



‘Hothat’ is in town, here is why you should take notice

SADI MOHAMMAD SHAHNEWAZ

The idea of ‘supergroups’ are not necessarily new – who can forget the energetic, ethereal performance by Azam Khan, Ayub Bachchu, Hasan and Partha Barua in Prothom Alo’s award function in 1999?

Throughout the years, many famous musicians have teamed up to form short-lived projects, many of which have remained ingrained in listeners’ memories.

‘Hothat’, however, has taken the concept to a different level – Watson Brothers and The Attempted Band famed drummer, Arafat Kazi, invested an obscene amount of capital to rent a mansion in Gazipur to record and film a full live album.

For this passion project, Arafat chose up and comers, a family of independent musicians who are successful with their own bands – Fasih and Pritom from Owned, Zakir and Wasi from Conclusion, Zihan, Ifaz and Riasat from Arekta Rock Band, Uday from Introit, and Munhamanna from EIDA.

Present were Aurthohin’s Shishir as guest member, AvoidRafa’s ‘Bass King’ Pavel, the powerful Tashlee, alongside teenage prodigies Munif and Audhip, flautist Fat Kabs.

“Our strength was that we had 15 people, who are all super-talented”, says Arafat. “We all treated, and continue to treat each other as equals. We did nothing but music for 5 days, and came out with 6 wonderful tracks, to which we all contributed”.

Most of the music was made on the spot – giving it a natural flow, which is hard to replicate in a conventional setting.

“By the end of it, we had 38 hours of footage, and 10-15 versions of the script – it was



Arafat Kazi and Zakir Hossain.

a mammoth task to execute, mix and master everything,” says Arafat. The recording was done by Zakir Hossain, while the mixing and mastering was completed by Ekram Wasi.

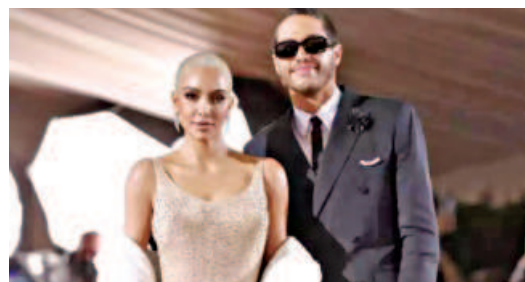


The members of Hothat.

On Friday, the team had their first show, “Hothat, Shobaike Janao” – a culmination of their hard work, and a heart-warming display of the chemistry and brotherhood.

One after another, they played their originals, giving the ecstatic crowd a taste of what is only the beginning of a great musical partnership.

Hothat, born out of Boston resident Arafat’s trip to Bangladesh and his subsequent jamming sessions, is a testament to how a pipe dream can be made a reality with dedication, grit and a little bit of madness. As their album is on the cusp of release, the music industry, along with all the listeners, are bound to take notice.



Kim Kardashian and Pete Davidson split after 9 months of dating

Reality star Kim Kardashian and comedian Pete Davidson have reportedly ended their whirlwind romance after 9 months.

The couple have called it split due to long distance relationship and have decided to stay ‘good friends’, according to E!News. Their romance apparently ended this week as their packed schedule “made it really difficult to maintain a relationship.”

PETA invites Ranveer Singh to pose nude again

Bollywood actor Ranveer Singh has been invited by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) India to re-enact his previous nude photos, for its latest vegan campaign.

The organisation wants the “Simmba” actor to promote veganism through their campaign tagline- “All Animals Have the Same Parts - Try Vegan”. Apparently, Ranveer Singh has become vegan for his upcoming Karan Johar film “Rocky Aur Rani Ki Prem Kahani.”



COUNTRYWIDE

POOR RAINFALL hits Aman plantation

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

Cultivation of Aman paddy in different upazilas of the district is facing a setback due to inadequate rain during the ongoing monsoon.

Due to scanty rainfall in the time of the year farmers are worried about preparing their Aman seed beds and plantation of the saplings.

According to Patuakhali Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE) the department has a target to bring about 1.89 lakh hectares of land under Aman cultivation this season, but so far Aman has been planted on 391 hectares.

Abdul Sattar, a marginal farmer from Tilla village in Rangabali upazila, said he has a plan to cultivate Aman on two acres of land this year, but he could not even prepare his seedbeds yet due to lack of adequate water.

Although he somehow managed to collect some seeds from other areas, he could not prepare his field for sowing saplings for lack of rain, Sattar said, adding that if there is not enough rain and such situation continues, many farmers in the area won’t be able to plant Aman this year.

Farmer Sagir Fakir of Mollabazar area of the upazila, who was busy preparing his Aman field, said due to lack of rainfall and the draught like situation most of the seedbeds and fields are getting dried up.

Though he has a target to cultivate Aman on 13 acres of land this year, he is yet to sow the saplings, Sagir said.

Rangabali Upazila Agriculture Officer Iqbal Ahmad said usually farmers in the area start watermelon cultivation after harvesting Aman.

If Aman cultivation is delayed, it will surely affect watermelon

farming, he added.

According to Patuakhali DAE office, farmers in the region prepare their Aman seedbeds in the middle of the Bangla month of Ashar, and start planting the seedlings from the middle of Shrabon till early Bhadra.

But, due to lack of rainfall this season, plantation of seedlings has already been delayed, he added.

