



Views no longer concern me

POLASH

ASHLEY SHOPTORSHI SAMADDAR

A shaken, intimidated and terrified Kabila standing behind bars, waiting to discover what fate has in store for him – this is how Ziaul Hoque Polash appeared for the last time on “Bachelor Point” season 3. While the future of the series was left in limbo with such a conclusion, Polash decided to take a little time to reappear on screen, experimenting with his strengths to absorb Kabila’s dilemmas and anxiety.

The actor is finally back on screen as Kabila on Bangla Vision and Dhruba TV, waiting to showcase a different shade of the celebrated comic character for his fans.

We caught up with Polash over the phone while he was shooting in Chattogram to know about his expectations from the upcoming season of “Bachelor Point”, forthcoming OTT releases, and directorial ventures in progress.

“For season 4, we were looking to break our own barriers,” says Polash. “It not only offers new characters, but also projects the old ones with a new spin. Kajal Arefin Ome, the director, leads us and we always choose to trust his vision.”

After garnering much praise for Adnan Al Rajeev’s web film “YouTumor” and Shankha Dasgupta directorial web series “Boli”, Polash seems to be rather happy with his OTT track record. “OTTs facilitate longer time for us actors to absorb our characters, offer better budget and also provide scope to practice our art form in a manner that we enjoy performing,” he adds.

He is set to appear in Taneem Rahman Angshu’s debut web series “Tirondaj”, in a completely new attire.

“Angshu came to me with a challenge, and he also gave me the floor to explore freely, especially when it came to fixing

my look for the production,” mentions Polash. “He even studied the gestures that I usually present on the screen, and guided me to work against them as he wanted to showcase a completely new Polash in this project.”

The actor currently aims at delivering exclusive characters on the screen for his viewers, and believes that OTT offers him the ground to do so.

“Each character has its own exclusivity and I want roles that have their own persona, body language, and ideology,”

“Each character has its own exclusivity and I want roles that have their own persona, body language, and ideology,” asserts Polash, who is currently busy with selected TVC shoots alongside his OTT ventures. “Repeating similar characters often leads to an actor being typecast.

Going against the tide, I look to building a stronger brand value, rather than being just a common product with lesser exclusivity to offer to his choosers.”

Even as a director, Polash found success with his venture, “Revenge”. The tele-fiction starred Afran Nisho and Tasnia Farin, Polash is looking to craft another fiction for the upcoming Eid al-Fitr. He also plans to release his first web series this year during the Eid al-Adha.

While speaking about his way forward, Polash also shared his perception of fame and how he is against the trending ‘benchmark’ that evaluates one’s capabilities with the number of views.

“Unlike when I was younger, views are no longer of concern to me. Rather, being able to touch the audience with my work is what matters the most,” he concludes.



Chorki dominates Channel i Digital Media Awards with 8 wins

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Popular streaming platform Chorki won eight awards at the second edition of the “Channel i Digital Media Awards”. Snac Keeper was the title sponsor of the event.

Chorki’s “Khachar Bhor Ochin Pakhi” won the Best Web Film award, while Mizanur Rahman Aryan received the Best Web Film Director award for the Chorki original film, “Networker Baire.” Fazlur Rahman Babu and Tama Mirza won the awards for Best Actor and Actress in a Web Film for “Khachar Bhor Ochin Pakhi”.

SCAN QR CODE FOR FULL STORY



Netflix release date for ‘Gangubai Kathiawadi’ confirmed

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

After crossing the Rs 100 crore mark, Sanjay Leela Bhansali’s “Gangubai Kathiawadi”, starring Alia Bhatt, will be streaming on Netflix soon.

According to reports, the makers have decided to premiere the film on the streaming platform after it runs for eight weeks in cinemas.

In the post-pandemic era, Indian multiplexes have agreed to let films arrive on streaming platforms within four weeks till normalcy kicks in.

COUNTRYWIDE

Dealing with hurdle for 3 decades Villagers use a bamboo bridge that they built themselves on self-help basis in every two to three years

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Piroipur

Several thousand residents of Pashchim Baniary village under Matibhanga union in Piroipur’s Nazirpur upazila have kept their communication alive by crossing the nearly dead Baleshwar river using a bamboo bridge that the villagers themselves first built over three decades ago.

Locals said although nearly five thousand people including children and students of different institutions use the 300-metre-long bridge daily, no step has been taken to build a permanent bridge there.

Villagers voluntarily render their labour to build the makeshift bridge that connects Pashchim Baniary village and Bawalipara village in Chitalmari upazila of Bagerhat.

“We using the bamboo bridge to cross the wide dead river for over 30 years,” one of the villagers Robin Baroi said.

After collecting bamboo and

wooden logs from villagers they voluntarily build the bridge on self-help basis in every two to three years, he said, adding that this year they were planning to make a new bridge reducing the length of the bridge.

As it is quite difficult to make the 300-metre bridge, they are reducing the length of the bridge by filling earth on either side of the dead river, another local Profulla Ojha said.

Villagers said most of them have to use the bamboo bridge to go to Khasherhat in Chitalmari upazila for different purposes as it is much closer than Nazirpur upazila headquarters, he said.

