



Television industry buzzing with EID PROJECTS

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Very soon, Ramadan will end, and it will be time for Eid. This time of the year, artistes who work in TV dramas are mostly busy with shooting. Throughout different parts of the country, shooting is taking place for all the Eid dramas we will eventually see on screen. This is particularly the case for shooting houses in Uttara and Pubail, Gazipur.

The Daily Star ventured out to learn more about the shootings for Eid dramas, that we will see on our screens very soon.

In Pubail, Gazipur, one of the more popular locations is the Hasna Hena shooting house. Almost all throughout the year, shooting is taking place almost every day here. After visiting this house, we learned that the shooting of a seven episode drama is taking place there. The drama in question is being directed by Shakal Ahmed for this upcoming Eid.

Several well-known actors are acting in this drama, which has been written by Brindaban Das and titled, **Wada**. The cast includes Chanchal Chowdhury, Shahnaz Khushi, Masum Bashar, Shirin Alom, Selina Srabanti and others. The drama follows the story of a family.

Mosharraf Karim will also be seen in several dramas this Eid. Shakal Ahmed recently directed a one-hour drama with the actor in Pubail. In this project, Tania Brishty will be acting opposite Mosharraf Karim, while Waliul Haq Rumi will also be playing an important role. The name for the drama

has not been finalised.

Shamim Zaman has also directed another Eid drama featuring Mosharraf Karim. The name of the project is **Gariwala**.

Renowned actor Afzal Hossain has started shooting for a seven-part Eid serial for the upcoming festival. The serial has been titled **Pabnar Bhabna**, and Afzal Hossain will be playing his popular role, Choto Kaku. Afzal Hossain is playing the role of Choto Kaku in the drama, the story for which has been written by Faridur Reza Sagar.

Alongside Afzal Hossain, Masum Bashar, Tariq Anam Khan, Jayanta Chattopadhyay, Wahida Mollick Jolly, Somu Chowdhury and many others will also be acting in **Pabnar Bhabna**.

Deepa Khandakar and Shatabdi Wadud are also shooting for an Eid drama at the Dhanbari Zamindar house in the Tangail district. The shooting has been ongoing at the location for a few days now. The drama is being directed by Masud Chowdhury and the project's name is yet to be finalised.

Speaking about the project, Deepa Khandakar said, "Zamindar house has been chosen for the sake of the story. Shooting at this zamindar's house in Dhanbari has been a strange experience."



PHOTOS: COLLECTED

Tariq Anam Khan also shot an Eid drama this week, titled **Pagla Sir**, in Uttara. The project has been directed by Asaduzzaman Asad and it has been written by Arif Khan Shadhin. Tariq Anam Khan will be playing the titular role of 'Pagla Sir'.

Speaking about the drama, Tariq Anam Khan said, "During Eid, we are all a little bit more busy shooting Eid dramas, as there is a large audience for such projects. We all end up working in very different stories and personally I enjoy playing so many different characters."

Chanchal Chowdhury has also finished

shooting a telefilm titled **Haath Safai**. The project has been directed by Tuhin Hossain. The actor has also completed the shooting for a seven-part serial called **Onko Sir**, which will be aired this upcoming Eid.

Chanchal Chowdhury shared his thoughts on his upcoming projects saying, "I always try to ensure the best quality performance whenever I act. Whether it's for a drama, a movie or an OTT project. The number of dramas I have shot so far for Eid have all given me a lot of joy. That is how I want to work."

Arif Khan has also directed a seven-part drama serial for this Eid. A number of stars including Ferdousi Majumder, Dilara Zaman, Dolly Zahur, Afsana Mimi, Sadia Islam Mou and Tahmeena Sultana Mou

have worked on this project. The drama has been written by Faria Hossain.

Speaking about the drama, Sadia Islam Mou said, "For the first time in my career, I worked with Mimi apa. There were many other legends present as well. I will be seen playing the role of a girl who has returned to the country from abroad."

Salahuddin Lavlu always directs several dramas for Eid, every year. This time, he just completed shooting for an Eid drama called **Kak Jochona**. Mamunur Rashid has written the story for the project, and he will also be seen on screen with the likes of Fazlur Rahman Babu and many others.

Speaking about the phenomenon of Eid dramas, Salahuddin Lavlu said, "The highest number of viewers watch dramas during the Eid holidays. Those of us who direct these dramas, keep the audience in mind. So, we try and ensure the project is up to the mark."

Actor Apurba has also shot another drama **Priyo Honeymoon**, for this year's Eid. Keya Payel will be seen opposite the actor, while Saikat Reza has directed the project.

The shooting of another seven-episode Eid drama, directed by Kaiser Ahmed, is ongoing in a village in Manikganj. The drama has been named **Bokulpur Eid Special**. Farzana Chobi, Waliul Haq Rumi and several other actors are also a part of this project.

