

# 'COP' SABILA stoked for her new role

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

In the world of Bangladeshi drama, the dynamic duo of Sabila Nur and Ziaul Faruq Apurba has consistently captivated audiences with their performances in a variety of roles, particularly in romantic narratives. However, their latest venture marks a significant departure from their usual fare. For the first time, the pair are teaming up for a murder mystery, titled *Golam Mamun*, directed by Shihab Shaheen.

Set to premiere on Hoichoi on June 13, this series is a spin-off of the much-acclaimed series *Baker Moddhye Agun*, directed by Taneem Rahman Angshu.

Reflecting on this new experience, Sabila Nur shared, "I have done many dramas with Apurba *bhaiya*, and the audience has always received them well. However, this is the first time we have acted together in a web-series."

This collaboration offers a fresh dynamic as the actors explore the OTT platform, expanding their reach to a global audience.

Speaking about her co-star, Sabila praised Apurba, saying, "As a co-actor, Apurba *bhaiya* is always good. He is excellent both as an actor and as a person."

Moreover, he provided tremendous support to me in the *Golam Mamun* series."

Having worked extensively with director Shihab Shaheen, Sabila Nur holds him in high regard. "There is nothing new to say about Shihab Shaheen. Everyone knows how good of a director he is. His directed web-series and web-films have been widely discussed," she noted.

"I have done many dramas under Shihab Shaheen *bhai's* direction. This time, the three of us worked together on an OTT project. He is an incredibly good creator. I also received a lot of support from him."

In *Golam Mamun*, Sabila Nur takes on a role unlike any she has portrayed before—that of a female police officer. This character is a significant departure from her previous roles and represents a bold new challenge in her acting career. "Audiences have seen me in various roles in my acting career. However, this is the first time I have acted as a female

police officer," she remarked.

Playing a female police officer required extensive preparation and dedication. The actress shared her experience, stating, "I felt great playing the role of a female police officer. I prepared for a long time before shooting. And during the shoot, I received full support from the director."

When asked about her expectations for the series, she

**U-Turn** f a m e d a c t r e s s e x p r e s s e d o p t i m i s m, "Look, any work by Shihab Shaheen *bhai* is bound to be widely discussed. He does flawless work. I believe the series will also be widely talked about, and the audience will watch it. I am confident about that."

Despite the excitement surrounding the web-series, Sabila acknowledged the challenges of the role. "The role of the female police officer was quite challenging. I prepared for it accordingly. The rest will be judged by the audience after its release," she said.

Apart from the web-series, Sabila Nur is currently busy with the shooting of Eid dramas. "I will be seen in a few dramas during Eid. I am working less than before but focusing more on quality work. I now prioritise quality dramas, ones that will mesmerise the audience," she revealed.

As for her plans for the upcoming Eid-ul-Azha holiday, the actress has decided to stay in Dhaka. "I will be celebrating this Eid in Dhaka," she confirmed, indicating a break from her hectic schedule to enjoy the festive season at home.

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PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

## Abul Hayat honoured with Raj Razzak Lifetime Achievement Award

Celebrated Bangladeshi actor Abul Hayat, Kolkata's theatre luminary Manoj Mitra, filmmaker Prabhat Roy, and producer Purnima Dutta have recently been honoured in a grand ceremony in Kolkata on June 8.



At a Bengal Film and Television Chamber of Commerce event, Abul Hayat received the Raj Razzak Lifetime Achievement Award, Manoj Mitra the Hiralal Sen Lifetime Achievement Award, Prabhat Roy the Debaki Bose Lifetime Achievement Award, and Purnima Dutta the BN Sarkar Lifetime Achievement Award.

The awards were presented at Kolkata's Spring Club, in the presence of Bangladesh Disaster Management and Relief State Minister Mohibur Rahman as the chief guest.

## 'Dark World' joins Eid release race

Mustafizur Rahman Manik's *Dark World* is set to release on Eid-ul-Azha. The production house confirmed the release date by unveiling a poster of the film on June 8.

*Dark World* is a crime thriller. The plot revolves around a gang spreading pornographic footage on social media, with the cops striving to dismantle the group.

The movie stars Munna Khan, Koushani Mukherjee, Deepa Khandakar, and Misha Sawdagar, among others. In addition to acting, Munna Khan also produced the film.

