

Tisha gears up for a challenging role

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Nusrat Imrose Tisha is now one of television's most popular stars. At the same time, the actress has also achieved massive success on the silver screen, winning the National Film Award.

Her latest film, *Birkonna Pritilata*, is currently in the process of being released. It is estimated that the movie will see its release on November 18.

Fighting against the British, for the cause of freedom, under the leadership of Master Da Surya Sen, Pritilata

made a name for herself in the history books. The film has been made by Pradip Ghosh, based on the book *Bhalobasa Pritilata*, by esteemed fiction writer Selina Hossain.

Was it challenging for you to get into the role of Pritilata Waddedar for this film?

Of course it was challenging to take on such a character as Pritilata. Playing the role of such a famous person and getting into the character was quite challenging. Visually, not much exists on her, which could be used to get into the character. Everything about her, is in the book. So, I had to read the book, understand the author, and then prepare myself for the role.

After you finished shooting the film, were you able to understand how well you were able to become Pritilata?

Only the audience will be able to tell if I

did a good job of portraying Pritilata, after they have watched the film. I have tried my level best to do the character justice, and I feel that my performance gave me a good feeling. I acted to the best of my ability, and once the film is released, the audience can judge for themselves.

What were your thoughts on director Pradip Ghosh's work on the film?

The director has given his best and I am thankful for his efforts. Apart from this, he chose a beautiful location for our shooting. I feel that choosing a good location is also an important thing. Overall, I feel he did a great job of bringing this film to life and he was very thorough with his research.

Will the film be released in November?

As far as I know, it will be released this month. I have heard that the date will likely be

November 18.

How have you been spending your time recently?

I spend a lot of great time with my child. This might be one of the most beautiful times of my life. He is growing up and seeing him smiling is something that I cherish.



PHOTOS: TAKEN FROM FACEBOOK



Alia Bhatt gives birth to a baby girl

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Alia Bhatt and Ranbir Kapoor are now parents to a beautiful baby girl.

Earlier yesterday, the couple drove to HN Reliance Hospital, Girgaon for the delivery of their first child. The actress underwent C section for the birth.

The entirety of Bollywood is now congratulating the new parents.

The couple tied the knot in April this year after being in a relationship for around five years.

Puja Chery acts without makeup in latest flick



Puja Chery is one of the fastest rising stars in Bangladesh's film industry, this year alone giving hits like *Golui* and *Shaan* opposite Shakib Khan and Siam Ahmed respectively.

She will be seen in a completely different avatar in Mahmudur Rahman Hime's "Pori", a role for which she did not wear any makeup.

She plays her role opposite Jovan, a young and promising actor. "Pori is going to be one of my best works – that I can say. I just put on makeup in this web series twice, so the audience will find me in a new look."

Hridita was Puja's last released film. Her films *Masud Rana*, *Cash*, *Nakphool* and *Jin* are also awaiting release.

NEWS

HC wants to know

FROM PAGE 12

declared illegal.

The bench of Justice Md Nazrul Islam Talukder and Justice Khizir Hayat Lizu issued the rule based on a report published in The Daily Star on November 4 under the headline "A BPC concern robs state coffers of Tk 472.7cr".

ACC lawyer Khurshid Alam Khan placed the report before the HC bench for passing necessary directives on the issue.

According to The Daily Star report, the government has been deprived of Tk 472.7 crore due to 21 counts of irregularities by Standard Asiatic Oil Company, found an audit.

The disclosure came after the CAG pored over the company's books from fiscal 2012-13 to 2019-20 and made field visits.

The Standard Asiatic Oil

Company, which is a 50-50 joint venture between the BPC and the Asiatic Industries, is involved in the blending and marketing of engine oil and lubricating oil for vehicles; the marketing of diesel oil; the marketing and distribution of bitumen, liquefied petroleum gas and furnace oil; and supplying jet fuel to aircraft at Cox's Bazar International Airport.

The anomalies include embezzlement by top officials, high rates, overtime, missing funds, irregularities in payment of litigation fees and violation of the Income Tax Ordinance and VAT Rules.

Moinuddin Ahmed was found to be involved in the irregularities, according to the report.

Deputy Attorney General AKM Amin Uddin Manik represented the state during the court proceedings yesterday.

Hamid, former president of Gopalganj district Chhatra League, filed the case against her and several unnamed people earlier that day.

On Friday, he and other leaders had come across a video, which had gone viral on Facebook, where the accused made the comments about the Father of the Nation and the PM.

Ex-MP on remand

FROM PAGE 12

for harassment.

Upon hearing both sides, the magistrate rejected the defence's plea and placed her on a two-day remand.

Sultana was arrested from her Gulshan residence by Rapid Action Battalion yesterday after Abdul

The BNP men then resisted the attack and chased AL men away.

They then vandalised a local workers' union office and a few motorbikes.

In a separate incident, another case was filed with Bhola Model Police Station by local AL activist Shafiqul Islam on November 3.

BNP's Bhola Sadar upazila unit convener Asif Altaf was made the prime accused.

100-yr-old tunnel

FROM PAGE 12

viewing area to see the beautiful views at Niagara Falls," reported Fox4news.

"The power station, built in 1905 on the Canadian side of the Niagara River, has hidden decks and gives visitors a deep dive into the history of how workers kept it running for over a century," the report mentioned.

Spain, Germany

FROM PAGE 12

to a famous 7-1 win over Brazil in the 2014 World Cup and then beat Lionel Messi and Argentina in the final, also suffered at Euro 2020, where England knocked them out in the last 16.