In this way, artistes of TV dramas are spending a very busy time, shooting Eid dramas for audiences in various locations across Bangladesh, including Pubail, Uttara and Manikganj.

NEWS

51 begin serving

FROM PAGE 12

The ministry, meanwhile, has shared the protocol titled "Institutional Practice Guideline 2023".

According to the guideline, the service will be available from 3:00pm to 6:00pm every day, but the service cannot be closed until all the patients registered in a day are served.

A patient has to pay Tk 500 to get consultation from a professor, Tk 400 from an associate professor or senior consultant, Tk 300 from assistant professor or junior consultant or postgraduate physician, and Tk 200 from MBBS or BDS or equivalent qualified physicians.

A portion of the fees, Tk 25 to Tk 50 will be paid to the supporting staffers while an equal portion will be taken as service charge for hospitals.

In addition to the consultation services, patients will get diagnostics and laboratory, surgical, and procedures like endoscopy, colonoscopy, echocardiogram, etc.

The patient will pay Tk 1,000 for minor surgeries while Tk 1,500 for major ones.

If any patient requires hospital admission, respective physicians will arrange it, according to the protocol.

Each doctor of the hospitals will have to participate in the Institutional Practice twice a week.

No adjustment

FROM PAGE 12

Jahangir in the chair, the function was also addressed by Power Cell Director Mohammad Hossain, Dhaka Power Distribution Company Limited's Managing Director Bikash Dewan and Dhaka Electric Supply Company limited Managing Director Kausar Ameer Ali while FERB executive director Rishan Nasrullah conducted the event.

Responding to a question, Tawfiq Elahi said the government has set up a huge number of power generation plants from an advance thinking of serving the future load in industrial sector.

"We set up the power plants keeping in mind that some 100 economic zones are being established across the country. They will create a huge demand in power supply," he added.

The PM's energy advisor said that the government would not allow open-cut coal mining in order to protect the underground aquifer and also the top soil of the fertile lands that yield huge crops in the country.

It'll run for 2 more

FROM PAGE 12

within December this year.

Siddique said they earned Tk 6.2 crore by transporting 10.77 lakh passengers in the last three months.

During this period, the DMTCL spent Tk 7.33 crore for the operational cost that included electricity, manpower, and other related expenditures, he added.

The official also said the secretariat station currently presented a challenge because the secretariat's boundary wall needed to be moved

US, allies concerned

FROM PAGE 12

Myanmar's ousted leader Aung San Suu Kyi, 77, is serving 33 years in prison for various offences and dozens of her NLD allies are also in jail or have fled. The NLD had repeatedly ruled out running in the election, for which no date has been set, calling it illegitimate.

"We are seriously concerned that the exclusion of the NLD from the political process will make it even more difficult to improve the situation," Japan's foreign ministry said in a statement.

"Japan strongly urges Myanmar to immediately release NLD officials, including Suu Kyi, and to show a path toward a peaceful resolution of the issue in a manner that includes all parties concerned."

A spokesperson for Myanmar's military could not immediately be reached for comment. Its leader Min Aung Hlaing on Monday urged international critics to get behind his efforts to restore democracy.

A section of lawyers seeks

FROM PAGE 2

newly elected SCBA Secretary Md Abdun Nur Dulal told The Daily Star that a vested quarter has organised the so-called requisition meeting, which is not only illegal but also against the interest, discipline and constitution of the SCBA.

"The quarters have become ridiculous by organising the illegal and unnecessary requisition meeting, which we are not taking into account," he said, adding that SCBA executives were elected in the March 15-16 election through a proper legal

up to 15ft in order for the station to function properly.

He said they received the necessary approval for the work and would start soon.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inaugurated the country's first metro rail partially on December 28 and the service was opened to public the following day.

At first, metro trains were operated between Uttara and Agargaon without any stoppages. The authorities opened five other stations gradually.

US State Department deputy spokesperson Vedant Patel told reporters that the United States "strongly condemns" the decision to abolish 40 political parties.

"Any election without the participation of all stakeholders in Burma would not be and can not be considered free or fair," Patel said, using the Southeast Asian nation's former name.

Britain's foreign office criticised the dissolution of the NLD and other parties as an "assault on the rights and freedoms" of the Myanmar people.

"We condemn the military regime's politically motivated actions and their use of increasingly brutal tactics to sow fear and repress opposition," a foreign office spokesperson said.

Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade said it was seriously concerned about a further narrowing of political space in Myanmar due to tough election registration requirements.

and constitutional process.

Meanwhile, pro-BNP lawyers yesterday demonstrated on the SCBA premises, demanding a date to be fixed for holding a fresh election to the SCBA under an acceptable election conducting subcommittee.

In an apparent counter move, some pro-AL lawyers held a "peace meeting" in front of the SCBA president's office in protest of "pro-BNP lawyers snatching ballots and vandalising furniture on March 15 on the SCBA premises during the election."

