting in Pubail for Shihab Shaheen's tele-fiction, *Ek Hridayehina*. Shihab Shaheen is a brilliant director and I am really excited about teaming up with him. I do not want to reveal much about it, but I hope that my fans enjoy the story.

Do you have any plans of teaming up with your son for a television project any time soon?

I worked with my son last year on a tele-fiction directed by Shihab Shaheen. We received quite a good response for that, but as of now, I have no such plans.

How will you be spending Eid-ul-Fitr this year?

I will be spending Eid with my friends and family in Dhaka, and I am looking forward to lots of *adda* and good food.

PHOTO: STAR

## Remembering PILU MOMTAZ on her 8th death anniversary

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Today marks the 8th death anniversary of pop singer Pilu Momtaz, who was the third of renowned artiste Ustad Momtaz Ali's seven children. She launched her career in the newly independent Bangladesh. Pilu Momtaz, along with her peers -- Azam Khan, Ferdous Wahid, Fakir Alamgir and Najma Zaman -- initiated "Bangla Pop" that attained mass popularity.

The sensational singer's mega-hits include *Ekdin Tho Choley Jabo*, *Chara Gaachh-e Phool Phuitachhey*, *Majhi Nao Chhaira Dey*, a Jasimuddin song, *Rita Choley Jao Na* and others. Her covers of familiar folk songs *Orey Sampanwala* and *Nani Go Nani* augmented her fame. Her last stage performance was a chorus with Ferdous Wahid and Fakir

Alamgir at the 2010 Citycell-Channel i Music Awards programme. The trio dedicated their performance of the classics, *Ek Second-er Nai Bhorosha* to their late friend, singer Firoz Shai.

Pilu Momtaz was a treat to the ears and eyes both on TV and stage. Her impassioned vocals dominated the radio waves as well. Critics and music enthusiasts observe that the contemporary Bangladeshi female Pop artistes are knowingly and unknowingly were influenced by the style that Pilu Momtaz pioneered.

She died of a heart attack in 2011 at the age of 52, and was buried at Banani graveyard, next to her father's grave. She left behind her husband Lieutenant Colonel Anwaruzzaman, their only daughter Homayra Zaman Mou and thousands of fans and well-wishers.

## Team of 'Mission Extreme' returns from Dubai

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

After successfully completing the shoot in Dubai, the cast and crew of the upcoming film *Mission Extreme* returned to Dhaka recently. The team, which comprised of Arifin Shuvo, Sadia Nabila and Fazlur Rahman Babu among others, shot for five consecutive days across sixteen different locations, in one of the most attractive regions in the Middle East.

However, when the unit had to shoot action sequences on the sandy dunes for two days, no one was spared from the harsh conditions of the desert. The team received assistance from local stuntmen and actors in order to complete the shoot on time. The shooting was co-ordinated by a Bangladeshi businessman in Dubai named Kaziv Gulshan Ara. Additional support was also provided by the Bangladesh consulate along with another Dubai-based



organisation.

Directed by Faisal Ahmed, who was the main Assistant Director of *Dhaka Attack*, the first film focusing on the special police force, *Mission Extreme* follows

as the second. Sunny Sanwar is behind the script, screenplay and dialogue of *Mission Extreme*, where the lives of expatriate Bangladeshis residing in Dubai plays an integral part. The makers

feel that it will connect with the audience in an unprecedented manner. The film is currently in its post-production stage and if all goes well, it is expected to release by the end of this year.



