

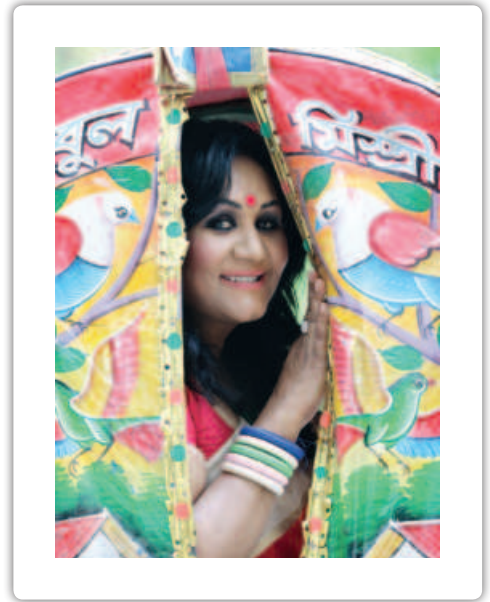
Playback music is a syndicate now

FAHMIDA NABI

ZAHID AKBAR

National Award-winning singer Fahmida Nabi has captured a place in the audience's heart with hits like *Ek Mutho Gaan*, *Dupure Ekla Pakhi*, *Lukochuri Golpo*, *Tobu Brishti Chai* and many more. She has collaborated with many notable artists and has lent her voice to many creations. She has recently released two new songs titled, *Jonaki Ahare* and *Shohor Chere*.

She sat down with The Daily Star to discuss her new music and her thoughts on playback singing in film.



You've recently released new music. Could you tell us more about that?

I'm a quiet and reserved person, I don't announce releases anymore. So far, I've been trying to do more modern Bangla songs. I feel like one day my songs will remain even when I leave. Thus, these two new songs were released. *Jonaki Ahare* was written by Hosne Ara Jolly and *Shohor Chere* has been penned by Sultana Nurjahan Rosy, composed by Sajib Das.

Once upon a time, a new release meant an album, containing 10 to 12 songs.

That doesn't happen anymore, now only singles are released. What do you think about that?

Everything changes with time, it is imperative to accept that change. Looking back, there used to be a time when musicians, lyricists and producers would work together in the studio to create an album. There was a lot of work, but also enjoyment involved in the process. That isn't there anymore and I find it saddening. However, like I said, it is important to change, that's the wisest thing to do. What remains, is to see if I have changed as well. From that perspective, I believe that I am still the same.

In 2007, you received the National Film Award for Best Female Playback singer, for Enamul Karim Nirjhar's "Aha", where you sang "Lukochuri Lukochuri Golpo". After that you weren't seen in the playback scene as much. Why was that?

Playback music is a syndicate. Our names are removed from the credits, without any reasoning. My father, Mahmudun Nabi also drifted away from playback singing after he received his National Film Award. I have come to terms with it now, what pains me is that because of such syndicates, the audiences cannot enjoy good songs in films anymore.

Have you ever wanted to pursue anything other than music?

I have only ever wanted to sing my whole life. Since my childhood, me and Shoma (Samina Chowdhury) had been asked what we wanted to be. She would answer that she wanted to be a doctor, while I have always said that I wanted to be a singer. I have fought to be here. Musicians have no retirement or breaks. A true artiste devotes their whole life to their art and its pursuit. There is no senior or junior in music, you just simply have to create. I want to create music and pursue it forever.



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED.

Netflix announces documentary on Yo Yo Honey Singh



Netflix is planning to release a bare-it-all docu-film about the life of hip-hop artist and rapper Yo Yo Honey Singh.

The *Lungi Dance* singer revealed on his 40th birthday that a Netflix documentary about his life will be released later this year. It will be directed by Moez Singh and will be produced by recent Oscar winner Guneeet Monga.

Honey Singh, born Hirdesh Singh in New Delhi, debuted as a Punjabi rapper in 2003. By 2011, he had hit songs like *Brown Rang*, *Desi Kalakaar*, and *Blue Eyes* and had also sang on Bollywood soundtracks.