A poor family's cries for justice

FROM PAGE 1

Police then sent the body to Dhaka Medical College mortuary for an autopsy.

After nearly 10 months, police informed Sarkis that the autopsy report had mentioned that her daughter had been raped before her death.

Three cases were filed over the incident between January 29 and November 22 last year, but police neither arrested anyone nor made any headway in the investigation.

The victim's parents have been alleging since her death that she was raped and then killed at her employer's flat.

"It has been a year since my child was raped and killed, but no culprits have been identified and arrested. Only Allah knows when we will see justice," said Iti's father Alamgir Mia, a rickshaw puller.

"To support our poor family, we sent her to work. But she had to suffer this kind of death within a few weeks," he told The Daily Star.

THE CASES

Iti's parents said they went to Rampura Police Station to file a murder case soon after seeing her body at the hospital. But the police registered an unnatural death case instead.

"I sent my daughter to work at the house of Iflat's parents in Dhanmondi. After around 20 days, she came back and stayed for a few days. I had to convince her to return to work. I learnt that she was working in Rampura when I talked to her for the last time," said Sarkis.

"If my daughter had died by suicide, why didn't they call the police and us to their house? I don't believe she killed herself."

On February 23 last year, Iti's father Alamgir filed a case with a Dhaka court accusing Rajin and Iflat of murder.

The court first asked the Criminal Investigation Department to probe the case. After the CID failed to come up with a report in nine months, the court asked the Police Bureau of Investigation to probe it, according to court documents.

PBI Sub-Inspector Nazim Uddin, who is investigating the murder case, told The Daily Star that he has been working on the case.

Meanwhile, the autopsy report was

prepared on October 26 by Towhida Begum, lecturer of forensic medicine at Dhaka Medical College.

It said, "Considering autopsy findings, chemical analysis, histopathological report of viscera, and microbiology and DNA analyses, the cause of death was asphyxia as a result of hanging, which is antemortem and suicidal in nature, but the sign of forceful sexual intercourse was present in the victim's body."

Asked why the report was delayed, Towhida said autopsy reports often get delayed because it takes longer to get the DNA report.

On November 22, around a month after the autopsy report came, Sarkis filed a case with Rampura Police Station over rape and suicide instigation, accusing unnamed individuals.

In the case statement Sarkis wrote her daughter worked in a house where Kamal Uddin Ahmed, his wife Kahinoor Kamal, son Rajin Ahmed, daughter-in-law Iflat Jahan Chowdhury and maid Rokeya live. Their driver, Monzur Alam frequently visits the house.

"I suspect my daughter was raped by a man living or visiting that house," the statement read.

Rampura police then submitted the First Information Report before the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court of Dhaka.

Inspector Golam Mowla, who is investigating the case, has yet to file any report on the probe.

Asked, Golam Mowla said, "We are working on it [case], but we are yet to identify anyone in connection with it."

Sarkis on January 5 wrote a letter to the Inspector General of Police requesting that he order the PBI to probe it.

"I am very poor. I came to you [IGP] as I did not get any help from the police station. To get justice, I want the PBI to probe the case," she wrote in the letter.

A senior PBI official, wishing anonymity, said, "The PBI is now investigating the murder case filed with the court. When a case is filed with the court, there is no scope to arrest anyone unless a probe report is submitted to the court and the court issues an arrest warrant accepting the probe. But without arresting the

suspects, it will be tough to complete the probe.

"Another rape case was also filed with the police station over the same incident following the autopsy report several months after the incident. The cases should be merged for the sake of the investigation. The murder case should be merged with the rape case, and investigation should be done by one agency."

Contacted, Kamal Uddin Ahmed, owner of the flat where Iti worked, said, "Anyone can make a complaint, but there are agencies to investigate the complaint. Police are investigating the incident now. I don't want to say anything. Talk to the police."

"After we found her hanging. We brought her down and sent her to a nearby hospital immediately."

His son Rajin Ahmed said, "It's a pre-judicial matter. I don't want to comment on this. After her death, I heard the girl was forcibly sent to our house."

Govt using DSA

FROM PAGE 12

against journalists, including Prothom Alo Editor Matiur Rahman, under the DSA is a severe blow to the freedom of expression," he observed.

Fakhrul alleged that the government has demonstrated that it wants to bury democracy forever by filing the DSA case against Matiur Rahman, editor of one of the country's leading newspaper.

By suing journalists under the DSA, he said the government wants to send out a message to the country's people that the government's activities cannot be criticised and opinions cannot be expressed freely.

"The Awami League government is continuing its terrible misrule in the country by indiscriminately repressing and suppressing the media, the fourth pillar of the state," the BNP leader said.

Fakhrul claimed the case against Matiur Rahman was undoubtedly filed at the behest of the government.

He also said the country's people and the media were in state of panic due to the killing and repression of journalists across the country.