It spelt the end for Loew, and former Bayern Munich coach Hansi Flick took the reins, giving the team an overdue refresh and operating with a high-pressing, intense gameplan.

Germany have a crop of exciting players, including Bayern duo Serge Gnabry and Jamal Musiala, plus Chelsea's Kai Havertz, as well as established stars like Joshua Kimmich and Thomas Mueller.

Spain are in a similar position, with youngsters like Pedri, Gavi and Ansu Fati, mixed in with older heads like Sergio Busquets and Alvaro Morata.

Luis Enrique's side produced a stunning 6-0 win over Germany in November 2020 when Loew was still at the helm, with Ferran Torres scoring a hat-trick in the emphatic Nations League triumph.

However Spain went on to lose to France in the final of that tournament and were knocked out in the Euro 2020 semi-finals by Italy, leaving fans hungry for more silverware after their golden era between 2008-2012.

Coach Luis Enrique splits opinions in his homeland for some of his selection decisions but his results have been good with Spain, who also press high and maintain plenty of possession.

FROM PAGE 12

luxury goods should be reduced. She urged all to eat local fruits instead of foreign fruits like grapes and apples.

Due to this recession, the amount of government subsidies in various sectors has increased, and the demand for subsidies has increased due to global inflation and transport costs, she said.

Subsidies in the electricity sector was estimated at Tk 17,000 crore. Now there is an additional demand of Tk 32,500 crore. This subsidy has to be paid to provide full electricity, the PM said.

An additional subsidy of Tk 19,558 crore is being charged on fuel oil. Tk 4,000 crore is spent on food import. Additional Tk 9,000 crore has to be paid for public friendly programmes.

Wait extends by at least another year

FROM PAGE 12

20.50-km dedicated road for buses from Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport to Gazipur.

It was supposed to be completed at a cost of Tk 2,037.85 crore by December 2016. But the deadline was extended several times, and the cost finally stood at Tk 4,268.38 crore.

According to the latest deadline, the project is supposed to be completed by December this year. The authorities, however, recently sought its third extension for the deadline till December 2023. The proposal is yet to be approved.

Currently, the Roads and Highways Department is working on a 16-km road, and the Bangladesh Bridge Authority is constructing a 4.5-km elevated road, including the 10-lane Tongi bridge, for the BRT line.

Yesterday, Quader opened two lanes of the flyover (around 2.2km) from House Building area in the capital's Uttara to Tongi Fire Service area.

Speaking at the opening ceremony near the Tongi bridge, he said, "Work of the project caused endless sufferings to the public; many even missed flights."

"I express regret to all," he said, adding that opening of the lanes will help reduce the sufferings to some extent.

He hoped that the BRT Line would be inaugurated in the first week of June next year. "People may have to endure sufferings for another monsoon."

The minister added that as per the prime minister's instruction, they would not undertake any new project before the next election.

DEADLINE NOW OCTOBER

At a press conference in September last year, Shafiqul Islam, managing director of Dhaka BRT Company Ltd, said bus operation would start from December this year.

But he told this correspondent in July this year that they would start the operation in July next year.

However, the project work was halted for more than one month after a girder segment fell on a car on August 15, killing five people. The work is yet to regain full momentum, said officials.

The project -- formally known as Greater Dhaka Sustainable Urban Transport Project -- witnessed 79.61 progress till October this year.

A project official said after opening of the two lanes, they will now focus on completing the rest of the Tongi bridge.

Currently, Dhaka-bound vehicles are using the existing Tongi bridge. Those vehicles will now ply the two lanes on a trial basis, he said. Besides,

they will build another Bailey bridge for those vehicles in case of any problem on the two lanes, he added.

The vehicles heading for Gazipur will continue to use another Bailey bridge, he said, adding that it would take up to March next year to complete the 10-lane Tongi bridge.

Both the BBA and RHD will hand over the structure to Dhaka BRT Company within June next year, he said, wishing not to be named.

Another project official said they are hopeful of procuring buses within July.

Earlier, the authorities wanted to buy electric buses, but their procurement would take more time so that they buy diesel buses in the first phase and later buy electric buses, he added.

"If everything works smoothly, we are hopeful of launching BRT bus operation within September or October."

HSC Bangla

FROM PAGE 12

A total of 12,03,407 students are expected to sit for the HSC exams at 2,649 centres in nine general, one madrasa and one technical education boards.

This year's HSC exams are delayed by almost seven months due to Covid-19.

were withdrawn, the import of goods increased and so, the forex reserve declined, she said.

Hasina, however, stressed the need for reducing import of luxury goods and the imposition of high taxes on the import of less necessary products.

In her speech, she also focused on the government's steps to ensure sufficient food stocks, ease the dollar crisis, lessen import expenditures and expand food-friendly programmes including OMS.

About BNP's allegations that the government imposes bus strikes ahead of the opposition party's rallies, she said, "What can we do if the bus owners do not drive the buses [fearing vandalism by BNP men as happened in the past]?"

200 BNP men

FROM PAGE 1

Saturday morning, hours before the BNP's Barishal divisional rally began.

The BNP men then got down from the cars and attacked a local AL office. They vandalised the office and its furniture and tore off photos of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

Furthermore, the attackers vandalised seven motorcycles and tried to set those on fire.

A Jubo League leader and two Chhatra League leaders were severely injured in the attack, read the case statement.

However, Ishraque on Saturday told journalists that his motorcade came under attack by the AL men in Mahilara around 7:00am.

Locals and witnesses told The Daily Star that BNP's motorcade first came under attack by the AL men.