



A resurgence of PLAYBACK SONGS

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

During the golden era of Bangladeshi cinema, music was one of the key factors for a film to attract the audience towards theatres. In between bidding goodbye to the 35mm camera, and welcoming high-fidelity digital cameras in filmmaking, the music has been neglected for many years. As the film industry was suffering from a huge loss, it also hampered the film songs as well.

The good news is that, this Eid-ul-Azha, five films were released, and it is a great sign for the industry that the audience are returning to the halls, and appreciating most of the films. At the same time, songs that these films showcase have played a great role as promotions for these films.

O Priyotoma
Himel Ashraf's debut directorial film *Priyotoma*, featuring Shakib Khan and Idhika Paul, presented two beautiful songs to the listeners. The track *O Priyotoma*, voiced by Balam and Konal, is currently trending on number 7 on YouTube. Balam's much-awaited musical comeback paid dividend, as the song was a

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breath of fresh air. Released from Tiger Media's YouTube channel, the song has reached 21M views in 12 days.

It was also viewed 6.6M times from Shakib Khan's verified Facebook page. The lyrics for the song has been written by Asif Iqbal, and music has been composed by Akash Sen.

Eshwar
Prince Mahmud has played a vital role in the Bangladeshi music industry since the 90s. However, the musician's magic has not been put to use in the film industry as much. Earlier, he composed songs in the films *Zero Degree (Prem O Ghrina)* in 2015 and *Voyongkor Sundor (Phirbo Na Aar Ghore)* in 2017. The track *Eshwar*, from the film *Priyotoma* which turned out to

be a masterpiece according to many critics, has been well received and loved by the audience as well.

Penned by Shomeshwar Oli, the song has been voiced by Riyad. Till the time of writing this feature, the song earned 12M views in 10 days, and is trending on number 9, which was released from Tiger Media's YouTube Channel. It also gained 5.2 M views on Shakib Khan's official Facebook

page in 11 days.

Gaa Chhuye Bolo

Raihan Rafi's directorial project *Shurongo* is making waves, primarily in multiplexes. Afran Nisho's silver-screen debut was praised for his performance alongside the story of the film. The track *Gaa Chhuye Bolo* from the film is a beautiful melody, which mesmerised the audience while watching the cinema.

It was also shared extensively on social media. From Chorki's YouTube channel the song was viewed 2.2 million times in 11 days, and 246K times from the platform's verified Facebook page. The song was a duet by Tanjib Sarwar and Abanti Sithi, with Tanjib also being responsible for the tune and writing the lyrics of the track. The composition and music arrangement have been

done by *Rupkothar Jogote* famed composer, Sajid Sarker.

Megher Nouka Tumi

Before the film's release, Chayanika Chowdhury's second directorial venture *Prohelika* was in the interests of people. The film's track *Megher Nouka Tumi* would definitely get a big credit for this promotion. The track which was composed by Imran Mahmudul has been written by Asif Iqbal. The duet song has the voices of Konal and Imran. The video of the song was appreciated for its perfect blend of cinematography and creating the romantic environment which complemented the song. It was viewed 574K times on Joy Music's YouTube channel in 11 days.

Hridoy Diye

Another track from *Prohelika* that was applauded by many and praised by music critics, *Hridoy Diye* has been written by Asif Iqbal, and composed by Kishore Das. *Prohelika* is a musical film. The track is a classical number, where Kishore and Swaralipi lent their voices. The song was viewed 411K times in 2 weeks from Rangon Music's YouTube Channel.



(From left) Sajid Sarker, Kishore Das, Prince Mahmud, Imran Mahmudul, and Akash Sen

COUNTRYWIDE

TWO UNDER CONSTRUCTION BRIDGES

Work goes on at snail's pace

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole

Work of two under-construction bridges over the Betna river in Jashore's Sharsha upazila sees very slow progress, much to the inconvenience of people of surrounding areas.

Locals said even though the deadline for completion of the work expired on July 3 this year, only half of the construction of the two 60-metre-long bridges on Gorpara road has been completed so far.

Meanwhile, in order to ease their communication problem, local people built two bamboo bridges next to the under-construction bridges on self-help basis, but that too turned vulnerable and risky.

Due to vulnerable conditions of the makeshift bridges accidents are often occurring.

Many people sustained seriously injuries after falling down while crossing the bamboo bridges on rickshaw-vans, easy bikes or motorcycles.

Mentionable, at least 10 people, including three members of a family, sustained injuries when an easy-bike and a motorcycle collided head-on and fell down from one of the makeshift bridges a week ago.

Of the injured, housewife Nasreen Khatun, 35, is now undergoing treatment at Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

Alamgir Hossain, headmaster of Bolidadah Government Primary School, said people living in the nearby villages are facing immense trouble as work of the bridges are going on at snail's pace.

He also urged the authorities concerned to make the makeshift bridges passable so that people can reach their destinations safely.

People are struggling to cross the bamboo bridges over the river amid risk, he said.

Local Government and Engineering Department (LGED) took the initiatives to construct two 60-metre-long bridges over the Betna river at a cost of Tk 12 crore.

Contractor Taufiqul Islam got the work order and started the construction work of the bridges on January 9 last year.

Though the contractor was supposed to complete the work by July 3 this year, only 50 percent of the work has been done so far.

Meanwhile, despite repeated attempts over cell phone, this correspondent could not reach Toufiqul for his comment in this regard.

