

Keya climbs the ranks on television



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SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Within just six years of her career, small screen actress Keya Payel has become a household name. To date, she has appeared in over a hundred tele-fictions. Her on-screen chemistry with actors like Apurba, Farhan Ahmed Jovan, and Mushiq Farhan is liked by the audience.

Due to the ongoing violence created during the quota protests, many television and film shootings were halted. Three projects featuring Keya Payel were also postponed. In a conversation with The Daily

Star, she shared when she will join the shoots, upcoming ventures, and more.

Due to the ongoing turmoil, shoots were halted. When are you planning to rejoin the shoots?

Three of my projects were disrupted due to the ongoing turmoil in the country. I will join the shoots from July 31, starting with Vicky Zahed's projects and another will be directed by Mohon Ahmed. Both of the shoots will take place outside Dhaka.

In your entire career, you were not seen in more than one television series, why is that?

I was featured in only one television series, *Joint Family*. Although I got offers for serials, I wanted to focus more on tele-fictions and telefilms only. Working in both serial and one-hour fiction gets tough, thus I prefer to choose one-hour fiction over serials.

You did not appear in OTTs either.

Not that I didn't get offers, however, till now I haven't got a role that has intrigued me. I am waiting for such a story and character – since it really matters how

you present yourself on your first outing in a platform. Thus, I am waiting for the perfect opportunity for an OTT debut.

Do you wish to work on the silver screens?

Which actress doesn't? Just a few days ago, I was offered a government-funded film, but the script wasn't up to par. For now, I will keep doing what's going well for me, and look to transition when I have the chance.

You've acted opposite the best that the television industry has to offer. Do you have a favourite co-star?

Funny you should ask, I recently calculated that since I debuted in 2018, I participated in more than 50 tele-fictions with Jovan. I was also in dozens of projects with Apurba *bhai*, Mushiq Farhan, Yash Rohan and Khairul Basar. To be honest, I enjoyed working with all of them, so I don't have a preference!

Do you watch your own tele-fictions?

I do. I try to watch them whenever I have free time. However, I am very critical of my own self, to a fault! I often feel like I can do better, and I try to do that in my projects thereafter.

How do you like to spend your free time?

I love travelling! Whenever I get the opportunity, I pack my bags and go on a trip with the family. Going around the world and meeting new people really opens your eyes to a lot of things, and also tends to give inspiration for new portrayals or characters.



PHOTOS: COLLECTED



Shafin Ahmed's burial scheduled for July 30

Shafin Ahmed's first janaza (funeral prayer) was held at Dar al Noor Islamic Community Mosque in Virginia, on Saturday at 1:00pm (local time).

According to family sources, his body will arrive in Bangladesh today afternoon. His second janaza will be held tomorrow after Zuhr prayers at Gulshan Azad Mosque. He will then be buried at Banani Graveyard.

The musician passed away due to a massive heart attack in a hospital in Virginia, United States, shortly after 6:00am last Thursday (July 25).

Earlier, on July 20, Shafin Ahmed was set to perform at a concert in Virginia, but the event was canceled due to his sudden illness. Later, he was placed on life support and passed away while receiving treatment.

Totini to make web-series debut



Tanjim Saiyara Totini is set to make her web-series debut with the OTT platform Binge.

Confirmed by the actress to Daily Prothom Alo last Friday afternoon, the series is yet to receive a title. However, it will be directed by Sunny Sanwar.

The actress previously ventured into the OTT platform with *Kolpona*, an episode in the Chorki anthology film.

Ei Muhurte, which comprises three short films.

The shooting for the series is scheduled to begin on August 5. However, due to ongoing political unrest across the country, this might be postponed.

NEWS

Nationwide crackdown, arrests go on

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18 in Mymensingh, 13 in Savar, 12 in Satkhira, 11 in Bogura, 10 in Kishoreganj, nine each in Cumilla and Natore, eight each in Madaripur and Chandpur, seven in Joypurhat, six each in Feni, Netrokona, and Cox's Bazar, five in Dinajpur, four each in Tangail, Khulna, and Naogaon, three each in Sylhet, Gaibandha, Jamalpur, Manikganj, and Barishal, two each in Kustia, Lalmonirhat and Bhola, one each in Barguna, Magura, and Jhenaidah.

Rab yesterday morning said they have so far arrested 305 people across the country, including 78 in Dhaka, since July 18 in connection with the violence.

MORE ON REMAND

Eight more people, including former Ducus vice-president Nurul Haque Nur and BNP Senior Joint Secretary General Ruhul Kabir Rizvi Ahmed, were placed on a five-day remand each after in a case filed over the vandalism of the Kazipara Metro Station in the city's Mirpur on July 19.

The other accused are Jamaat Secretary General Miah Golam

Parwar, BNP Organising Secretary Qazi Sayedul Alam Babul, its Dhaka North City unit Member Secretary Aminul Haque, Publicity Secretary Sultan Salauddin Tuku, Bagerhat district BNP Convener MA Salam and its activist Mahmudus Salehin.

Dhaka Metropolitan Magistrate Md Mainul Islam passed the order after investigating officer Asaduzzaman Munshi, an inspector of the Detective Branch (DB) of police, produced them before it with a 10-day remand prayer.

In the forwarding report, the IO said the accused planned and committed such offences as per the direction of Nur and others with an intention to topple the government. So, they need to be interrogated to find out vital clues about the incident, it added.

