

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Apurba takes his talents across the border

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Ziaul Faruq Apurba is a highly acclaimed actor in Bangladesh, renowned for his captivating performances in television dramas and web series. He has carved himself a distinct niche as a romantic lead. With his role in the drama *Boro Chole*, he has captured the hearts of audiences of all ages. His portrayal in the series *Buker Moddhe Agun* further solidified his recognition.

Recently, Apurba made his Tollywood silver screen debut with the film, *Chalchitra*. After wrapping up a 17-day shooting schedule there, he returned to his homeland.

In a candid conversation with The Daily Star, Apurba reflects on his experiences.

How was your experience working in Kolkata's cinema?

It was a beautiful journey, one to be etched in memory. Everyone in Kolkata showed profound respect, and their sincerity shone through. As an artiste, I'll always hold dear the memories of my journey in Kolkata.

You've shared the screen with Raima Sen in the movie 'Chalchitra'.

Can you share your thoughts about working alongside her?

I can't single out just one individual; I've had wonderful experiences collaborating with numerous talented artistes. Each artiste had a distinctive way of expressing emotions and love. I've witnessed camaraderie and affection from all sides, leading to a treasure trove of cherished memories.

Your presence in the Indian media

has been frequent.

Indeed, I've received significant attention, and I'm deeply appreciative of the abundant love and support I've received from everyone.

How did the opportunity to act in Kolkata's cinema come about?

It all started with Friends Communication. They got in touch, and we engaged in discussions. When I read the script, I really liked it.

Any memorable experiences working with the director?

I have worked under the direction of Pratim D Gupta, a highly gifted director. I must also acknowledge the contributions of Tota Roy Chowdhury, Raima Sen, Shantanu Maheshwari, Swastika Dey, and all the other actors.

What prompted you to accept the role in 'Chalchitra'?

It was the narrative. The storyline of *Chalchitra* held the greatest allure for me. Bengali audiences have an affection for storytelling and I, too, fell in love with the narrative. It features extraordinary characters and offers a distinctive thrill.

During your 17-day stay in Kolkata, what culinary delights did you relish?

Kolkata and Dhaka are in close proximity, offering a plethora of culinary options. If I were to name a few, Shingara would be at the top of the list. I also savoured a delectable pastry made with creamy milk, as well as chaap mutton. Not to forget, I enjoyed a scrumptious biryani from a renowned shop in North Kolkata.

How optimistic are you about the film?

I'm a believer in destiny. Everything is in the hands of the Creator. I've done my part, and the rest lies in the hands of Him.



PHOTO: COLLECTED

Jungkook's 'Seven' becomes fastest song to surpass 900M streams on Spotify



BTS' Jungkook has broken another record and this time it's in Spotify for Fastest Song to Surpass 900 million Streams with his first single *Seven* featuring Latto. *Seven* surpassed the 900 million mark in 92 days, shattering Miley Cyrus' previous record of 93 days.

The song comes from Jungkook's debut solo album, *Golden*, which will be released on November 3. The official music video for *Seven* was uploaded on YouTube in July.

The debut single by the Korean artist reached number one on the Billboard Hot 100 in the United States and the Global 200. On the same day, his new track *3D*, starring Jack Harlow, received 100 million Spotify streams.



Ajay Devgn praises Jaya Ahsan's film poster

Ajay Devgn has been in awe of Srijit Mukherji's upcoming cop universe film, *Dawshom Awbotaar*. The film's poster and trailer have impressed everyone from Amitabh Bachchan to Bollywood's favourite *Singham*.

Recently, Ajay Devgn shared his best wishes for *Dawshom Awbotaar* on his Instagram account. "Shubho Mahalaya! Presenting *Dawshom Awbotaar*, the original Bengali Cop Universe. Best wishes from Singham to Prabir. In cinemas on October 19," read the post.

Jaya Ahsan shared the post and thanked the *Singham* star. "It really means a lot. Thank you, Ajay Devgn," wrote the actress.

NEWS

Afghanistan stun

FROM PAGE 1

The stunning upset gave Afghanistan just their second World Cup win to add to a lone victory over Scotland at the 2015 tournament.

They came into Sunday's clash having lost their opening two games in India and on a 14-match losing World Cup streak.

After Gurbaz and the recalled Ikram Alikhil, with 58, had given them a decent target to defend, Afghanistan's bowlers went to work, striking at regular intervals.

Jonny Bairstow (two) was lbw to Fazalhaq Farooqi in the second over before Joe Root was clean bowled by 22-year-old man of the match Mujeeb for 11.

England were tied down, at one stage going more than eight overs without hitting a boundary until Brook managed the team's lone six of the innings in the 31st over.

Mujeeb sent back Chris Woakes before effectively sealing the game in his next over, having Brook (66 off 61) caught behind by Alikhil in the 19th over.

An angry Gurbaz smashed his bat into a chair as he departed with his team on 122-3.

Gurbaz had needed just 33 balls to get to his half-century as Afghanistan, put into bat, stormed to 100 without loss from 77 deliveries.

England spinners then dragged the champions back into the contest in the middle overs.

Their seamers, however, endured a day to forget with Sam Curran conceding 46 runs off four overs and new ball bowler Chris Woakes coughing up 41 off his four.

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