PHOTOS: COURTESY

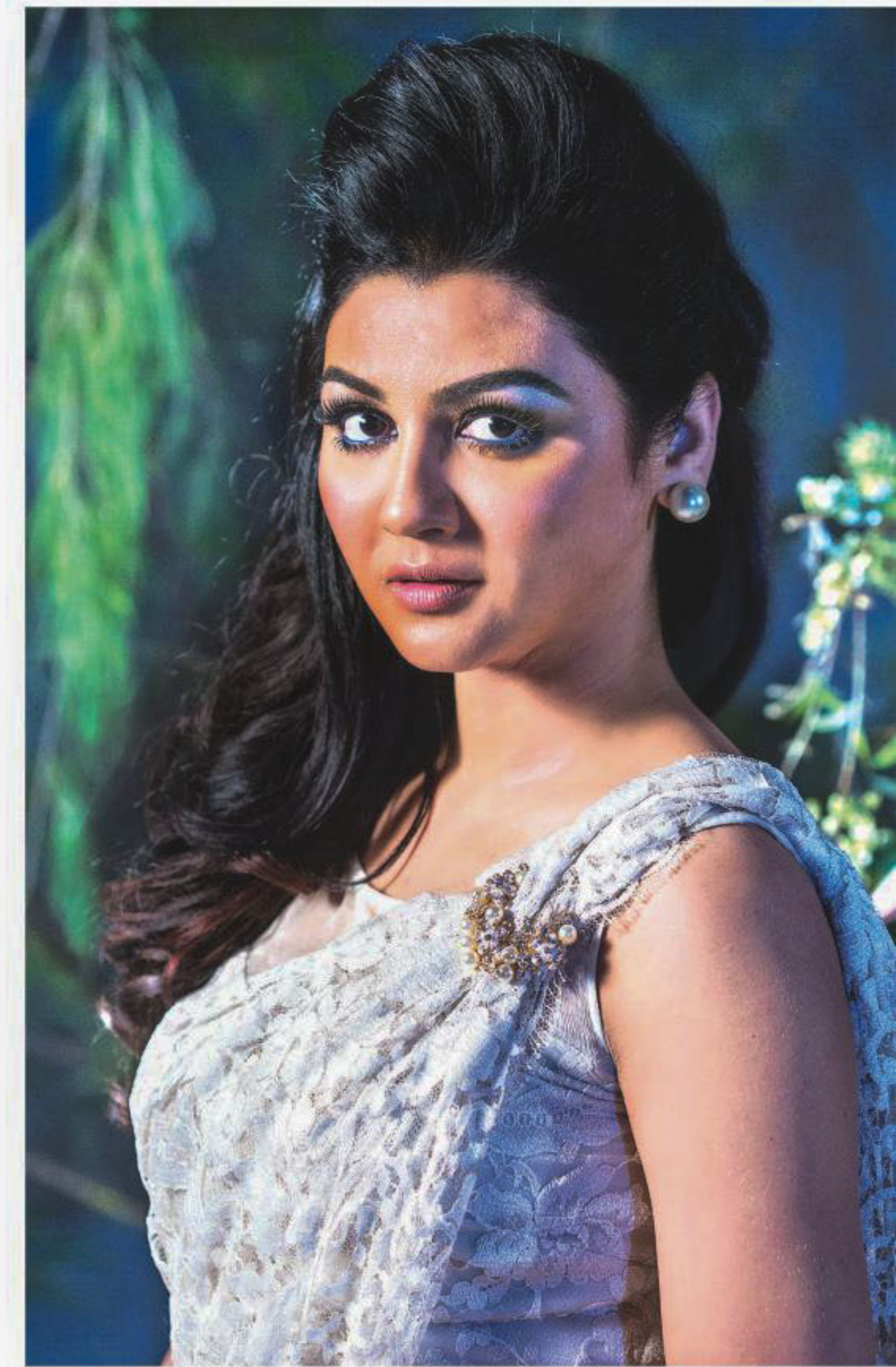


PHOTO: STAR

## 'Serial killer' JAYA AHSAN

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Jaya Ahsan, who has garnered immense popularity in the entertainment industries of both Bangladesh and West Bengal, is set to play the role of a serial killer in the upcoming Indian ZEE5 web series, *Troyilokyo*, directed by Indian filmmaker Arindam Sil. The series, set in the mid-19th century, will be a bilingual project, produced in both Bangla and Hindi. The shooting of *Troyilokyo* will begin right before Durga Puja.