

Intekhab Dinar's resurgence on OTT

SHARMIN JOYA



A poster of 'Sabrina', featuring Intekhab Dinar.

The Bangladesh Film Censor Board has also denied the release of the feature film "Shonibar Bikel" (Saturday Afternoon), directed by Mostofa Sarwar Farooki, which features Dinar. "The ban is really disheartening, to say the least," laments the actor.

In the 24 years of his acting career, Intekhab Dinar made a place in the hearts of the audience with his powerful performances on stage, television, and recently, OTT platforms. The noted actor played parallel roles in the shows, "Sabrina" and "Dour", on Hoichoi. "I am currently

shooting for Robiul Alam Robi's untitled Chorki original film, co-starring Azad Abul Kalam, Sanjida Preeti, Shamol Mawla, Tama Mirza, and Shohel Mondol among others," he adds. "I am also working on Syed Ahmed Shawki's upcoming web series 'Karagar', produced by Hoichoi - this is the first time in the country that two seasons of a series are being shot simultaneously."

Dinar is quite appreciative of Bangladesh streaming platforms. "When it comes to OTT platforms, emerging makers have enough freedom to explore their talents, as they are getting handsome budgets and time to experiment," he explains.

The actor also noted that the field of television has lost its charm due to lack of experimentation and budget and productions have become replicative.

Dinar garnered wide appreciation for his performances in Ashfaque Nipun's "Sabrina" and Raihan Khan's "Dour". "I am loving the pace of the OTT sector. Working with directors in this medium has been amazing," he shares. "Be it Showkat in "Sabrina" or Akmol in "Dour", the characters I played were multi-dimensional, and there was scope to explore my skills."

The actor's appearances on television has been sporadic in recent years. "I get calls for television projects very often nowadays, but it

seems like producers and directors are more concerned with the number of views than anything else," says Dinar.

He also commented on the government's draft regulation for digital, social media and OTT platforms: "Art should be free from any barriers. I won't like it if someone else decides what kind of scripts or roles I should take up, because I am a responsible artiste. I believe in self-censorship."

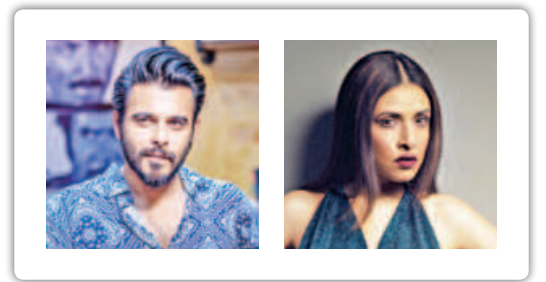
The Bangladesh Film Censor Board has also denied the release of the feature film

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Several of Dinar's films are awaiting release, including Raihan Rafi's "Damal". Khijir Hayat Khan's "Ora 7 Jon", is currently in post-production. In addition, "Biroto", directed by Saidul Islam Rana, is a commercial movie where Dinar plays a negative role.



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED



Snigdha joins Siam's 'Rashta'

Debutant actress and model Snigdha Chowdhury will be featured alongside Siam in Raihan Rafi's "Rashta".

Snigdha Chowdhury trained for 6 months upon signing the film. She took acting training and worked hard on her physique to look fit for the role.

The Jazz Multimedia production will begin shooting in June.

'TOP GUN: MAVERICK' releases at Star Cineplex today

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Tom Cruise returns to the role of Pete "Maverick" Mitchell after 36 years with the sequel to 1986's "Top Gun".

"Top Gun: Maverick" hits Star Cineplex today, in line with its international release.

In the movie, after more than thirty years of service as one of the Navy's top aviators, Pete is where he belongs, pushing

the envelope as a courageous test pilot and dodging the advancement in rank that would ground him.

The film, directed by Joseph Kosinski, also stars Val Kilmer, Jennifer Connelly, and Miles Teller, among others.



COUNTRYWIDE

BDP 2100: Seed of change

SHYKH SERAJ

The international conference on 100-year Delta Plan 2100 (BDP 2100), which began yesterday, is ending today (May 27). The outline of the conference is to focus on issues and challenges regarding implementation of BDP 2100. Several workshops, high-level meetings and keynotes by leading officials from the government, private sectors and international partners are being presented during the conference. To address the long-term strategy, BDP 2100 has taken several angles, including two national strategies like flood risk management and freshwater supply. Alongside several sub-strategies there are six hotspot strategies as well. The hotspots are coastal areas, barind region, drought-prone areas, haors and flash flood areas, Chattogram Hill Tracts, river system, estuaries and urban areas. There are seven thematic strategies that include sustainable land use and spatial (three-dimensional) planning, agriculture, food security, nutrition and livelihoods, transboundary water management, dynamizing inland water transport system, advancing blue economy, renewable energy and earthquakes. Future concerning issues like climate change, economic growth, population growth and transboundary are also being discussed.

The thematic session on agriculture, water and climate condition is to explore the possible policy option for enhancing the

potential growth of Bangladesh's farming sector. The session on valuing water addresses the options that could be leveraged to promote proper water valuation and its utilization. Funding and socio-economic development of Bangladesh are also the major concerns. The conference is an initiative of five renowned partners: The World Bank Group, Asian Development Bank, Japan International Cooperation Agency, the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Dhaka and the EU Embassy in Dhaka. The Conference Organizing Committee consists of Government of Bangladesh

On a windy day, I went to Delta Works, part of the Netherlands' Delta Plan, near a huge storm surge barrier along with Delegated Representative of Water, working at the Netherlands Embassy in Dhaka, Martijn van de Groep and Business Relations and Acquisition Manager of Netherlands Water Partnership Arjan Braamskamp. "I think, the aspect that needs to be considered in implementing Bangladesh's Delta Plan is the conventional policy plans in Bangladesh, which flow from top to bottom, can be more advantageous if flowed from bottom to top," Martijn van de Groep said.



