



Rising band Smooches during their set.

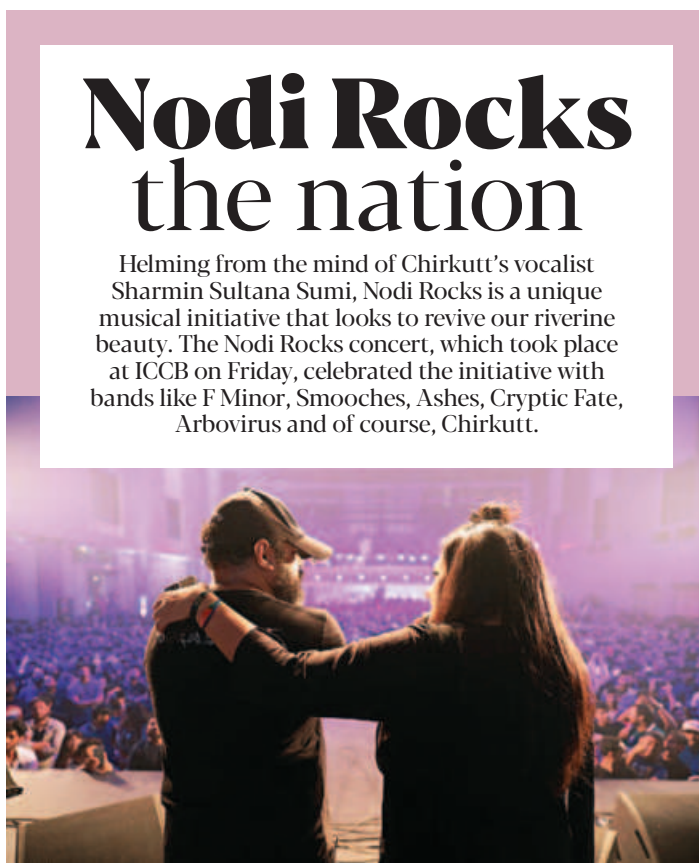
PHOTO: SHAHBAZ NAHIAN



Bangla Five at their best.



Cryptic Fate's Shakib Chowdhury rocking it on stage.



Sufi from Arbovirus and Chirkutt's Sumi share a heartfelt moment.

Nodi Rocks the nation

Helming from the mind of Chirkutt's vocalist Sharmin Sultana Sumi, Nodi Rocks is a unique musical initiative that looks to revive our riverine beauty. The Nodi Rocks concert, which took place at ICCB on Friday, celebrated the initiative with bands like F Minor, Smooches, Ashes, Cryptic Fate, Arbovirus and of course, Chirkutt.



Arbovirus in action.



Sumi serenading the audience.



Khufiya teaser: Tabu introduces Badhan's character

Netflix released a new teaser of Vishal Bhardwaj's thrilling web series "Khufiya". The 1-minute teaser builds up suspense as Tabu narrates Badhan's character in a mysterious tone. Tabu referred to Badhan as Octopus in the teaser.

In the teaser, Tabu describes Badhan as mysterious and aloof. Her character had a mole on her collarbone and then Tabu went on to disclose that both of them had a 'mole' in their life, who had broken their trust.

"I am really happy that Tabu narrated my character in the teaser. I have small screen presence in the 'Khufiya' but my character holds up the plot in the series," said Badhan.

"Khufiya" revolves around Krishna Mehra, a RAW (Research and Analysis Wing) operative who is assigned to track down the mole selling India's defence secrets. It stars Ali Fazal, Ashish Vidyarthi, Tabu and Wamiqa Gabbi among others.

Director Rahim Nawaz passes away

Veteran film director Rahim Nawaz has passed away at his Kalayanpur residence on September 23.

Director Kabirul Islam Rana confirmed the news to The Daily Star.

Rahim Nawaz started his journey in movies with Zahir Raihan's "Sangam". Later on, he jointly directed the films "Dui Bhai" and "Shongshar" with Star Cinework organisation.

His solo debut as a director was with "Shuorani Duorani". Some of his notable works includes "Moner Moto Bou" and "Jog Biyog".

Bangladesh Film Directors Association mourned his death.

NEWS

JSD leader in jail

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The DB arrested Parvez at his home in Laxminarayanpur on September 13. The Noakhali Chief Judicial Magistrate Court sent him to jail the next day.

Locals and family members said Parvez's brother Liton was a journalist of Dainik Dinkal while he was a Dhaka University student. He was also the deputy press secretary of former president Iajuddin Ahmed.

In London, he is involved with the BNP and works for a weekly named Surma.

Law enforcers said they were investigating whether Parvez is linked to his brother's "anti-government campaign".

Contacted, Nazim Uddin Ahmed, inspector of DB in Noakhali, said, "We have got some importation information from him during interrogation. Police will soon press charges against him."