Nusraat Faria sizzles in new music video

Get ready to groove with Nusraat Faria this Eid, as her latest video *Bujhina Toh Tai* is dropping this festive season. The actress has collaborated with Mumzy stranger and the peppy track will also feature DJ Lyan in the collaboration.

The *Operation Sundarban* actress announced the news on her social media recently.

Nusraat Faria looked scintillating in a blue halter neck one piece which she paired with a floral wrap-skirt and a back brushed hairdo which accentuated her beautiful jawline and her charming tattoos.



NEWS

AL leader held

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chairman candidate.

As the information spread, Ratan was going to return the machine. But law enforcers detained him on the way to the polling centre and took him to Boalkhali Police Station.

Jahangir Hossain, Chattogram district election officer and also the returning officer of the by-polls, said they issued a show-cause notice to the presiding officer of the polling centre asking him to explain the matter.

"We have also instructed the police to take action in this regard. The presiding officer primarily informed us that the ballot unit was a spare one and it was not being used for taking votes."

Jahangir, however, said no election material can be taken out of a polling centre as per electoral rules. As the AL leader violated the rules, the EC would take action against him, he added.

Boalkhali Police Station OC Abdur Razzak said Ratan was detained for quizzing. He declined to make any further comments.

Expressing resentment about the issue and the overall atmosphere of the by-polls, independent chairman candidate Kazi Ayesha Farzana said, "The Election Commission and the local administration had assured us of fair by-polls, but we have seen today [yesterday] that all polling centres have been captured by ruling party men."

"My polling agents have been driven out of most of the voting centres. Even an Awami League leader dared to snatch an EVM from a polling centre which is unprecedented," she added.

Police yet to file

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correspondent.

The three women were detained following the scuffle, he added.

Meanwhile, Md Mahabubur Rahman, officer-in-charge of Babugan Police Station, claimed the allegations of custodial torture were false.

Asked why police have not yet filed the case against the official, Md Farhad Sardar, additional superintendent of police, said they were yet to receive the court order.

However, Md Yasin, a clerk of Judicial Magistrate's Court-3, said the court order had been delivered to the general register office three days ago.

Ministry asks Biman

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haji registration to March 21 as the number of people who registered fell short of the quota of 1.27 lakh pilgrims from Bangladesh.

The ministry in another circular in the evening said this would be the last of the deadline.

People willing to perform hajj had requested for the extension, said the statement signed by Deputy Secretary Abul Kashem Mohammad Shahin.

Earlier in the day, Kashem told reporters that high airfare, devaluation of taka against US dollar and Saudi riyal and several other factors made hajj packages expensive.

As the previous deadline ended last night, the number of registrations reached only about 1.08 lakh, according to Hajj Office data.

The ministry extended the deadline three times before to fill the quota agreed between Saudi Arabia and Bangladesh.

Haji Agencies Association of Bangladesh (Haab) said many people didn't register for hajj because of the high cost.

To perform hajj, a Bangladeshi pilgrim will have to spend almost Tk 7 lakh, which is around Tk 1.61 lakh more than last year's cost.

The parliamentary committee on religious affairs ministry Wednesday asked Biman Bangladesh Airlines to fix the airfare at Tk 1.50 lakh.

The High Court on the same day asked Attorney General AM Amin Uddin to talk to the authorities concerned about the need for reducing the cost of hajj packages.

Cop was killed in my office

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Video clips on social media showed that Shakib went to the shop accompanied by Rabiul in a luxury vehicle.

On Facebook live yesterday, Rabiul thanked Shakib.

"Even after hearing everything [media report on his criminal record], Shakib Al Hasan bhai did not step back. In fact, no one withdrew," he said.

"I am doing a large business. It is not a small one," he said, adding that he would soon open a branch of Arav Jewellers in the USA.

