

How Moloy met Sabrina

Two bright stars of the entertainment industry, Nazia Haque Orsha and Mostafizur Noor Imran, shared their wedding vows during the last quarter of 2023. However, they announced the news to the world just recently. The newly-wedded couple shared their love story with The Daily Star.

The two were seen in a unique photoshoot, that caught everyone's attention. Taken by Badhon Mahmud, their close friend, Orsha shared that it was shot at a location near Jahangirnagar University, and they arranged it in just a matter of few hours.

SHARMIN JOYA

"We met at the set of *Shundori*, in 2020, a project by Bioscope. It was then that I discovered that he is a brilliant actor, and also a great human being. From our first collaboration, we became friends. However, the offscreen 'chemistry' between us started to begin soon, although it started from his side," shared the bride.

While speaking, Orsha also added that due to her mother's health complications, she was not ready for any relationship, rather, wanted to get married with the blessings of their families.

Orsha and Imran have shown their chemistry on-screen multiple times. After Siddiq Ahmed's *Shundori*, they further collaborated on *Jahan* and *Shahosh*. From friends to lovers, Imran has been a great support system for Orsha as she mentioned.

"My mother has been suffering from kidney problems for a long time and is going through dialysis. She was in ICU twice," said the actress, who is currently shooting for



PHOTOS: BADHON MAHMUD

me throughout all this time."

Due to her mother's health, Orsha, who is the eldest of the three daughters, chose to give most of her time to her mother, reducing her gigs by a huge margin. They had a private marriage ceremony limited to a few family members from both sides at Orsha's residence in Mohammadpur. The couple does not want to disclose the exact date of their marriage yet, as they want to arrange a ceremony that the rest of their families, relatives and friends can attend.

"I am proud of her," said a jubilant Imran, who is still remembered for his role as Moloy in *Mohanagar*. "I respect her, and I am a fan of her. I am overwhelmed with all the blessings from everybody, I am grateful for all the respect and love people have showered upon us," said the actor, who is currently shooting in Sundarban.

Will the audience continue to see the real-life pair on-screen? Imran said, "An artiste like Orsha, who is extremely talented and skilled, demands powerful characters. Sadly, there is a scarcity of strong female roles in this industry. Most people don't even understand the notion

of 'powerful female lead'. Nevertheless, I am keen to work with her."

An emotional Imran continued, "She is a great inspiration to me, and has been a family from the beginning. I feel extremely fortunate that I have a family full of great support."

The two were seen in a unique photoshoot, that caught everyone's attention. Taken by Badhon Mahmud, their close friend, Orsha shared that it was shot at a location near Jahangirnagar University, and they arranged it in just a matter of few hours. "I have always wanted to get married near hills and mountains, or nearby wilderness," added the *Sabrina* actress. "This shoot was done just after the day of our Akhd, and my sisters were more excited for this shoot than I was! Our friend Badhon and my sisters arranged the entire thing, and we did this shoot."

"Please keep us in your prayers," said the couple to all their fans and readers of this article. Hopefully, we will now see both of these brilliant artistes on screen together, more often.



Campus in Rajshahi. "Her health improved a bit, and she is currently under treatment at home. It was she who actually wanted to see me get 'settled', and both of our families came to an agreement when we got engaged a year ago. Imran has been a great support for



'Oppenheimer' and 'Succession' dominate Critics Choice Awards

In a star-studded affair at the 2024 Critics Choice Awards on Sunday night, Christopher Nolan's *Oppenheimer* emerged as the big winner, clinching a total of eight accolades, including the prestigious Best Picture award.

The film's triumph also extended to Best Acting Ensemble, and Robert Downey Jr was honoured as the Best Supporting Actor in Film category.

The ceremony showcased a diverse array of winners, with *Barbie* securing recognition as the Best Comedy and taking home additional honours for Best Song (*I'm Just Ken*) and Best Original Screenplay. *American Fiction* earned the accolade for Best Adapted Screenplay, adding to the evening's celebration of cinematic achievements.