Shahidul Islam, superintendent of police in Noakhali, said Parvez was arrested on the basis of information from an intelligence agency.

In a separate incident in Moulvibazar, BNP leader Abdul Mukhtar Manu, also arrested under section-54 of the same law, was released on Wednesday after a 12-day detention.

Manu is the assistant organising secretary of Moulvibazar Swachhchasebak Dal and a member of Rautgaon Union Parishad.

His elder brother Abdur Rab Bhutto was the Kulaura upazila correspondent of an online portal and was involved in several local weeklies. He left the country in 2006.

Police said he currently spreads "anti-government content on Facebook from London".

Police arrested Manu on September 9 and a court sent him to jail a day later. On September 21, a court dismissed the charges and ordered his release.

Abdus Shalek, officer-in-charge of Kulaura Police Station, said Manu was arrested to investigate whether he had any connection with his London-expatriate brother Bhutto.

Manu told The Daily Star yesterday, "I have had no contact with my brother in 10 years. I have nothing to do with what he is doing."

On September 20, the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) in a statement said, "Bangladesh authorities must immediately and unconditionally release Nur Alam Chowdhury Parvez and Abdul Mukhtar Manu and cease harassing family members of journalists who report from abroad."

[Our correspondents in Noakhali and Moulvibazar contributed to this report]

They talk the talk

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told AFP on a visit to New York for the United Nations General Assembly.

"The rich countries, the developed countries, this is their responsibility. They should come forward. But we are not getting that much response from them. That is the tragedy," she said.

"I know the rich countries, they want to become more rich. They don't bother for others."

Bangladesh has produced a minuscule amount of the greenhouse gas emissions that have already contributed to the warming of the planet by an average of nearly 1.2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels.

The Paris accord called for \$100 billion a year by 2020 from wealthy nations to help developing nations cope with climate change. That year, \$83.3 billion was committed, including through private sources, according to Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development figures.

One key issue facing the next UN climate summit, to take place in Egypt in November, is whether wealthy nations also need to pay for losses and damages from climate change -- not just to pay for adaptation and mitigation.

"We want that fund to be raised. Unfortunately we didn't get a good response from the developed countries," Hasina said.

"Because they are the responsible ones for these damages, they should come forward," the 74-year-old added.

Wealthy nations have agreed only to discuss the loss and damage issue through 2024.

This year's general assembly featured repeated calls for climate justice. The leader of tiny Vanuatu urged an international treaty against fossil fuels while the prime minister of Pakistan warned that floods that have swamped one-third of his

country could happen elsewhere.

ROHINGYA

Climate is not the only issue on which Bangladesh sees inaction from the West.

Some 750,000 Rohingya fled to Bangladesh in 2017 after a scorched-earth campaign against the minority group by troops in neighboring Myanmar, a campaign that the United States has described as genocide.

While the world has saluted Bangladesh for taking in the refugees -- along with 100,000 who fled earlier violence -- attention has shifted since the Covid-19 pandemic and now Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

"As long as they are in our country, we feel that it is our duty," she said. But for Bangladesh hosts, patience is running thin, she said.

Michelle Bachelet, then the UN human rights chief, said on a visit in August that there was growing anti-Rohingya sentiment in Bangladesh.

"Local people also suffer a lot," Hasina said. "I can't say that they're angry, but they feel uncomfortable."

"All the burden is coming upon us. This is a problem."

The Rohingya refugees live largely in ramshackle camps with tarpaulins, sheet metal and bamboo.

Bachelet on her visit said there was no prospect of sending them back to Buddhist-majority, military-run Myanmar, where the Rohingya are not considered citizens.

But in her interview, Hasina signaled that there were few options other than for the Rohingya to reside in camps.

"It is not possible for us to give them an open space because they have their own country. They want to go back there. So that is the main priority for everybody," Hasina said.

"If anybody wants to take them, they can take them," she added. "Why should I object?"

Spacecraft set to smash

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collision course with Earth were discovered in the future."

There currently somewhere around 27,000 asteroids in near-Earth orbit.

Rocks that are 140 metres (460ft) and larger in size and come nearer than 4.7 million miles (7.5 million km) during orbit are classed as potentially hazardous asteroids (PHAs).

The Dart mission will be the first

ever full-scale demonstration of asteroid deflection technology.

This collision will be recorded by a briefcase-sized satellite known as the Light Italian CubeSat for Imaging of Asteroids (LICIACube), which was provided by the Italian Space Agency.

LICIACube, which weighs just 14 kg (31 lbs), hitched a ride with Dart into deep space before recently separating from the spacecraft in a final farewell.

Death toll doubles

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11 had been detained since Monday.

