

Will Mim score another goal with ‘Damal’?



COLLAGE: REMNANT GLIMPSE

forever remember “Damal”. Whenever a new release comes along, I really can’t sleep or eat properly. I start to feel butterflies in my stomach, and am now eagerly awaiting the release of this film.

“Poran” is running successfully for its sixth week. How has social media reacted to the film?

“Poran” has brought a new wave of hope in the film industry. Its massive success has propelled more producers to invest in Bangla movies. The film is still running houseful in some theatres, and many people have commented on Facebook that they have watched the movie 4-5 times. Recently, I met a fan who has watched “Poran” five times. The movie is doing great in Australia and will soon be released in Europe as well.

How many times have you watched “Poran”?

I have watched “Poran” a total of four times. Once, I went with my parents and my husband. Another time I went to the theatres with my wonderful in-laws. The third time was really fun, as I went with my friends, and the other time was during the special premiere.

After the tremendous success of “Poran”, have you signed on for any new movies?

No, I am taking my time right now, as I really want to be selective about the type of script I take on. I want a good plot and an interesting character, which will entice me as an artiste. I have been offered a lot of scripts and I will take time to go through all of it.



PHOTO: TAKEN FROM FACEBOOK



The people’s reception made me emotional: Shakib Khan

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Shakib Khan returned home from the US at 12:38 pm on Wednesday, after spending nearly nine months in the US.

“I can’t explain the feeling of being back home after so long,” Shakib told The Daily Star at Dhaka’s Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport, adding, “I am emotional at the fact that so many people have come to see me. Their love and appreciation have brought tears to my eyes.”

Droves of fans from Comilla, Chattogram, Sylhet, Barisal, Khulna, Rangpur and Dhaka came to the airport to catch sight of their favourite star Shakib Khan. Some of the policemen on duty at the airport said, “I have never seen so many people show up for an actor.”

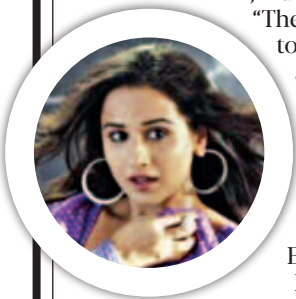
‘The Dirty Picture’ to return without Vidya Balan

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

“The Dirty Picture”, one of the biggest hits, will be returning, according to the producers of the film, Kanika Dhillon and Ekta Kapoor. “The Dirty Picture 2” is anticipated to have an entirely different plot and cast from the first film, which was based on the life of Silk Smitha.

The makers are reportedly considering Kriti Sanon and Taapsee Pannu for the movie which was played by Vidya Balan in the first film.

Milan Luthria directed the movie based on the life of the actress Silk Smitha. The film also featured Emraan Hashmi, Naseeruddin Shah, and Tusshar Kapoor in prominent roles.



NEWS

5 JMB men to walk gallows

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The JMB attackers detonated bombs at the mosque inside the naval base during Juma prayers on December 18, 2015. The incident left 24 defence personnel and civilians injured. Ten of them were hospitalised.

After nine months of the incident, Chattogram Naval Provost Marshal Commander M Abu Sayed filed the case accusing four JMB men.

According to the case statement, Chattogram JMB’s chief commander

Raisul Islam Khan Noman alias Nafis alias Fardin led the attack. During investigation, police found involvement of arrested Abdul Mannan’s brother, JMB operative Abdul Gaffar.

Fardin died in an explosion in Sherpur of Bogura on April 3, 2016 while making hand grenades.

After a long probe, Osman Goni, the investigation officer and inspector (investigation) of EPZ Police Station, pressed charges against the five JMB men on October 25, 2017.

Hridoy Mondal acquitted

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teacher in this country should face such harassment. If such incidents do not stop, the future of the country is bleak. This felt like a five-month long storm for me. I was unable to even do home tutoring and the financial distress was piling up. I feel much better after the verdict.”

