

Blade Runner actor RUTGER HAUER passes away at 75

Rutger Hauer, the renowned humanoid android from the 1982 sci-fi classic *Blade Runner*, passed away recently at his Dutch home. The announcement was made on Hauer's non-profit HIV/AIDS charity, the Rutger Hauer Starfish Association's website. On the 30th anniversary of the film's release in 2012, Hauer told reporters in Milan that it "was completely delicious to work on. I can't even fathom how it feels to be alive and an icon basically because of this movie". The recipient of many awards, Hauer was also a noted campaigner for HIV/Aids research and set up his own association in 2000, in addition to his work as an environmentalist.

SOURCE: AFP



Sariful Razz



Yash Rohan



Raihan Rafi

Raihan Rafi to begin shooting for 'Poran' from next month

MINAM HAQ

After presenting the audience with enticing films like *Poramon 2* and *Dohon*, director Raihan Rafi is set to begin shooting for his latest venture, *Poran*, from August 1. According to the director, the plot of the story is about a love triangle. Raihan, who likes to work with the relatively new talents in the industry, as he did in *Poramon 2*, will be featuring Yash Rohan and Sariful Razz, along with Bidya Sinha Saha Mim, as the titular characters of the film.

"This film will be a treat for those who admire the scenic beauty surrounding the village lifestyle, as it will focus on similar aspects," informed Raihan. "*Poran* will also shed light on the way politics plays a major role in the rural areas, and how some try to take advantage of it." The team has been prepping for some time now and will commence the shoot in Mymensingh from next month onwards.

"The moment I learnt that *Poran* will be directed by Raihan Rafi, who is an amazing director to work with, I was absolutely ready for it. I knew right then and there that this will be a promising project," expressed Yash. "I am also excited to work with Mim and Sariful for the first time."



Bidya Sinha Mim

PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED



PHOTO: STAR

Books by Bangladeshi authors to be locally published in Kolkata

SUBRATA ACHARYA, from Kolkata

Recently, Patra Bharati, a publication house in Kolkata and Onno Prokash, a book publisher in Dhaka, signed an agreement, according to which books of renowned Bangladeshi writers such as Humayun Ahmed, Imdadul Haque Milon and Selina

Hossain and popular Indian authors such as Sunil Gangopadhyay and Shirshendu Mukhopadhyay among others, will be available to bookworms in both the Bengals.

Onno Prokash will locally publish books by noted Indian writers in Bangladesh, while Patra Bharati will locally publish books by celebrated Bangladeshi writers

in Kolkata. According to Tridib Kumar Chattopadhyay, who operates Patra Bharati, this initiative was taken to meet the ever-growing demand of Bangladeshi books in Kolkata. Chattopadhyay is also the General Secretary of the Publishers & Booksellers Guild, the organiser of the International Kolkata Book Fair.

KALO MEGHER BHELA releases today

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Kalo Megher Bhela will be released today at Star Cineplex and Blockbuster Cinema, Jamuna Future Park. Written by renowned poet Nirmalendu Goon,

the children's film was made with the help of a government grant. This is Mrittika Goon's first directorial venture, and features Runa Khan and child artist Apon as the central characters.



PHOTO: COURTESY

'Shokuntola' staged at NSU

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

North South University Cine and Drama Club (NSUCDC) staged *Shokuntola*, written by the great poet Kalidas, at the university auditorium recently. This was the first time a Bangladeshi private university staged a Sanskrit play. Translated by Jyoti Bhushan Chaki, the play was directed by Atiqlul Islam. The event was moderated by Jamil Ahmed, Director of Public Relations Office, NSU.

The program was inaugurated by Benajir Ahmed, Chairman, Board of Trustees, NSU. Professor Atiqlul Islam, Vice Chancellor, NSU was in attendance. Prolific playwright and founder-faculty advisor of NSUCDC, Abdus Selim and current faculty advisor and Director of Student Affairs, Parisa Shakur, were present at the programme.

PHOTO: COURTESY