Patuakhali DAE Deputy Director (DD) AKM Mohiuddin said Aman cultivation in different upazilas is being delayed due to inadequate rain this season.

About half of the targeted land was supposed to be brought under Aman cultivation till this time of the season, but the progress is very little as the fields are getting dries up. Minimum rainfall was recorded 778mm in the district in July last year, while it was only 181mm in July this year, the DD added.



Vast dried-up fields. The photo was taken from Patuakhali’s Rangabali upazila. PHOTO: STAR

Commuters dealt

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A good number of transport leaders also joined as did Road Transport and Highways Division Secretary ABM Amin Ullah Nuri.

After more than two hours, four people – two transport owners and two BRTA officials – started a separate meeting with two-three support staffers.

Around an hour later, they reached a consensus and conveyed that to the road transport secretary, BRTA chairman, and other transport leaders in the BRTA chairman’s office.

At 9:30pm, the road secretary said that Road Transport Minister Obaidul Quader had given consent to the committee’s proposal.

“We have tried to keep the bus fare to a tolerable level,” he said.

Asked about bus operators already overcharging, the secretary did not respond clearly but said they would monitor from today.

Khandaker Enayet Ullah, secretary general of Bangladesh Road Transport Owners’ Association, said they accepted the new fares despite the disparity in fuel price and bus fare hikes considering passengers’ difficulties.

LAUNCHES TOO

Launch fares are also likely to see a hike and the owners have already readied a letter containing their demands.

Badiuzzaman Badal, senior vice-chairman of the Bangladesh Inland Waterways (passenger carriers) Association, said, “In the letter, we have sought a rise in fares with due consideration to the fuel price hike.”

Rafiqul Islam, director (traffic) of Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority, said they would have a meeting to fix the fares after receiving the letter.

Amazon gives

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The ‘Ziggy’ voice was first revealed in July this year, when it was spotted that Amazon had added a more masculine-sounding voice to its speakers.

The voices are not saved across a users’ account but instead be associated with each individual Echo, meaning that it will have to be changed across a house.

The new wakeword was not explicitly associated with the new voice, but arrived at the same time. In the app, Amazon referred to the two different voices as “Original” and “New”.

Govt to send IGP Benazir

FROM PAGE 12

US on invitation from the UN headquarters. Under the US law, there is no restriction on a sanctioned person’s visit to the UN headquarters if he/she is invited by the UN, they said.

As the government order (GO) regarding the IGP’s visit to US has already been issued on Thursday, Benazir will take necessary steps for visa processing now, a source at the Police Headquarters told The Daily Star yesterday.

The GO, signed by home ministry Deputy Secretary Md Harun-Or Rashid, reads that Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan will lead a six-member Bangladesh delegation to the summit.

Air strikes pound Gaza

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shelters on the Israeli side, with AFP journalists hearing sirens warning of incoming fire in the Tel Aviv area yesterday evening.

Israel’s ongoing strikes are being met with barrages of rockets from the Palestinian side, stoking fears of a repeat of an 11-day conflict that devastated Gaza in May 2021.

World power, including Britain, the European Union and Russia, yesterday called for a swift end to the violence in the Gaza Strip.

Daily life in the enclave has come to a standstill, while the electricity distributor said the sole power station shut down due to a lack of fuel after Israel closed its border crossings.

Gaza’s health ministry said the next few hours will be “crucial and difficult”, warning it risked suspending vital services within 72 hours as a result of the lack of electricity.

Another woman raped

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passengers, except the duo, to get off.

Later, they started beating the man and pushed him off around 2:00am before the vehicle reached Maona intersection.

The bus then made a U-turn at Maona flyover and headed towards Gazipur again.

After the rape and robbery, they

The delegation will leave Dhaka for New York on August 30 or at a nearer date and they will depart New York for Dhaka on September 3 or at a nearer date.

The other delegation members include home ministry Joint Secretary Abu Hena Mostafa Zaman, Deputy Secretary Md Asaduzzaman, also the private secretary to the home minister, Additional Deputy Inspector General (UN affairs) Nassian Wazed and Assistant Inspector General Muhammad Masud Alam.

The order said that all expenses associated with this visit will be borne from the budget of the Public Security Division and the police department as per rules.

There have been no reports of Israelis wounded by rockets, though officials said a home was hit and land was set ablaze by income fire near the border.

An Israeli military spokesman said its forces were “preparing for the operation to last a week,” and told AFP that the army is “not currently holding ceasefire negotiations”.

Islamic Jihad’s leader in Gaza, Mohammed al-Hindi, said: “The battle is still at its beginning.”

Israel and Islamic Jihad confirmed the killing of Taysir al-Jabari, a key commander of the militant group, in a Friday strike.

Jamal al-Fadi, a political science professor at Gaza’s Al-Azhar University, said he expected the violence to end “within days”.

“Islamic Jihad is reacting in a limited manner and by doing so is preventing the occupation (Israeli military) from intensifying its air strikes,” he told AFP.

left the woman at Rajendrapur and headed towards Gazipur with the bus, said police.

The woman then went to Joydevpur Police Station and informed police of the matter.

Detectives of Sreepur, Joydevpur and Gazipur conducted joint drives yesterday to arrest the criminals, said police.