Hridoy, however, said he had been facing threats from unknown quarters since his bail and a GD was lodged with the police station in this regard.

“I don’t get out of my house unless it is absolutely urgent.”

Shahin Mohammad Amanullah, a lawyer for Hridoy, said the final report in the case said the allegations against the teacher were false.

Plaintiff Asad Mia, who was present in the court during the verdict, said, “The judge asked me whether I have any further complaints. I said I did not. I too am happy that ‘sir’ has been discharged from the case.”

On March 20, when Hridoy was taking a science class, a conversation began between him and his students about science and religion.

Some students later gave a written complaint to the headmaster saying the teacher had “hurt religious sentiments” and on March 22, they began a protest against him at school.

When police came to control the situation, they arrested Hridoy from the spot. The case was filed against him later in the day.

Tunisia journo jailed for comments on president, army

AFP, Tunis

A Tunisian military court sentenced journalist Salah Attia to three months in prison yesterday for public remarks he made about President Kais Saied and the armed forces, his lawyer said.

Attia is the latest in a string of critics and perceived enemies of the president to face prosecution since Saied claimed sweeping emergency powers in July last year.

The military court found him guilty Tuesday of “undermining the armed forces” and “inciting Tunisians to violence”, defence counsel Samir Ben Amor told AFP, adding that he intended to lodge an appeal.

Attia was detained in June after telling Qatar-based international

news channel Al Jazeera that Saied had formally requested the military to intervene against Tunisia’s UGTT trade union confederation ahead of a planned general strike. He said the army had then informed the UGTT of its refusal of the president’s request.

Human rights group Amnesty International condemned Attia’s prosecution for his work as a journalist as a “travesty of justice”.

“Tunisian authorities are perfectly free to dispute and counter what media report about them without arresting and prosecuting journalists,” said Amnesty’s deputy regional director for the Middle East and North Africa, Amna Guellali.

“In any case, no civilian should face trial before Tunisia’s military courts.”

Janmashtami

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wished all success to the day’s programmes, reports BSS.

Different socio-cultural and religious organisations and authorities of temples, including Dhakeshwari National Temple, International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON) and Sree Sree Provu Jagatbandhu Mahaprakash Moth, have drawn up elaborate programmes to celebrate the occasion.

The programmes include worship of Lord Krishna, Geeta Jagna, Kirtan and dance, discussion, drama and colourful processions.

National dailies have published special articles while television and radio stations will air special programmes, highlighting various aspects of the eventful life of Lord Krishna.

14.8m to be at risk

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said the global emissions from the agriculture and food sectors would pose as a big challenge over the next 30 years and countries need to address it.

“Climate change is not confined to national boundaries and our member countries must consider trans-boundary action on mitigation and adaptation to address the impact of climate change,” said Tenzin Lekphell, secretary general of Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC).

Planning Minister MA Mannan said the government was committed to promote sustainable agriculture.

“We are working to improve early warning systems, invest in climate smart technology and develop heat and salinity tolerant crop varieties,” he said.

Earth’s water

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In a new paper published in the journal Nature Astronomy, scientists said the Ryugu samples could give clues to the mystery of how oceans appeared on Earth billions of years ago.

“Volatile and organic-rich C-type asteroids may have been one of the main sources of Earth’s water,” said the study by scientists from Japan and other countries, published Monday.

A near-death experience

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from a mountain that takes more lives than any other.

“On the way to K2 summit, bodies are treated as landmarks. You will see many of them without heads, legs protruding, and bodies with eyes still wide open as if they are still alive. Among them are some celebrated mountaineers. The mind may dive into negative thinking after seeing such things,” Wasfia said at a hotel in the city.

She said, “It gives you a sense that you could be next ...”

“It is easy to lose senses at that level of altitude. It is then you need the mental strength to fight off the negative thinking,” the celebrated

mountaineer continued.

Wasfia knew that women climbers die more than their male counterparts on their way down as it is the hardest part.