Prabhas announces his next 'The Raja Saab' with director Maruthi



Following the successful commercial run of his recent film *Salaar: Part 1 - Ceasefire*, actor Prabhas has unveiled his upcoming project for 2024. The acclaimed actor took to social media to reveal the first-look of his next venture's poster, which is a thrilling horror entertainer titled *The Raja Saab*.

Helmed by director Maruthi and produced under the banner of People Media Factory, the film is set to be a pan-Indian release, reaching audiences in Tamil, Kannada, Malayalam, Telugu, and Hindi languages.

Renowned producer TG Vishwa Prasad is at the helm of production of *The Raja Saab*, with Vivek Kuchibotla serving as the co-producer.

COUNTRYWIDE

ONGOING COLD SPELL

Sales of warm clothes boom

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

As biting cold continues to sweep over the northern part of the country, sale of second-hand warm clothes peaked at different roadside makeshift shops in the district town.

Meanwhile, taking advantage of the bone-chilling cold weather, prevailing in Lalmonirhat and Kurigram for the last few days, a section of roadside warm clothes vendors is doing brisk business in the town and other adjacent areas.

Though low-income group people living in the Teesta river basin areas are the worst sufferers and main buyers, used and second-hand warm clothes are being sold at around double rate this year than that of last year.

Usually, as people from low and fixed-income groups do not have the ability to buy new warm clothes, most of them through to the roadside makeshift shops to buy used and second-hand warm clothes at a cheaper price.

But, the cold-hit poor people are compelled to buy second-hand warm clothes at a higher price than that of the previous year.

While talking, many cold-affected people in the town said sale of winter

clothes has increased significantly at the roadside shops and different other markets of the town amid the biting cold sweeping over the region for the last few days.

However, people mostly belonging to low and fixed-income groups are crowding at the makeshift shops to buy sweaters, jackets, cardigans, woollen caps and mufflers to protect themselves from the biting cold.

Rickshaw puller Mumtaz Uddin of Char Kalmati village in Sadar upazila said, "I bought a used jacket for Tk 300 from a roadside vendor in the town on Saturday."

It was only Tk 150 to Tk 160 last year, he added.

Rubel Islam, a second-hand warm clothes' vendor at BDR Gate area in the town, said he managed to sale a number used clothes in the last one week as demand for second-hand warm clothes is much higher than the new ones.

According to the District Relief and Rehabilitation Office (DRRO), at total of 30,000 blankets have been allocated for the cold-hit destitute people in five upazilas of Lalmonirhat and 43,000 blankets for people in nine upazilas of Kurigram.



Low-income group people through roadside shops in BDR Gate area in Lalmonirhat town to buy warm clothes. PHOTO: STAR

BCL leader lands in jail

FROM PAGE 12
officer-in-charge of Fakirhat Police Station.

Later in the day, the 21-year-old victim filed a rape case accusing Shakil and Mehedi. Police arrested Shakil in the evening.

In Chattogram, a schoolteacher landed in jail yesterday, hours after he was arrested in a case over raping a fifth grader in her school in the port city's Steel Mills area in Patenga.

Police said they picked up Md Jafar Iqbal Jasim, 32, headteacher of Chattogram Biggan School, from the same area. The victim's mother filed the case under the Women and Children Repression Prevention Act yesterday accusing him.

Quoting the complainant, the OC of Patenga Police Station, Kabirul Islam, said the schoolteacher runs the educational institution mainly for the children of working parents. He raped the 11-year-old schoolgirl several times in the waiting room on the second floor of the school building.

"She was raped again on January 9 after school hours. After returning home that day, she broke down in tears. Enquired about the reason, she disclosed the matter to her mother," the OC told The Daily Star.

The victim was sent to the One Stop Crisis Centre of Chattogram Medical College Hospital yesterday for medical tests.

[Our correspondents from Bagerhat and Chattogram contributed to this report]

First session of 12th JS on January 30

FROM PAGE 12
independents are actually AL leaders.

"Therefore, it would be very difficult for the opposition party - be it JP or alliance of independent MPs - to truly ensure accountability of the government in parliament," Prof Nizam Ahmed, parliamentary affairs expert and former teacher at the public administration department of Chittagong University, told The Daily Star.

