



# PROMISING FILMS hopeful makers

Every year, Eid-ul-Fitr gives way to one of the most lucrative seasons for films and television. After two slow years due to the coronavirus pandemic, directors, producers, and artistes are excited to be coming up with new silver screen projects.

**SHAH ALAM SHAZU**  
Let us take a look at movies that will be released during this festive season.  
One of the most awaited films that will make it to theatres this Eid is "Golui". The Shakib Khan and Puja Chery starrer also casts Sucharita, Aliraj, Azizul Hakim, and Shubrata, among others.  
The poster, teaser, and a song from the film was released on Pahela Baishakh, creating quite the buzz. Shakib Khan's video message on social media further built excitement among his fans.  
The actor personally requested his fans to visit theatres when "Golui" comes out. The film's director, S A Haque Alik, is regularly promoting the film on social media.  
"This film radiates the essence of our culture," he shared with The Daily Star. "It not only put forwards a love story, but also showcases familial bonds and our heritage."  
Azizur Hakim plays an important role in the film. "After a long time, our audience will be able to enjoy a well-made story," he said.  
Khorshed Alam Khosru, a producer of the film, is also eagerly looking forward to this

big-budget venture.  
Puja Chery is also hopeful about "Golui". "The story, music and making of this film is promising," she mentioned. "The character I play is also well crafted."  
Bookings for 25 halls nationwide has already been confirmed, informs the

**"There is a curiosity among audiences regarding 'Shaan'. I am glad that we are finally releasing it theatrically," said Siam Ahmed. "It is a beautiful film and I believe the response will also be great."**

director. "We are looking forward to release 'Golui' in 50 theatres across the country," he adds.  
Another big budget production, "Shaan", starring Siam Ahmed and Puja Chery is also slated for release this Eid. Aruna Biswas and

Champa have pivotal roles in the film.  
The M Rahim directorial was scheduled to hit theatres this January. However, the release was put on hold due to rising Omicron cases in the country.  
Promotions for "Shaan" have now begun as the production team has announced the release of the film this Eid.  
"There is a curiosity among audiences regarding 'Shaan'. I am glad that we are finally releasing it theatrically," said Siam Ahmed. "It is a beautiful film and I believe the response will also be great."  
Fifteen cinema halls have already been finalised for "Shaan". The film is expected to release in close to 50 halls nationwide.  
Shakib Khan's "Bidrohi", where he will share the screen with Shobnom Bubly, is another much-awaited Eid release.  
"New films bring about a lot of love from our fans. The fact that 'Bidrohi' is releasing on Eid is a matter of celebration," shared Bubly. "I request everyone to come and watch this film in theatres."  
Giasuddin Selim's "Paap Punno", which is set to hit theatres around Eid, will be released across 20 halls nationwide.

## Safa Kabir's 'Touch' to arrive this Eid



Safa Kabir is currently busy with numerous television projects for Eid- Ul-Fitr. She will be starring alongside Farhan Ahmed Jovan in "Touch", directed by Mahmudur Rahman Hime.  
The tele-fiction revolves around a university student. Safa came up with the concept for the story herself. She developed the idea during lockdown, and shared it with the director.  
The cinematography of "Touch" is handled by Raju Raj.

## 'Thor: Love and Thunder' teaser reveals Natalie Portman as new Thor

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK



Marvel Studios has revealed the first teaser for "Thor: Love and Thunder".  
In the movie, Thor (Chris Hemsworth) embarks on a journey unlike any he's ever undertaken: a quest for inner peace. However, his retirement is cut short by a galactic assassin known as Gorr the God Butcher (Christian Bale), who desires the annihilation of the gods.  
To Thor's amazement, his ex-girlfriend Jane Foster (Natalie Portman), wields his mystical hammer, Mjolnir, as the Mighty Thor.  
Directed by Taika Waititi from a script written by him and Jennifer Kaytin Robinso, "Thor: Love and Thunder" will arrive on July 8, 2022, in theatres, worldwide.

# COUNTRYWIDE

## It's just ward councilor's thuggery



A ward councilor of Basail municipality in Tangail is allegedly cutting cropland in the name of the development of a road albeit he has no permission to do so.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

A ward councilor of Basail municipality in Tangail has excavated earth from roadside paddy fields in the name of the development of a road, farmers alleged. However, the road development project has yet to be officially approved.  
HM Ershad Alam, councilor of ward no 9, has also issued threats that whoever tries to lodge a complaint against the move will be taught a lesson.  
According to the municipality and locals of the ward, a tender notice was published in newspapers on March 24 for dumping earth for constructing a 300-metre dirt road from Bornikishori to Akhtar's house in ward no 9 under the "T-Ten" project. The cost of the work was estimated at Tk 31.45 lakh.  
Councilor Ershad's nephew Arif Miah's Sharmin Enterprise got the work through the lottery. Following this, the councilor declared that

they have got the road construction work and there is government instruction to take soil from both sides of the road. If the land is not given, lawsuits will be filed against them.  
A few days after the announcement, Ershad started cutting the soil from Boro paddy fields with an excavator.  
The farmers urged that the soil be cut after harvesting the paddy. However, he did not pay heed to their pleas, they said.  
"They have destroyed our paddy fields. How can I run my family? Won't we get anything from the government?" questioned farmer Abdur Rashid.  
However, the ward commissioner could not be reached for his comment.  
Basail Upazila Agriculture Officer Nazneen Akhter said, "We will not be able to compensate the farmers. However, if the aggrieved farmers apply for compensation to the upazila nibarhi officer (UNO), we can

