

A new feather in BUBLY'S HAT

“Playing Orpa was very challenging, I had to take extensive preparations. My director helped in that regard.”

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

This Eid-ul-Azha was a special one for Shobnom Bubly. Two of her films, *Prohelika* and *Casino* were released in theatres on the occasion. During Eid-ul-Fitr, her films also reached unprecedented heights, as Bangladeshi audiences reacted exceptionally well to *Leader Amie Bangladesh*.

Bubly sat down with The Daily Star to speak about her films that were released this Eid, as well as their subsequent success.

Two of your films were released this Eid. How has the response been so far?

I love that people are enjoying my film. A few days back, I even saw that people had gone to the halls to watch my film even amidst the rain and storm. The shows are going houseful as the audience are loving the film. That's why I'm grateful to them. When you have a good film, it will spread by the word of mouth of audiences. This movie is proof of that.

Can you tell us a bit about 'Prohelika'?

This film adds a new feather to my hat. It has an exceptional story. In the film, I've donned the role of Orpa, Mahfuz Ahmed plays Mona and Nasir Uddin Khan, Jamshed. Chayanika Chowdhury is amazing at her craft and so was everyone involved.

Playing Orpa was very challenging, I had to take extensive preparations. My director helped in that regard.

How was the experience of acting opposite Mahfuz Ahmed?

He is an amazing human being and an exceptional actor, no doubt about that. I've learned a lot by working alongside him.

This Eid, your film had to compete with Shakib Khan, Apu Biswas and many others. Did you feel pressured in any way?

No, I didn't feel pressured or anxious in any way. Instead, I hope everyone's film does well. The film industry is a family, as much as I like to watch my films, I also watch everyone else's as well. I want everyone's films to be successful.



PHOTOS: COLLECTED



Shakib Khan in the US for 'Priyotoma' release today

The top hero of Bangladeshi cinema, Shakib Khan has gone to the US. This is because today, *Priyotoma* will be released in 42 halls across the US and Canada.

Speaking to The Daily Star a few days back, Shakib Khan had said, "The film will be released in the US today. I am also going there for the release. That's where I'll watch *Priyotoma*. But I won't be staying there for too long."

Sajeed Saptak, owner of the international distribution company, Swapno Scarecrow, said, "The film will be released in 42 theatres, in the first week, in Canada and the US. It is really good to have a Bangladeshi film release in so many theatres at this time."

Teaser for Prabhas starrer 'Salaar: Cease Fire' out



Today, renowned Indian actor Prabhas surprised fans by dropping the teaser for his upcoming film, *Salaar: Cease Fire*. Helmed by *KGF* famed director, Prashanth Neel, the film counts as the first part of the *Salaar* franchise.

Taking to his social media accounts, Prabhas shared, "The *Salaar: Cease Fire* teaser has arrived. Have you seen it yet?"

The teaser gave fans a glimpse into the action-packed world of *Salaar*. It portrays the story of a gang leader, who is trying to keep his promise to his dying friend and has embarked on a path to conquer all other gangs.

Salaar: Cease Fire stars Prabhas, Shruti Haasan, Chandu Kanuri, Prithviraj Sukumaran, and Jagapathi Babu, among others.

COUNTRYWIDE

FARM PRODUCE E-commerce can cut middlemen out

SHYKH SERAJ

Farmers are true entrepreneurs as progress of future economy of our country depend in their hands.

According to the statistics, currently there are more than 78 lakh (7.8 million) small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in Bangladesh, who contribute about 25 percent to the country's GDP.

The government is trying to increase the contribution of the SMEs to 32 percent by 2024.

When the spread of coronavirus turned the world economy upside down, E-commerce sector thrived across the world at the same time.

But, even after the COVID-19 pandemic, online shopping has become a part of their daily life to many people.

Compared to the previous times, online shopping has increased by 70 to 80 percent in Bangladesh during the pandemic period.

In 2008, Moyez, a farmer from Pabna's Ishwardi, phoned me and said he has some cows, raised in organic method.