They include Niloufar Hamedei of the reformist newspaper Sharq, who reported on Amini's death.

Elsewhere, the Norway-based Kurdish rights group Hengaw said protesters "took control" of parts of the city of Oshnaviyeh, in West Azerbaijan province.

Images showed protesters walking freely with their hands aloft in triumph, but Hengaw acknowledged this could be "temporary" and expressed fears of a new crackdown there.

Amnesty International warned of "the risk of further bloodshed amid a deliberately imposed internet blackout".

The London-based human rights group said evidence it gathered from 20 cities across Iran pointed to "a harrowing pattern of Iranian security forces deliberately and unlawfully firing live ammunition at protesters".

AL leader stabbed

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Ajay Kumar Bhowmik, secretary of agriculture and cooperative affairs of Chandpur AL, said, "It must have been a planned murder. Otherwise, it could not be possible to know when he was alone in the room."

He added that the hotel Rafiqullah was living in was built by his father Hedayet Ullah.

"It seems unusual that he was killed in the evening, despite people and relatives being nearby [given that the hotel is in a crowded area]."

Speaking to The Daily Star, Sudipto Ray, additional superintendent of police of Chandpur, said there were stab wounds in Rafiqullah's lower abdomen and injuries on different parts of his body.

Asked about the number of the criminals involved, he said there was no eyewitnesses or CCTVs in the hotel to ascertain that yet.

"We have, however, managed to collect footage from CCTVs near the hotel and we are now analysing those."

He further said, "We have also detained the hotel caretaker for interrogation," adding, "We are hopeful about solving case soon."

Meanwhile, the body was sent to the hospital morgue for autopsy.

Factories killing water bodies

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toxic chemical to the Tongi river. Thanks to the network of connected water bodies, the dark water eventually reaches the Shitalakkhya through the Balu river, locals said.

The people of Gazipura, Barabari, Kunia, Baghaikur, Shukundi, Nimali, Ershadnagar, Banamai, Duttapara, Harbait, Baigertek, Hyderabad and Mazukhan are suffering due to the pollution.

A farmer from Mazukhan, who did not want to be named for fear of reprisal, said, "I used to harvest 20 maunds of rice from my land. But now it has fallen to just about 11 maunds because we can't use the rotten water for irrigation."

A report of the International Finance Corporation in 2018 said Bangladeshi garment factories and mills that wash, dye, and finish fabrics consume 1,500 billion litres of water annually, which exacerbates falling groundwater levels. They also discharge toxic effluent that contaminates waterways and surrounding environments, harming the health, food production, and economic growth of local communities.

ROLE OF DoE

Nayan Bhuiyan, deputy director of the department of environment in Gazipur, said at least 30 lakh cubic metres (each cubic metre is 1,000

litres) of wastewater are released everyday from factories in Gazipur. Most of the pollution is done by 542 dyeing and washing facilities.

"Almost every factory has an effluent treatment plant (ETP). But they do not use the plants unless we visit them," he said, adding that the factory owners do this to save money.

Besides, the department has only nine employees to monitor around 7,500 factories in Gazipur. "It is not possible to monitor all the industries."

Mujibur Rahman Howlader, former chairman of the National River Conservation Commission (NRCC), said the commission made several recommendations to stop pollution.

"But the polluters keep on polluting, maybe because stopping pollution is not the government's priority. If it were a priority, the government would have stopped this. The shipping ministry has just built walkways along the Turag river and Tongi canal compromising with the river grabbers. It is understandable that protecting the rivers is not the government's first concern," he said.

Sharif Jamil, general secretary of Bangladesh Paribesh Andolon (Bapa) said as Bangladesh is a delta generated by rivers, the government should make genuine efforts to curb pollution.

She is alive

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anyone. We are giving her time and we may interrogate her after she has some rest."

On Friday, Moriom told reporters that she had seen photos of an unidentified woman's body, who was buried by police in Phulpur, Mymensingh, on September 10, and she thought this was her mother because the facial features and the clothes matched.

Moriom travelled to Phulpur with her two sisters and a sister-in-law, looked at the clothes in person, and told reporters that she was sure that the unidentified woman was her mother.

Rahima Begum went missing after she left home to bring water from a hand pump adjacent to her home in the Banikpara area of Khulna city around 10:00pm on August 27.

Her husband later went downstairs

and found her sandals, a scarf, and the water pot.

Moriom's sister Adari Akhter filed a case with Daulatpur Police Station accusing several persons, and law enforcers arrested six people.

(Our Khulna and Faridpur district correspondents also contributed to this report)

Boy dies as car swept away in Australian floods

AFP, Sydney

Australian police yesterday located the body of a five-year-old boy trapped in floods west of Sydney, the latest death from a prolonged period of heavy rainfall.