estimate the amount of loss as per the instructions of the UNO."  
Basail municipality Engineer (Additional Responsibility) Mosharrar Hossain said, "I don't know who cut the soil from cropland. Sharmin Enterprise has won the lottery in the tender. Papers have been sent to the higher authorities as per rules. There is no legal relationship between soil cutting with the tender. If anyone cuts the soil then it is his own responsibility."  
Basail municipality Mayor Abdur Rahim Ahmed said that he has received no complaint so far about cutting off the earth from croplands.  
"We did not place any work orders. If someone throws dirt on a road without permission, it is his personal matter," he said.  
Basail UNO Nahida Parveen said that she has not received any complaint in this regard so far.  
Necessary action will be taken after getting complaints, she added.

## Cricket fraternity shaken by losses

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He also represented the country in the ICC Trophy tournaments in 1982 and 1986.  
Samiur Rahman was also a prominent name in the Dhaka League. His older brother Yousuf Rahman is

also a former Bangladesh cricketer. Besides cricket, both brothers played top-tier basketball in Bangladesh.  
After retiring as a player, Sami went on to officiate in 136 first class, list A and list A T20 matches as a BCB match referee. He also stood

as an umpire in 17 first class and 12 list A games.  
Rubel, a left-arm spinner and handy late-order batsman, represented Bangladesh in five ODIs between 2008-2016. He was considered as utility cricketer in the domestic

circuit, amassing over 550 wickets across the formats in a career spanning two decades.  
The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) expressed deep bereavement at the passing of two former national cricketers.

## Harvesting of half-ripe paddy continues

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40,960 hectares. Paddy of around 133 hectares was damaged by the first flash flood earlier this month.  
Two levees at Khaliajuri upazila of Netrakona -- Kitonkhola and Payra -- are at risk of breaching if the flood continues, the DAE official said, adding

that the paddy on the remaining 31 percent farmland would take more time to ripen.  
In Sunamganj, paddy on only 37 percent of 2,22,805 hectares was harvested until yesterday, said Bimol Chandra Ghose, deputy director of the DAE at the district.

"It's a good sign that water is slowly receding in the haors of Sunamganj and it is increasing in the haors of Netrakona. But we are still at risk if it rains in the upstream again."  
Meanwhile, Planning Minister MA Mannan, also the lawmaker from Sunamganj-3, said farmers

were harvesting half-ripe paddy in fear of more floods.  
He told journalists, after the Ecneec meeting yesterday, that this time in 2017, all haors were inundated and almost all paddy went under water. "But this year, the situation is better."

## Emergency drill conducted for passengers'

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and Information Centre at Diabari yesterday.  
It was conducted as part of a training programme given to different stakeholders, including officials of DMTCL, police and fire service. Participants demonstrated how the safety system will work in case of arson.  
Safety measures are

being prepared in full swing as the authority is planning to begin partial commercial operation of the country's first metro rail from December.  
The 20km Mass Rapid Transit Line-6 is being implemented from Uttara to Motijheel at the cost of Tk 21,985 crores. The line will be extended to Kamalapur, ultimately

increasing the cost.  
In December, the line from Uttara to Agargaon is expected to be operational.  
The DMTCL is implementing a separate project titled "Technical assistance for Mass Rapid Transit safety management system of Line-6" to establish a Safety Management System (SMS).

As per the project documents, it started in January 2021 by a joint venture of NIPPON KOEI and Osaka Metro Service and funded by JICA.  
The aim of the project is to transfer knowledge of SMS-related issues, MRT operation, and securing passenger safety like in Japan to the DMTCL.

## New Covid variant

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people have visited India marking Eid by this time."  
India saw a 90 percent jump in daily cases on Monday, with 1,274 new Covid-19 cases and one death in the 24 hours ending 8am yesterday there, reports Indian Express.  
Delhi's Covid-19 positivity rate on Monday jumped to 7.72 percent for the first time since January 29, as the city recorded 501 fresh cases.  
The Uttar Pradesh and

Haryana governments on Monday made masks mandatory in the districts surrounding Delhi.  
As per Delhi-based doctors, meanwhile, the hospitalisation rate has not increased.  
Meanwhile, China has reported seven more deaths from Covid-19 in the city of Shanghai, a day after announcing its first fatalities from a weeks-long outbreak driven by the Omicron variant, reports

media.  
With the emergence of the Omicron variant, the country saw a rapid spike in Covid-19 cases since the beginning of January.  
The transmission started declining in March with zero death in Bangladesh almost every day during the last month, according to the health directorate data.  
Yesterday, the positivity rate was 0.90 percent against 5,545 samples tested.

## No big surprise in new Pak

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political family, 33-year-old Bilawal Zardari Bhutto.  
The PPP's Bhutto is the son of former president Asif Ali Zardari and assassinated ex-premier Benazir Bhutto, as well as the grandson of another prime minister, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, who was executed in 1979.  
If confirmed, the Oxford-educated Bhutto would be one of the world's youngest foreign ministers.