



EASY OTT GUIDE OF 2024

Navigating our thriving streaming landscape

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In the ever-evolving world of entertainment, Over-The-Top (OTT) platforms have emerged as the trailblazers, reshaping the landscape of content delivery. Catering to a tech-savvy audience, the popular OTT Platforms in Bangladesh, such as Hoichoi, Chorki, Bongo, etc, offer a convenient blend of free and paid content, making them a cost-effective alternative to traditional cable television.

What sets OTT platforms apart is the flexibility they offer, allowing users to enjoy a customised watching experience on a range of devices. Unlike cable TV, which relies on a television set, OTT platforms provide the freedom to access content through smartphones, gaming consoles, laptops, tablet PCs and smart TVs. This flexibility has positioned OTT platforms as the go-to option for today's discerning audience.

How to dive into the world of OTT Getting started with OTT is a breeze. Here's a quick guide on how to access your favourite shows, movies, and more on these platforms:

Download and Install: Choose your preferred OTT app and install it on your device.

Sign Up: Create an account to unlock the full range of features and content.

Subscribe: Opt for a subscription deal if the platform operates on a subscription-based model.

Enjoy: Once subscribed, dive into the vast library of content and start enjoying your favourite shows and movies on demand.

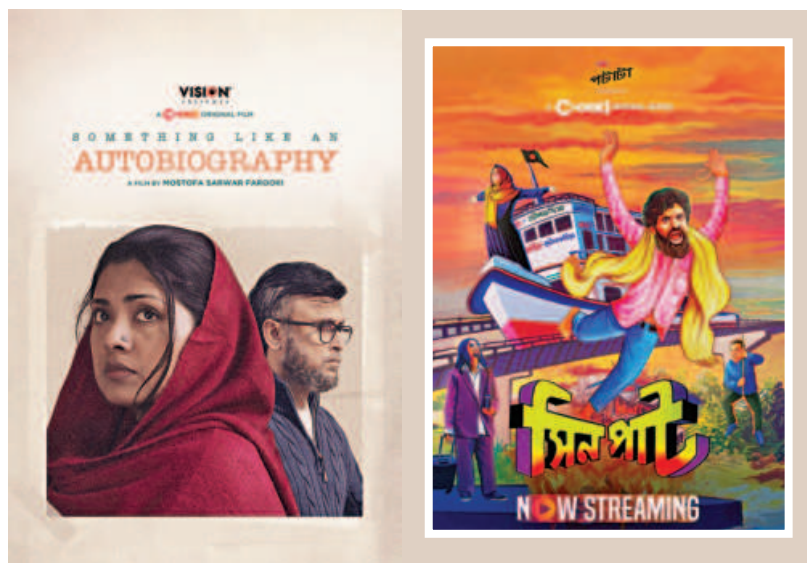
Exploring popular OTT platforms

Chorki

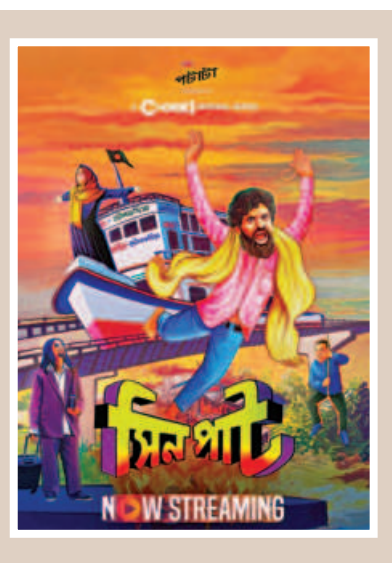
You can get a subscription of 3 months at Tk 289 (1 stream, 5 connected devices), and 12 months at Tk 949 (2 simultaneous streams, 7 connected devices).

Chorki's popular contents include

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Mohammad Touqir Islam's *Sinpaat*, Mostofa Sarwar Farooki's *Something Like an Autobiography*, Shihab Shaheen's *Myself Allen Swapan*, Anam Biswas's *Dui Diner Duniya*, Nuhash Humayun's psychological horror *Pett Kata Shaw*, Siam Ahmed and Tasnia Farin starrer *Punormilone*, and Afran Nisho and Tama Mirza



starrer *Surongo* extended version.

Hoichoi

Hoichoi offers a subscription of 6 months at Tk 499 (1 stream, 2 connected devices), and 12 months at Tk 999 (2 simultaneous streams, 6 connected devices)

Notable productions available on Hoichoi include Chanchal

Chowdhury starrer *Taqdeer*, *Karagar* and *Boli*, Mosharrar Karim featured *Mohanagar* and the latest *Mobaroknama*, Afran Nisho featured *Kaiser* and *Sharey Showlo*, and Mehazabien Chowdhury starrer *Sabrina*.