This Eid-ul-Azha, four movies have been announced: *Dark World*, Raihan Rafi's *Toofan*, Rashid Polash's *Moyurakkhi*, and Mohammad Iqbal's *Revenge*.



# NEWS

## UZ chairmen saw higher growth

FROM PAGE 12 candidates and the assets mentioned in their income tax returns.

About 84 percent of the candidates' affidavits differed from their income tax returns in terms of assets.

Wealth of 191 people, who have been elected chairmen in the sixth upazila polls, rose by 100 percent or more compared to 2019.

TIB's analysis said 30.41 percent of the elected chairmen have assets worth at least Tk 1 crore.

Around 40 percent of the candidates mentioned their income below Tk 3.5 lakh, meaning they do not have taxable income.

Immovable assets of 51 aspirants have gone up above Tk 1 crore over the last five years.

Addressing the event, TIB Executive Director Iftekharuzzaman said public representation should be based on public interest, but it is absent in reality.

"Now it is a power-centric public

representation. One gets the scope to increase their wealth if they stay in power," he said.

Iftekharuzzaman added that it seems unbelievable that the candidates have no taxable income.

**BUSINESSPEOPLE DOMINATE THE SHOW** According to the TIB, the number of businesspeople contesting the polls rose by eight percent compared to the fourth upazila parishad elections.

Around 57.36 percent of candidates in the first four phases of the upazila polls are involved in business, the report said.

Around 69 percent of chairman aspirants are businesspeople. About 68.16 percent of the vice-chairman candidates and 28 percent of female vice-chairman contestants have mentioned business as their profession.

Of the elected, the rate of businessperson increased by 6.5 percent over the last five years. About

79 percent of the elected chairmen are businesspersons by profession.

**LAND BEYOND LIMIT** According to the law, an individual can have more than 33 acres of land. Twenty-five candidates were found to have land beyond this limit.

Seven elected candidates have land beyond legal limits.

Owning 280 acres, Dewan Ashid Raza Chowdhury, chairman candidate of Sunamganj's Dowarabazar upazila, tops the list.

At least 930 are new faces among the 1,210 newly elected chairman, vice-chairmen, and female vice-chairmen in the recently concluded upazila polls.

Seventy-six female candidates ran for chairman post in this upazila elections. Fourteen won, the TIB report said.

Of the total elected representatives, 28.63 percent have bank loans, while nearly half (44 percent) chairman-elect have bank loans.

## Official linked to embezzlement

FROM PAGE 12 in due process to be invalid and unjustified, it will be regarded as a highly controversial action "to say the least".

He added that such a decision contradicts the government's repeated commitments to zero tolerance against corruption.

"Questions will be asked whether this is an example of protection and promotion of corruption, which will only encourage further corruption in public institutions with unrestricted impunity."

concerned, speaking on condition of anonymity, expressed their disappointment over the reinstatement.

"This restoration sends a wrong message to junior officials that despite being found guilty, he did not have to face punishment," an official said.

Another official said, "Officials of the ministry investigated this officer; everyone knew he was involved in the corruption, but he got back his job instead."

Several officials of the ministry

## Free edn up to 8th grade

FROM PAGE 12 with 105 of them currently holding classes. Among these universities, there are vacancies in the positions for vice-chancellors (29), pro-vice chancellors (80), and treasurers (35)," Mohibul said.

In response to another question from MP Abdul Latif, the minister said a total of 4,613 educational institutions are currently not under

the coverage of Monthly Payment Order (MPO).

Responding to Opposition Whip Mujibul Haque, the minister said that an agreement had been reached with BUET's ICT institute to identify fake Bangladesh Technical Education Board certificates and that the process was already being carried out by institute experts.

"Upon detection, all forged certificates will be revoked, and any additional measures deemed necessary will be taken based on the information provided by the certificate holders."

In response to MP Pankaj Nath, State Minister for Primary and Mass Education Rumana Ali said the country has 944 primary schools with fewer than 50 students.

## Alcaraz wins maiden French Open

FROM PAGE 12 Garros crown to the Wimbledon title he won against Novak Djokovic last year and the 2022 US Open.

He will head to the Australian Open next year with the chance to become the youngest man to complete the career Grand Slam.