“I had initiated the seven summits when Bangladesh had turned 40, and I wanted to attempt K2 to mark the golden jubilee of Bangladesh. For this one mountain, I have trained, prepared, and organised for almost 10 years. I owe my success to my team which consists of some of the strongest mountaineers on the planet,” she added.

She said very few mountaineers have made it to the top of K2 in one go. Year after year many world-renowned mountaineers return and still fail to summit.

Crooked traders to blame

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The TCB would be selling 2 litres of soybean oil, 2 kgs of lentils, 1 kg of sugar, and 2 kgs of onions to each of the one crore family card holders. Each litre of soybean oil would cost Tk 110, sugar Tk 55 a kg, lentils Tk 65 a kg, and onions Tk 20 a kg.

Meanwhile, Tipu during his press conference yesterday objected to Transparency International Bangladesh’s report on the Family

Card programme and said it was not prepared with the correct information.

Of the one crore beneficiaries of the programme, 39.5 percent have not received the cards, the TIB had said.

“TIB can publish reports on any matter but that must be based on correct information. They have conducted the study on just 1,047 recipients out of one crore. You

Resting in the Karakoram range in Pakistan, the 8,611-metre extremely hostile K2 is a lot more difficult to summit than Mount Everest, the highest peak in the world.

Almost pyramid-like steepness and unpredictable weather conditions have allowed only some 400 climbers to set foot at its peak, many of whom did not survive the descent.

Wasfia scaled K2 on July 22 along with her team.

Renata Ltd supported her as the sole sponsor throughout her expedition.

Wasfia is best known for being the only Bangladeshi to have climbed the Seven Summits -- the highest mountains of every continent.

cannot get the true picture with such a small sample,” he told reporters at a briefing yesterday.

The list of cardholders was prepared in collaboration with public representatives and local administration and is reflective of their financial condition.

The issue of duplication has been solved by the use of QR codes. “No one can purchase the same product twice.”

Give info on salary, perks of Wasa MD

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should not be declared illegal.

In the rule, the HC also wanted to know why the respondents should not be directed to take steps to remove Taqsem from his position and to recover the excess salary paid to him illegally in the last 13 years. It also asked why they should not be directed to fix the salary and other service benefits of the holder of this post in line with the provisions of the Service Order (Salary and Benefits), 2015 and the finance ministry notification.

Secretary at the ministry of local government and rural development, board of Dhaka Wasa and its chairman, and Taqsem A Khan have been made respondents to the rule.

The HC bench of Justice Md Moziur Rahman Miah and Justice Kazi Md Ejazul Haque Akondo passed the order and issued the

rule following a writ petition filed by Mubassher Hossain, chairman of Consumers’ Association of Bangladesh (CAB), on July 31 seeking necessary directive and rule on the issue.

Appearing for the writ petitioner, lawyer Jyotirmoy Barua told the HC that Wasa as a statutory authority cannot treat its officers and employees differently from other public servants, but Taqsem had been given undue benefits in violation of relevant laws and rules, even though he has failed to discharge his duties.

Around 70 percent of Dhaka city could not be brought under proper sewerage system because of Taqsem’s failure, he said.

Jyotirmoy said the Ministry of Finance on January 26, 2016, issued a notification regarding fixing salary and other benefits of contracted employees in line with the National

Pay Scale, 2015. However, authorities violated the notification’s provisions while fixing the salary and other benefits of the Wasa MD.

Taqsem was made Dhaka Wasa MD in 2009. Despite severe criticism of his role in ensuring quality Wasa services, he was reappointed for a sixth term on October 1, 2020.

Opposing the writ petition, Deputy Attorney General Arobinda Kumar Roy told the court that a commercial contract has been made for the appointment of Wasa MD and his enhanced salaries have already been paid, so the writ petition challenging the legality of the issues is not acceptable.

Speaking to The Daily Star, Jyotirmoy said maximum basic monthly salary of an official of Taqsem’s rank is Tk 78,000 under the service order and finance ministry notification.