“Huge quantity of seasonal vegetables are grown here as most of the residents of our village depend on agriculture,” another villager Gourango Roy said, adding that they face serious difficulties while carrying their produce to Chitalmari using the shaky bridge.

The situation turns more worsen during the rainy season as the

approach roads also get muddy and slippery then, he said.

Moreover, hundreds of students of the locality are compel to use the makeshift bridge every day amid risk of accidents as almost all the secondary level educational institutions are located on the other side of the river.

Local union parishad (UP) member Kamalash Mondal said, “We have urged the authorities concerned on several occasions to build a permanent bridge over the river, but they never cared about our sufferings as the bridge is located on the border line of two neighbouring districts.”

When asked, Matibhanga UP Chairman Jahidul Islam Bilu said Fisheries and Livestock Minister SM Rezaul Karim, also lawmaker from Piroipur-1 constituency, gave a demi official (DO) letter to the chief engineer of Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) for constructing a bridge on Reinforce Cement Concrete (RCC) girder in place of the makeshift one.

Scientists reverse ageing in mice

FROM PAGE 12
into undifferentiated stem cells.

In the current study, published on Monday in

the journal Nature Ageing, scientists tested variations of the cellular rejuvenation approach in healthy animals as they aged.

In one group of mice, researchers from the Salk Institute in the US, added doses of the Yamanaka factors from the time

they were 15 months old until 22 months – approximately equivalent to age 50 through 70 in humans.

Democratic process behind development

FROM PAGE 12

would be able to take it backwards anymore.

Mentioning that the country faced a problem during Covid-19 pandemic, the premier said there is another new problem due to the situation created by the war between Ukraine and Russia.

“So, we are in another abnormal situation... Fuel prices are going up and various problems have surfaced in the international arena. We are also facing some problems. But I believe that we can overcome this in Bangladesh.”

The PM asked the

expatriates to tell their families and relatives back home not to leave any land uncultivated to attain food autarky even in case of any global food crisis.

Describing her government’s development activities, Hasina said there is no scope for anyone to remain unemployed in the country unless he or she wishes to. “If anyone takes a little initiative, the person will not remain unemployed.”

The premier asked the overseas job seekers not to go abroad through illegal channels. She advised them to take loans from

the Probashi Kallyan Bank instead of selling their land to meet migration expenses.

Hasina urged the expatriates to abide by the rules and laws abroad to uphold Bangladesh’s image. “You’ve to protect your own dignity, ensure your own security, and uphold the dignity of both home and host countries.”

About the demands put forward by expatriates, she said the government has taken steps to ensure prompt passport services for them, and to strengthen surveillance to stop harassment at Bangladesh’s airports by

installing more closed circuit cameras.

Hasina said problems over luggage delivery services at the Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport would be over once the ongoing construction work of the third terminal is completed.

During the event, the PM virtually unveiled the foundation stone of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Building of the Bangladesh English Private School and College.

Expatriates Welfare and Overseas Employment Minister Imran Ahmad also spoke at the programme.

Bangladeshi dies, another injured

FROM PAGE 12

heart disease, they added.

“The fire broke out at Rahbar Guest House on Mirza Ghalib Street under New Market police station around 4:00am today [yesterday]. Three guests were injured and the rest 16 were rescued,” Kolkata police said in a release.

Samimatul died after being taken to SSKM Hospital, it said.

The injured Bangladeshi,

Mehtab Alam, 42, was undergoing treatment at the hospital with 25 percent burns on his body, said hospital sources.

Officials from the Bangladesh deputy high commission in Kolkata and police visited the hospital.

Among the two other injured is Mainul Huq of West Bengal’s Murshidabad.

The receptionist at the guesthouse said the fire

started from the reception on the first floor of the building and it spread to other rooms.

Samimatul’s daughter-in-law Sharmin Akhtar Jahan said one of their relatives from West Bengal’s Malda district informed them about the incident.

“We are all shocked by the death of my mother-in-law who went to India for treatment,” she said.

Sarafat Hossain, son

of the deceased, said his mother and uncle visited a doctor on Friday and they were supposed to return home after seeing another physician within two or three days.

Family members expected that Samimatul’s body would be brought home by today or tomorrow.

Our Chapainawabganj correspondent Rabiul Hasan contributed to this report.

Father finds son only to see him die

FROM PAGE 12

grieving father told reporters.

“I heard it because I was working nearby,” Mainul said.

“As the workers dug deeper, the wall collapsed with a loud bang around 2.30pm. Me and the other workers went running

towards the scene. Moments later, we heard cries from below the collapsed wall.”

“After a worker was rescued, I could see my son. He was lying face down. The wall was pressing his face down from the back of his head.”

“When we managed to rescue him, I saw him bleeding from his mouth. His teeth were broken.”

Mainul, aged 68, whose shirt was smeared with blood, kept breaking down in tears as he described the moments before his son’s death.

Mainul left home in the

morning with his son Rijalul to come to the site. “My son has two little sons. How will I return to his sons without him?”

Emran Hossain, officer-in-charge of Chandrima Police Station, said police were investigating whether the site lacked safety measures.