Binge

The Binge subscription pack starts at Tk 10 (daily). You can also get its weekly plan at Tk 29, monthly at Tk 69, and half yearly (6 months) at Tk 249 (3 connected devices and 1 simultaneous stream).

Notable contents include Mahfuz Ahmed and Shobnom Bubby starrer *Prohelika*, Tasnia Farin's *Baba Someone's Following Me*, *Mayashalik*, *The Silence*, *Kuhelika* and many others.

DeeptoPlay

DeeptoPlay offers monthly subscriptions at Tk 59, half-yearly (6 months) at Tk 299, and yearly (12 months) at Tk 549.

Popular streams on DeeptoPlay include Tasnia Farin featured *Nikosh*, Zakia Bari Mamo starrer *Shahoshika 2*, and Imtiaz Barshon-Nipun Akter starrer *Opolap*.

Bongo

You can get Bongomonthly subscription at Tk 50, and yearly at Tk 400.

A few notable contents on Bongo— Afran Nisho and Mehazabien Chowdhury starrer *Laaf*, *Bongo BOB*, and Tasnia Farin starrer *Oshomoy*.

Bioscope

GP users can avail of Bioscope plans— weekly at Tk 78 (Play Pack 1GB) and monthly at Tk 189 (Play Pack 3GB)

Popular content includes Apu Biswas's *Laal Shari*, Shakib Khan starrer *Priyatoma*, Khandaker Sumon's *Saatao*, and Arifin Shuvo starrer *Black War*, amongst others.

Toffee

The Toffee subscription pack starts with the lowest price at Tk 2 (1 day). You can get the subscription for 7 days at Tk 10, 30 days at Tk 30, and 90 days at Tk 75.

Siam Ahmed and Bidya Sinha Mim starrer *Antarjal*, Mizanur Rahman Aryan's *Hridoye Hridoye*, and Apurba starrer *Pothe Holo Deri*, amongst other popular productions, are available for streaming on Toffee.

COUNTRYWIDE

KAZIRHAAT-ARICHA FERRY SERVICE

Truckers' suffering continues

AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPU

Disruption in ferry services on Kazirhaat-Aricha route continued for weeks due to the cold wave and dense fog that sweeping across the country for the last couple of weeks.

Meanwhile, due to the situation many truckers and their helpers were compelled to wait at Kazirhaat Ghat, dedicated for ferrying goods-laden vehicles, for a few days.

Though ferry operations on Kazirhaat-Aricha route was badly disrupted for nearly two weeks till a few days back due to the dense fog and continuous cold spell, the situation has improved a bit in the last two or three days, BIWTC officials said.

For nearly two weeks dense fog prompted the authorities to suspend ferry services on the route for five to eight hours during the night, but currently they are continuing the service like before but in a slow pace due to poor visibility, the officials added.

Trucker Nahid Hasan, who started for Dhaka from Chuadanga, said they prefer to use Kazirhaat-Aricha route as it not only saves about 100

kilometres distance, but fuel cost as well.

But the smooth journey has become a miserable one due to lack of proper management by the authorities concerned, he said, adding that truckers from northern and part of some southern districts use the route in order to ease the pressure of heavy loads on Bangabandhu Multipurpose Bridge.

Though most of the truckers use this ferry ghat, there is no terminal or parking facilities for trucks, said trucker Surujjaman, who was travelling from Burimari Land Port.

Sometimes they are compelled to stay at the ghat area, but no security measure visible for them or their vehicles, he added.

Foysal Hossain, manager of BIWTC's Kazirhaat regional office, said they have been operating four ferries for carrying goods-laden trucks through the Kazirhaat-Aricha route. Usually, they carry 270 to 280 trucks by 15 to 16 trips using the four ferries every day, but at present many trucks remained stranded on the ghat area as they hardly can operate only 8 to 10 trips that ferries about 150 to 180 trucks.

Secys to sit

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told this correspondent that although there is a set agenda for the secretary-level meeting, the prime minister's impromptu speech is considered the key feature of the meeting.

Another official said the PM many give a strong message on curbing corruption.

"Sheikh Hasina had always been positive about many demands of the administration officials. But people still endure a lot of suffering to avail services... So, the prime minister may direct the secretaries to be strict about corruption," he added.

Asked whether the secretaries would place any demands, a secretary said, "Given the current economic situation, we don't have the scope for demanding new facilities. The main goal of all is to overcome the current economic crisis."

The secretaries of 58 ministries and departments usually take part in such meetings.

Law

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Disruption (Speedy Trial) (Amendment) Act 2024 a permanent act. No change has been brought in the content of the draft law," he told reporters.

He said the provisional law expires on April 9.

Asked whether this law is being used more on the political opponents, Mahub said no discussions in this regard were held in the meeting.

The punishment for offences under the law ranges between two and seven years and fines.