Fourth seed Zverev, who settled a court case in Germany two days ago over domestic abuse allegations, is still waiting for a maiden major title.

He had also lost his only previous Slam final in five sets, when he blew a two-set lead against Dominic Thiem at the 2020 US Open.

Zverev had high hopes of finally

getting over the line – he has also lost six Slam semifinals – but Alcaraz was too strong in the key moments as he levelled their head-to-head record at 5-5.

Alcaraz said before the final he wanted to join the list of men's players from his country, including his idol Rafael Nadal, to win the Roland Garros title, and he celebrated becoming the eighth Spanish champion by falling to the clay with his head in his hands in disbelief.

Zverev endured a miserable start, double-faulting on the first two points of the match en route to being broken in the opening game.

But Alcaraz was not immune to the nerves of a maiden French Open final, framing a regulation forehead into the stands and then also double-faulting as he gifted the break straight back.

The Spaniard did not take too long to find his groove, though, breaking to love in the fifth game on his way to pocketing the opener.

Having steadied himself, Alcaraz was serving for the third set at 5-3 before another dip allowed Zverev to take the lead in the contest, but the Spaniard raced through the next set despite a thigh issue and raised his game to prevail in the decider.

## Modi sworn in as India PM for third term

FROM PAGE 1 This is the first time Modi is leading a coalition government after having been the PM for a decade when BJP enjoyed a commanding majority. Modi became the premier for the first time in May 2014 and returned with a bigger mandate in 2019.

Modi's council of ministers consists of 30 cabinet ministers, five ministers of state with independent charge and 36 ministers of state. It has representation from most parts of the country as well as social groups. It has 27 ministers from Other Backward Classes, 10 from Scheduled Tribes and five from Scheduled Tribes and an equal number from minorities.

A record 18 senior ministers will be heading ministries, indicating that Modi has blended continuity and change to pick his new council of ministers.

Given BJP's critical dependence

on its allies this time in the absence of majority on its own in the 543-member Lok Sabha where half-way mark is 272, the party's NDA partners got 11 ministerial berths – five cabinet and six ministers of state in the third term of Modi.

Modi's previous council of ministers had two ministers of state from BJP's small-time allies Apna Dal (S) and Republican Party of India, but this time, there are two ministers of state with independent charge and four ministers of state.

Besides Hasina, the Maldives President Md Muizzu, Mauritius Prime Minister Pravind Kumar Jugnauth, his Bhutanese counterpart Tshering Tobgay and Vice-President of the Seychelles Ahmed Alif attended the oath-taking ceremony.

In addition to political leaders and eminent persons from different walks of life, members from the transgender

community as well as sanitation workers and labourers, who were involved in the construction of India's new parliament building constructed in Modi's second stint as PM, joined the event.

**HASINA MEETS MODI** Hasina met her Indian counterpart Modi at the Rashtrapati Bhavan in the first interaction between them since their victories in general elections.

Hasina and Modi, both smiling, had a brief exchange of pleasantries after the former gestured "adaab" before the Indian PM went for a handshake, which was warmly reciprocated by Hasina.

The meeting between the two PMs took place on the podium after Modi and his 71 council of ministers took oath of office and secrecy at the Rashtrapati Bhavan.

The two premiers proceeded to the banquet hosted by the Indian president. Hasina was led into the banquet hall by President Murmu.

## Missing UK journo found dead on Greek island: police

AFP, Athens

British diet guru and TV personality Michael Mosley was found dead yesterday on the Greek island of Symi where he went missing this week, police said.

"People on a boat saw a body close to the rocky coast," said Petros Vassilakis, police chief for the southern Aegean region.

The lifeless body was spotted by a television crew from Greece's ERT public channel out filming in the area where the 67-year-old disappeared.

A cameraman "saw something strange near the fence, 50 metres from the sea", ERT reporter Aristides Miaoulis said on air.

"We discovered it was this man... he was lying down (on his back)."

Symi's mayor Lefteris

Papakalodoukas was also with the crew and confirmed they had found Mosley, who had been vacationing on the island.

"It's the body of the journalist that we have been looking for over several days," he told ERT.

The authorities had on Friday announced they were stepping up the search after the Briton was last seen alive on Wednesday.