He then asked me whether I would like to buy any of those cows for the Eid-ul-Azha?

"How can I buy without seeing the cow," I replied.

"It doesn't matter. Please give me your email ID, I will send you some photos of the cow," Moyez said.

After a few minutes, I opened my email and found some pictures of the cow with specifications in detail.

I was completely surprised because no one taught Moyez how to do that, rather he did that using his creative mind.

The online livestock markets were quite crowded ahead of the Eid-ul-Azha this year, while mangoes are also being sold online.

In 2017, I asked Li, a dragon fruit orchard owner at a remote village in China's Xinjing County, where do you sell so many dragon fruits?

He said he post the quantity and price of the fruit, produced in his orchard, in their Wechat group.

The global market of agricultural products will be worth USD 4 trillion by 2024, while our current achievement is only USD 500 million.

Markets for diversified agricultural products are gradually growing, but there is risk of fraudulence in such a competitive market.

Proper planning and monitoring are required from the beginning so that a farmer does not get cheated and take U-turn from this potential sector. We will have to think about a platform, where every entrepreneur can appear as an idol with their own brand.

The government is providing support to the young entrepreneurs through various initiatives like startup loans and implementing innovative ideas. If the government also takes initiative in creating an international online market for farmers, our young farmers would be more enterprising.

Deputy secy sacked on rape charges

FROM PAGE 12

questions and raped them. Mehedhi was then asked to explain why he should not be handed a severe punishment. But his reply was unsatisfactory.

Bangladesh Public Service Commission agreed to the public administration ministry's decision of sacking him.

President Mohammed Shahabuddin also approved the dismissal order.

Central Hospital

FROM PAGE 12

and hide their faults, vested quarters are using all means and are always busy misleading people of the country with false information," she said.

Akhi was not her regular patient, she added.

Following her press conference, the hospital authorities on June 22 sent a legal notice to Sangjukta, asking her to withdraw her statement.

These statements were baseless and tarnished the reputation of the hospital, read the notice.

It also warned that legal action would be taken if her statement was not withdrawn within seven days.

Akhi died on June 18, eight days after the death of her newborn baby.

On June 14, her husband, Yakub Ali Sumon, filed a case with Dhanmondi Police Station, bringing allegations of a botched C-section and fraud against the doctors concerned and the hospital.

In connection with the case, police on June 15 arrested two doctors — Shahzadi Mustarshida Sultana and Muna Saha — who later confessed to their negligence before a magistrate.

Why, and why now?

FROM PAGE 1

attending press corps but left enough food for thought about his sudden decision. "There are different reasons, which I don't think are necessary to reveal here. In fact, for some days, I've been discussing it with my family members," Tamim said.

Tamim has been under tremendous pressure both from the team management and some cutthroat media ever since his last-minute withdrawal from the one-off Test against Afghanistan last month due to a recurring back problem.

The situation probably reached the point of no return after a scathing counter-attack from none other than Bangladesh Cricket Board President Nazmul Hassan Papon.

The BCB boss was reacting to Tamim saying on the eve of the first ODI against Afghanistan that he was not 100 percent fit and hinting that there was

a risk involved in playing the game.

While Tamim's remarks drew criticism in the media, Papon only fuelled the fire by publicly saying that it was not some game being played in a neighbourhood. This is not the first time the BCB boss has publicly offended a player when he should instead have been playing the role of protector.

Tamim is not the first cricketer to play a game at less than 100 percent fitness, and he certainly won't be the last. Ask England captain Ben Stokes, currently playing the Ashes with a heavily strapped knee. His less-than-100-percent status is a well-known fact, and has not invited any censure when spoken about publicly.

But the all-encompassing BCB president is perhaps the only cricket chief in the world who pokes his nose into anything and everything when others

leave it to people who are experts in this field.

If Tamim's remarks were ill-advised, Papon's counter-offensive is damaging for Bangladesh cricket. For someone like Tamim, who played a key role in taking Bangladesh cricket to where it stands now, there is every reason to be offended by such an unbridled comment from the board president.