Detective Branch chief Additional Commissioner Muhammad Harun Or Rashid said Shakib and the other celebrities were informed about his criminal records.

The cricketer and others joined the inauguration of Arav Jewellers knowing that its owner is an absconding accused of murder with 12 arrest warrants, he said.

Replying to a query, Harun said if needed, detectives would interrogate the cricketer and others.

The DB chief said after consulting with the senior officials, steps will be taken to bring Rabiul back home through Interpol.

The charge sheet has been submitted in the murder case, he said.

The DB official said they would try to find out the people behind Rabiul's rise and gold business since Rabiul claims to be the son of a labourer who had trouble providing his family three meals a day.

On his Facebook page, it is mentioned that he made a falcon sculpture for his shop with 60kg gold and that he has a luxurious duplex with a swimming pool in Dubai and



Shakib Al Hasan and Arav Khan in a photo uploaded yesterday on the Facebook profile purportedly belonging to the latter.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

a flat on the 65th floor of the Burj Khalifa, the world's tallest skyscraper.

Soon after the murder of inspector Mamun, Rabiul fled to India and hired Md Abu Yusuf to pose as him and surrender. Yusuf had been behind bars for nine months, Harun said.

In 2020, Rabiul managed an Indian passport and moved to Dubai. Yesterday, Rabiul claimed that he had visited Bangladesh.

Quoting police sources, several media outlets reported that Rabiul started his gold business in Dubai with financial help from a senior retired police officer.

Rabiul yesterday said some senior officials from Gopalganj helped him make his fortune and blamed a section

of the media for running "false news".

BCB CHIEF UNWARE

Bangladesh Cricket Board President Nazmul Hassan yesterday said he was not aware of Shakib's visit to Dubai.

He, however, said that a few days ago he learnt that Shakib would go abroad to inaugurate a gold shop. "But I was not aware where he was going," he told The Daily Star.

According to BCB cricket operations committee Chairman Jalal Yunus, Shakib will join the national team training in Sylhet today for the ODI series against Ireland.

Asked if Shakib returned, BCB CEO Nizamuddin Chowdhury said, "Yes, I heard he returned today [Thursday] from Dubai."

BNP and India deteriorated.

A senior leader responded by saying that India believes that the BNP was involved in the 10-truck arms haul, which is not true.

Verma then wanted to know about China-BNP relations and the BNP delegation said the party believes in friendly relations with everyone.

At the beginning of the talks, Verma wanted to know about BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia's health.

BNP leaders said she needed better treatment immediately.

New spacesuit

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cover layer in all black with blue and orange trim which Axiom Space said was required to "conceal the suit's proprietary design."

The final version will be in the traditional white used to reflect heat from the Sun and protect astronauts from the temperatures of the harsh lunar environment.

The suit is designed to be worn for up to eight hours at a time.

Vanessa Wyche, the Johnson Space Center director, said the new suit has "more functionality, more performance, more capability" than the bulky version worn by Apollo astronauts.

Two police officers shot dead in western Canada

AFP, Ottawa

Two police officers were shot dead in the line of duty early yesterday in Edmonton in Canada's western Alberta province, officials said.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau offered condolences to the families and colleagues of the officers, who local media reported were responding to a domestic call.

"Every day, police officers put themselves in harm's way to keep people safe. The news that two @EdmontonPolice officers have been killed in the line of duty reminds us of that reality," Trudeau tweeted.

The Edmonton Police Service said in a statement it was "mourning the loss of two of its patrol officers who were killed in the line of duty, while responding to a call earlier today."

Staff Sergeant Michael Elliott, former head of the Edmonton Police Association, said the officers were "killed near Inglewood," a residential neighbourhood in the north central part of the city.

"No words can describe what our members & their families are feeling at this moment. Our entire service & community are mourning & I'm devastated," he tweeted.

No other details of the incident were released, but television images showed a massive police deployment in the neighbourhood.

The city's police chief, Dale McFee, is scheduled to hold a news conference later in the morning.