The 12th parliamentary election was essentially AL versus the party-backed independents, with some seats compromised for the Jatiya Party.

"As a result, the

parliament will lack a genuine opposition. This seriously undermines democracy," he added.

Although the constitution is not clear about the formation of an opposition in the House, the rules of procedure in parliament shed some light.

It states, "Leader of the opposition means that member of the parliament who, in the opinion of the Speaker, is the leader in the House of the party, or of the group, as the case may be, in opposition to the government having the greatest numerical strength in the House."

President Mohammed Shahabuddin is scheduled

to deliver a speech on the first sitting of the parliament in line with the constitution.

MPs will discuss on the president's speech.

Only five political parties have representation in this parliament, down from the 12 parties in the sixth parliament formed after the 1991 polls.

If the JP becomes the opposition, this parliament is going to have the lowest opposition lawmakers since the restoration of democracy in 1991.

In the 10th parliament, the JP with 40 lawmakers was on the opposition benches.

In the 9th Jatiya Sangsad, the BNP-led

opposition alliance had 41 MPs.

BUSINESS OF FIRST SITTING

At the beginning of the sitting, the Speaker and deputy speaker of the House will be elected and they will be sworn in by the president.

The Business Advisory Committee of the new parliament will be formed on January 30 with the new speaker as its head. The committee will decide the tenure of the inaugural session and other businesses of parliament.

The standing committees on different ministries are likely to be formed during this session.

'India was and is now on our side'

FROM PAGE 12
Mahmud's comment came after his meeting with the Indian High Commissioner Pranay Verma, who called into the foreign ministry yesterday.

Journalists asked Mahmud if there was any discussion on the Western countries' response to the election result.

In its immediate response to the election, the US said the election was neither free nor fair, while the UK said the standards for democratic elections were not consistently met during the election period.

Canada said the electoral process fell short of the principles of democracy and freedom upon which Bangladesh was founded, while the EU regretted that not all major parties participated in the election.

Australia regretted that the elections took place in an environment where not all stakeholders could participate meaningfully and substantially.

They either expressed concern or condemned the violence and the arrests of

opposition members in the lead-up to the election.

"The election was free and festive despite many obstacles, including efforts to create anarchy by arson attacks and killing people," Mahmud said, adding that the foreign observers described the January 7 polls described it as free, fair and peaceful.

At the meeting, Mahmud and Verma discussed ways to expand trade and fully operationalise the connectivity projects that have been implemented, border haats and trade using the two countries' currencies.

They also discussed ways to settle some infrastructure issues for utilising the ports of Chattogram and Mongla to transport Indian commodities to the Northeast Indian states.

Mahmud emphasised renewing the Ganges Water Sharing Treaty, which will expire in 2026 and resolving the pending issues amicably.

Verma also extended Indian foreign minister S

Jaishankar's invitation to visit Delhi.

Mahmud's first foreign tour as the foreign minister would be to Uganda on January 17.

Speaking to the journalists, Verma said they discussed how the bilateral relationship over the last decade has reached an unprecedented momentum and how it has become irreversible and people-centric.

He also talked about the completion of some large projects including energy pipeline, railway projects, power plants and digital payment systems and is exploring some issues that they would work in the future such as climate change and digital economy.

The neighbouring country also wants to support Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's vision of Smart Bangladesh by 2041.

"India will always be ready to help the people of Bangladesh in realising their vision for a stable, progressive and prosperous society guided by our longstanding friendship."

SC extends

FROM PAGE 12
Ajmalul argued that private parties like lawyer Suman got temporarily involved with such cases to gain "political leverage". He termed this "mischief".

The bench ordered that Suman be made party to Alam's petition to get the HC suo motu ruling revoked.

Suman had earlier applied to be a party but Alam's lawyers opposed and the application was rejected by the chamber judge.

The Appellate Division of the SC was scheduled to hold hearing on January 8 on the leave to appeal petition filed by S Alam and his wife Farzana Parveen on August 21 last year through their lawyers seeking stay on the HC order.

However, a four-member bench of the Appellate Division, headed by Justice Borhanuddin, passed the deferment order on that day after lawyer Ajmalul sought an adjournment of the hearing.