Sharsha Upazila LGED Engineer Mamun Hasan said following a discussion with the contractor concerned the process is in progress for a fresh deadline.



One of the two under-construction bridges over the Betna river on Gorpara road in Jashore's Sharsha upazila.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

Khadija's ordeal lingers on

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four petitions to its full bench for a hearing.

Khadija has been denied bail as many as six times, said her family.

The student was sued at the age of 17 for hosting a Facebook webinar, where a guest speaker, Delwar Hossain, a retired army officer, made contentious remarks.

Delwar, who is abroad at the moment, was also accused in these cases.

While adjourning the bail petition hearing, the bench observed, "Why would you not take responsibility for what is being said by the guest of the talk show?"

They also said that owners of private YouTube channels and their talk show participants must take the responsibility for statements made at the programmes.

Nur at helm of Gono Odhikar

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Election Commissioner Ariful Islam announced the polls result around 10:30pm in front of the party office.

Earlier in the day, in a dramatic turn of events, Hasan, who was declared the party member secretary by its former convener Reza Kibria, and some leaders of the Kibria-led faction, joined the council at the last moment.

But Reza was not present.

In reply to a query why he was contesting, Hasan told The Daily Star, "I became the candidate to save the party from its possible splitting. The two factions tried to solve the feud within the party till the end."

Earlier, the Reza-led faction announced that they would boycott the council.

Even yesterday, his supporters demanded that the council be postponed, but the Nur-led faction did not agree, according to party sources.

To counter the council, the Reza-led faction declared they would hold a protest programme against the Israeli aggression on Palestinians at 11:00am yesterday.

When it was pointed out that Khadija was a university fresher, the bench observed that she is an adult.

Khadija, however, was sued while she was still a minor – 17-years-old, this correspondent verified from her birth certificate. She also had to spend a week in solitary confinement due to what jail authorities termed "misbehaviour".

A student of political science at Jagannath University, she was arrested on August 27 last year after police pressed charges against her in the two cases, filed by Kalabagan and New Market police themselves on October 11 and October 19, 2020.

Khadija suffers from chronic kidney stones, a health condition that has been further complicating her stay in prison.

Mugda hospital overwhelmed

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deaths were reported in the 24 hours till yesterday morning – taking the fatalities to 76 this year.

One of those deaths was reported from Mugda hospital.

Around 5:00am yesterday, six-month-old Mustafizur Rahman was rushed to the hospital after suffering convulsions. By 9:00am, the doctors declared him dead.

"My only son, who brought us immeasurable joy, has left us all alone," said his mother Mukta Akhter while howling inconsolably.

His shell-shocked father remained speechless and stared at his infant's motionless body.

SITUATION AT MUGDA HOSPITAL
The hospital is using three floors to treat dengue patients.

Female patients were being treated on the third floor, children on the eighth, and males on the 10th.

During a visit to the hospital yesterday, this correspondent found that most of the patients were on the floor due to space constraints, and some of the attendants were seen using hand fans to shield the patients from the heat.

Mohammad Rafique, 35, and his wife were seen feeding their five-year-old son, Mohammad Yeasin, who was admitted two days ago with dengue fever, on the floor.

"We requested the nurses for a mosquito net, and they provided one. But there is nothing to hang it from. We informed the staffers but they are yet to come up with a solution," Rafique said.

Admin sees 3rd reshuffle

FROM PAGE 12

yet to be approved by the government.

They also changed the category of the land and hiked the price by fivefold, reported media.

Of the other new DCs, Md Shamim Hasan, deputy secretary of the Public Security Division, has been appointed as Meherpur DC; Abdullah Al Khairum, director at the Prime Minister's Office, as Sherpur DC; Imran Ahmed, deputy secretary at the Statistics and Information Management Division, as Jamalpur DC; Md Abu Zafor Ripon, deputy

Md Babul Hossain, 50, a patient from the capital's Dhalpur, alleged misconduct by the hospital employees.

"When I feel unwell and call for the nurses' assistance, they respond with irritation. In some cases, they dismiss our calls. A few of them even misbehave."

He also complained of inadequate toilet facilities for such a large number of patients.

"In the morning, long queues are formed in front of the toilets. Considering that some patients may have diarrhoea due to the disease, the distress they face while waiting in line must be unimaginable."

WHAT AUTHORITIES SAY

Regarding the allegations, Prof Md Niyatuzzaman, acting director of Mugda Medical College Hospital, said, "We have supplied mosquito nets to every patient and installed ropes for hanging them. However, we were unable to install fans throughout all the floors as there are some infrastructural limitations."

About misconduct, he said the increasing number of patients has put immense pressure on the nurses and other staffers alike, leading to misunderstandings between them and the attendants.

"We only have 30 nurses for 428 dengue patients and so it is quite obvious that they may feel exhausted," Niyatuzzaman said.

To cope with the deluge of patients, he said, they are preparing 12 ICU beds to add to the existing 40.

secretary at the Cabinet Division, as Munshiganj DC; Mohammad Mobasser Hasan, deputy secretary at the public administration ministry, as Rangpur DC; Md Mahmudul Haque, deputy project director (deputy secretary) at the Prime Minister's Office, as Narayanganj DC; and Kisinger Chakma, deputy secretary at the disaster management and relief ministry, as Chuadanga DC.

Earlier on Thursday and Sunday, the government issued two circulars, appointing DCs in 20 districts.