It also suggested that there was a division in the team and everyone was not rooting for the captain ahead of the World Cup.

Earlier, Papon went on record and said both Tamim and champion all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan had not been on talking terms for a while. However, there was little visible effort from the board president to break the ice or negate that tension.

While swiping at Tamim's remarks about his fitness, Papon said it has been creating discontent in the team. Even if there was any

discontent in the team, is the BCB boss in a position to disclose it to the public? The established cricket world considers the players' dressing room a sacred place, with internal discussions staying just that.

The latest incident was probably too much to handle for a gentleman like Tamim. The southpaw may be criticised for his apparent inability to accept criticism. But unfortunately, this had little to do with his on-field performance.

Making his debut in 2007, Tamim has been the epitome of skill combined with courage. He is the only Bangladesh batter to have put his name on the Lord's honours board with a magnificent century at a tender age in 2010. He is one of the few cricketers who injected a much-needed positive vibe into a defeatist team.

Tamim is a legend of Bangladesh cricket. He has 15,205 runs and

25 centuries across the formats, more than any other Bangladeshi. He has also featured in Bangladesh's highest opening partnerships in both the Test and ODI formats.

He deserved better than a tearful end to a magnificent career.

Reshuffle

FROM PAGE 12

to Dhaka (North) City Corporation mayor and a 25th batch officer, is appointed as the DC of Bandarban; Kaisarul Islam, APS to principal secretary to the PMO, is the new DC of Tangail; Md Asaduzzaman, APS to the home minister, is now the DC of Pabna; Arifuzzaman, APS to deputy minister of water resources ministry, is the new DC of Shariatpur; Khandakar Mushfiqur Rahman, APS to the state minister for disaster management, is now the DC of Cumilla.

Mohammad Mossaraf Hossain, home ministry deputy secretary and a 25th batch officer, is now the DC of Rangamati; Suraiya Jahan, deputy secretary at the Finance Division, has been made the DC of Lakshmipur; Shahina Aktar, deputy secretary at the Economic Relations Division, is the new DC of Feni; and Abdul Fatey Mohammad Shafiqul Islam, deputy secretary at the Power Division, is now the DC of Gazipur.

With the latest appointment and transfer, 29 DCs are from the 24th batch, 17 from the 25th batch, 11 from 22nd batch and seven from 27th batch.

It is likely that between 10 and 15 other districts will get new DCs in the coming days.

Graft allegation against health minister

FROM PAGE 12

report in a newspaper, he said the minister and his children bought land in Manikganj before it was acquired by the government to set up a factory for Essential Drugs, a state-run company.

He said it has become a practice for some people

with prior knowledge to purchase land on proposed project sites to make hundreds of crores of taka.

"It is sad that allegations were raised against our health minister in the newspaper regarding land acquisition," he said.

According to the opposition MP, the

minister bought 6.39 acres, his son bought 3.12 acres, his daughter bought 11.14 acres, and one of his brothers-in-law bought 5.54 acres of land near the project site.

The JP MP said that earlier, a report termed the land acquisition office in Cox's Bazar

a corruption hub. According to reports, the office used to take a 15 percent commission.

Urging the land minister to take action, Pir Fazlur Rahman said these incidents are shameful when the prime minister is carrying out development activities.

'Nothing to fear, all is well now'

FROM PAGE 1

"Do you see people going without food?" Kamal said.

"We are not just reducing inflation but also providing Tk 1.26 lakh crore as food assistance through family cards," he said.

Inflation must be controlled by giving food to those who do not have it, he said, adding that it was the best way to fight inflation.

"People are suffering all over the world due to the increase in the prices of

daily commodities. We are not outside the world... We are using what we have and we are in a good position," the minister said.

Kamal said, "Jica has come to see the status of the projects which are

being financed by them. Usually, multi-lateral financiers come to see their projects. They have also provided budget support."

Jica can help us in some sectors by coordinating with our budget, he noted.