According to the data of lower courts collected by the Supreme Court, in 2022, at least 2,749 cases filed under the act were on trial in chief metropolitan magistrates' and chief judicial magistrates' courts.

Khulna romp

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Hossain, who was sent up to open the innings with Bijoy, remained unbeaten on 37.

The win took Khulna back to the top of the table with eight points from four matches — two ahead of Chattogram Challengers, who played five matches.

The win was made easy by Mohammad Nawaz's three wickets and two each from Mohammad Wasim and Mukidul Islam, who

stemmed the runflow after Mohammad Naim (41) and Saim Ayub had given Dhaka a brisk start.

From 75 for none in nine overs, Dhaka ended up with 130 for nine and now have only two points from four games.

Meanwhile, Sylhet remained winless after four games as the low-scoring trend continued on the third day of the Sylhet phase.

Electing to bat first,

Sylhet could only muster 137 runs for four wickets, thanks to a three-wicket haul from Omani left-arm pacer Bilal Khan. Harry Tector's 45 and an unbeaten 34 from Ryan Burl helped Sylhet reach some respectability.

Tanzid Hasan Tamim (50) and Tom Bruce (51 not out) made sure Chattogram Challengers reached the target with eight wickets in hand to register their fourth win of the campaign.

Woman shows up

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showed up, with her mother, at the Sonadanga Police Station in Khulna around 11:00pm on Sunday. She told police that she left the hospital on her own. A handful of journalists, including The Daily Star correspondent, were present.

"No one kidnapped me. I left the OCC [one-stop crisis centre] on my own and then I went to one of my relatives' home," she said.

Asked about the rape incident, the woman said, "I am very sick now. I have difficulty speaking. I will tell you everything after getting better."

The woman then left the police station.

The victim's grandmother yesterday said, "We have land-related disputes with some neighbours. My granddaughter went out on Saturday afternoon to meet the upazila chairman to discuss the matter."

"But my granddaughter

did not return. Around 8:00pm that day, someone called me over the phone and said my granddaughter would not return home that night. Around 11:00pm, one of our neighbours told me that my granddaughter was admitted to the hospital," she said.

Resident Medical Officer Suman Roy of the KMCH on Sunday said the woman told him that she had been raped.

"But she did not say who raped her. She even told me that she wanted to file a case with a court, not with any police station since she did not trust the police," Suman told The Daily Star on Sunday.

On Sunday afternoon, rights activists were waiting in front of the OCC of the KMCH to offer the woman legal support.

Mominul Islam, the Khulna divisional coordinator for the Bangladesh Human Rights Implementation Organisation, said, "Ten to 12

people were waiting in front of the crisis centre with a microbus. As soon as the rape victim came out around 5:00pm, she was forcibly put into the vehicle and whisked away. At that time, we were also beaten up."

Mominul yesterday said the woman might have been threatened and intimidated by criminals.

Inspector (Investigation) Md Amirul Islam of Sonadanga Police Station said, "As the woman did not file any complaint or case, we cannot take legal action against anyone."

The victim's brother, who had made the rape allegation, could not be contacted over phone yesterday.

Upazila Chairman Ejaz also could not be reached for comment.

Meanwhile, Human Rights Forum Bangladesh, a platform of rights bodies, in a statement yesterday expressed concern over the incident and demanded an impartial probe and justice.

Opposition

FROM PAGE 12

New Delhi over Prime Minister Narendra Modi's widely circulated post about his visit to the Lakshadweep islands.

Three ministers who made harsh comments were removed.

Meanwhile, Maldivian lawmakers yesterday voted against the appointment of three cabinet members after Sunday's unprecedented parliamentary punch-up over the ratification of the posts left at least one MP seriously injured.

Ruling party legislators attempted to block a vote by the main opposition — who with their allies hold the majority in parliament — on the new 22-member cabinet appointed by President Muizzu.

Videos shared on social media showed at least one MP bleeding from the neck after being caught up in a violent scum inside the chamber on Sunday night, leading to the temporary suspension of sittings, reports AFP.

Legislators were seen yanking off microphones and using plastic trumpets to disrupt proceedings.

Another MP pressed his knee on the neck of a rival to pin him down till two others came to the rescue of the victim.

Sunday's sessions were suspended close to midnight. A fresh meeting was called yesterday when a vote was taken on the presidential nominees to the cabinet.

Three key posts — the ministers for Islamic affairs and housing, and the attorney general — were rejected by parliament. The opposition did not say why they opposed the trio.

It was the first time since the country adopted a new hybrid constitution in 2008 — with a president as the chief executive — that presidential nominees have been challenged.



Hundreds of vehicles, many of them goods-laden, waiting to cross the Jamuna river at Kazirhaat ferry terminal in Pabna's Bera upazila.

PHOTO: STAR