Shykh Seraj talks to Delegated Representative of Netherlands Embassy in Dhaka Martijn van de Groep (far left) and Business Relations and Acquisition Manager of Netherlands Water Partnership Arjan Braamskamp (middle) in front of a storm surge barrier alongside the North Sea in the Netherlands.

PHOTO: HRIDOYE MATI O MANUSH

(GoB) representatives from GED and other institutions, while Delta Governance Council is involved in guidance and decision making.

I went to the Netherlands at the end of last month and saw their activities regarding the Delta Plan, technology-based agricultural innovations, value of organic farming and water. I was invited by Netherlands Water Partnership (NWP) and His Excellency Anne van Leeuwen, honourable ambassador of the embassy of the Netherlands in Dhaka.

In 1953, the Netherlands witnesses a disastrous flood, which caused economic losses worth around 5.4 billion euros. At that time around 2,000 people lost their lives, while many buildings and houses were damaged and numerous cattle and poultry died. Afterwards, the Dutch government thought about the Delta Plan, aiming how they can protect the Netherlands from further flooding, storm surges and other natural disasters. They built several

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Can shaky Tigers hold on?

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was bowled for a pair for the first time in Tests after becoming the first batter to be dismissed when he edged a catch to second slip off the bowling of Asitha Fernando.

Things quickly went from bad to worse as Najmul Hossain Shanto was run out before skipper Mominul Haque continued

his poor run as he departed without troubling the scorers after providing an outside edge to the keeper off the bowling of Kasun Rajitha. Mominul has now failed to reach double digits in his last seven innings.

Despite finding a slice of luck and being dropped at third slip early in the innings, opener Mahmudul

Hasan Joy was the fourth wicket to fall, becoming Fernando's second victim.

Earlier, Sri Lanka took a 141-run first-innings lead, riding on overnight batters Angelo Matthews and Dinesh Chandimal, who both struck centuries and frustrated the Bangladeshi bowlers.

Bangladesh finally

managed to break their 199-run sixth-wicket stand in the final session as Ebadot Hossain removed Chandimal (124). Angelo Matthews however remained unbeaten on 145 but, courtesy of Shakib Al Hasan's 19th five-wicket haul, Bangladesh managed to bundled Sri Lanka out for 506.

Lauderers to get a chance

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They, however, do not yet have a clear idea about how much money has been laundered.

The High Court has also issued an order to bring laundered money back to the country, Kamal added.

Many countries have taken such initiatives, and Indonesia has previously been successful in this regard, he said responding to whether the money launderers would respond to such an initiative.

Asked whether this is

being done due to the crisis in the forex market, he said, "Of course!", adding, however, that the crisis is not as grave yet.

"Compared to other countries, the forex reserve in Bangladesh is better."

Meanwhile, the central bank has also recently issued a circular on remittance announcing that can now bring more than \$5,000 into the country and they need not provide any information for it.

Putin

FROM PAGE 12

eastern Donbas region. Ukraine's armed forces said more than 40 towns in the region had been shelled, destroying or damaging 47 civilian sites, including 38 homes and a school.

Fierce fighting is now centred on Severodonetsk, as Ukrainian forces try to stop Russian troops encircling the city and cutting off the lone road in, reports AFP.

India likely to consider limiting

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The Indian government is concerned about the rising inflation, which reached an eight-year high of 7.79 percent.

India exported \$6.115 billion worth of non-Basmati rice in the fiscal 2022 and it was the top forex earner among all agricultural commodities.

India's non-Basmati rice exports grew by 109 percent from \$2,925 million in FY 2013-14 to

\$6,115 million in FY 2021-22, government data shows.

According to it, the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, India exported non-Basmati rice worth \$6,115 million in 2021-22.

Amid concerns about losses of Boro crop yields due to unfavourable weather, retail prices of coarse rice, consumed mainly by poor and low-

income people, rose by one percent to Tk 45-48 per kilogram in Dhaka yesterday from Tk 44-48 a week ago, according to data of the Trading Corporation of Bangladesh.

Bangladesh imported 9.84 lakh tonnes of rice, mainly by the government, from July 1 last year to May 25 this year, according to food ministry data. The total import was 13.6 lakh tonnes in 2021-22 fiscal year.

2 Bangladeshi policemen

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"All of their belongings, including the things they bought for their family members, were left in the hotel. We informed the embassy [in the Netherlands] and the Police Headquarters about the matter," he told The Daily Star.

Rasel and Shah used to

live in barracks of police lines in Dampara and Mansurabad areas in the port city.

A deputy commissioner of CMP, requesting anonymity, said the two men attended the entire training and told the other team members that they were going for a short walk

before they left the hotel on May 22.

"We contacted their family members, but they told us that they don't know anything," he added.

The eight-member team led by Mohammad Belayat Hossain, assistant commissioner (Bayazid Bostami Zone), went to the

Netherlands to attend a meeting on Management, Handling and Training of Dogs as the CMP's Counter-Terrorism Division is launching a dog squad.

AC Belayat refused to comment on the matter. The other team members arrived in Bangladesh on May 24.

Shykh Seraj is Bangladesh's pioneer development journalist. He received country's two highest civilian honours, Swadhinata Puroshkar and Ekushey Padak. At Channel i, he is the founder director. He is also director and host of Channel i's popular agro-documentary, Hridoye Mati O Manush.