The court granted the accused 5-day remand each after cancelling their bail petitions along with the petitions to cancel the remand prayer on grounds they were implicated in the case as part of a conspiracy to harass them over political rivalry.

Claiming innocence, Nur told the court that he had earlier been tortured mentally and physically while he was

on a five-day remand in Setu Bhaban arson attack case.

He told the court that he had a blood clot on his right hand and that he was placed on remand again, his life would be at risk.

BNP leader Tuku told the court that he was also tortured earlier and that if he was to be on remand again, he wanted to receive treatment first.

Jamaat leader Golam Parwar demanded justice from the court, while his lawyer applied to grant him first-class status in jail. The court registered the application.

Meanwhile, another Dhaka court yesterday placed three people, including the former president of Islami Chhatra Shibir Rashedul Islam Rashed on a seven-day remand in an Explosives Act case.

The two others are – Jamaat-e-Islami Treasurer Khandaker Mizanur Rahman and Executive Committee Member Mohammad Abdur Rashid.

On July 27, Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime claimed to have arrested them from an office in Dhanmondi along with cocktails and other explosive substances.

Criminals to be tried

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Mentioning the formation of an inquiry commission, the MoFA said a number of departmental investigations were being conducted to find the reasons behind the killings and the violence, and whether there were any cases of negligence.

The statement went on to say that there has been no single case of "shoot-on-sight" by security forces deployed in the aftermath of terrorist acts, as well as no firing from helicopters during law

enforcement operations.

"There was no ulterior motive behind the inadvertent deployment of a white armoured personnel carrier (APC) that still had the UN insignia visible through the colour coating used to cover it.

"While the APC in question was quickly pulled out of service, the other images of law enforcement transports using UN insignia were false."

MoFA said broadband and mobile internet connectivity have been restored with full functionality by now.

Hasnatul's remand order

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remand order and sent the accused to the Children's Court, which sent him to a juvenile correction centre.

Earlier in the day, the HC asked the authorities to strictly follow the provisions of the Children Act in dealing with Hasnatul.

In response to a writ petition, the bench of Justice Muhammad Khurshid Alam Sarkar and Justice SM Maniruzzaman asked Additional Attorney General Sk Md Morshed to instruct the authorities, including the Jatrabari Police Station OC, to talk to the parents of Hasnatul in this regard.

Hasnatul's parents can submit an application with an undertaking and surrender his passport to the authorities so that he can be kept in their custody, said the HC judges.

Additional Attorney General Morshed told the court that Hasnatul will not be placed on remand and will be properly dealt with as a minor. The lower court placed him on remand as the documents in support of his being a minor were not produced before that court at that time, he said.

The HC judges said the arresting authority had to assess the age of Hasnatul during his arrest under the law.

The bench asked Additional Attorney General Morshed what he would do if his minor child had been arrested and placed on remand.

Morshed said relevant provisions of the Children Act will be strictly followed in treating Hasnatul and if his parents submit any application, it will be considered in accordance with the law.

The HC bench cited a photo of Hasnatul published on The Daily Star yesterday.

The photo captioned that "Hasnatul Islam Faiyaz, a first-year HSC student of Dhaka College, is tied with ropes as cops take him back to jail on a seven day

remand after he was produced before the CMM Court in the capital. Hasnatul was picked up from his Jatrabari home on Wednesday night in connection with a case filed over recent violence."

Yesterday, the HC bench also fixed today for further hearing of the petition filed as a public interest litigation by Supreme Court lawyer Shahdeen Malik challenging the legality of the lower court order that placed Hasnatul on remand.

Petitioner's lawyer Md Monjur Alam told this newspaper that under the Children Act, 2013, no child can be tied with rope, put on handcuffs and placed on remand.

The children cannot be sent to jail and kept with adult prisoners, he said, adding that the accused children have to be sent to juvenile correction centres.

Meanwhile, a law ministry press release yesterday said the Children's Court in Dhaka cancelled the remand of Hasnatul as a child and ordered the authorities to send him to a juvenile correction centre.

On July 27, Hasnatul was produced before the Chief Metropolitan Court of Dhaka, and the court placed him on a seven-day remand as the investigating officer of the case had sought.

Though the accused claimed that he is a child, the court granted the remand prayer as he failed to produce proof of his age.

Yesterday, accused Hasnatul submitted the relevant documents (SSC and birth certificates) in support of his age before the CMM court.

The court suspended his remand and sent the accused to the Children's Court for hearing and passing order determining his age.

After yesterday's hearing, the Children's Court ordered the authorities to send Hasnatul to a juvenile correction centre.

PM to attend

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maritime connectivity among the BIMSTEC member countries. The details of the agreement will be shared once the member states sign the document, said Indra Mani Pandey, Secretary General of the BIMSTEC, at a recent briefing in Dhaka.

"I believe BIMSTEC has a bright future. All members are committed to make BIMSTEC a success story," he added.

BIMSTEC adapted its charter on May 20 this year, 27 years after the founding of the regional body. It has institutional mechanisms and policies but is lacking practical cooperation.

Indra Mani Pandey said the upcoming summit would add new vigour to regional cooperation within BIMSTEC. It will adopt Bangkok Vision 2030, which would give direction to the organisation, he hoped.

BIMSTEC wants to create an enabling environment for rapid economic development through identification and implementation of specific cooperation projects in the agreed areas of cooperation.

It also wants to accelerate economic growth and social progress through joint endeavours in the spirit of equality and partnership, Indra Mani said.

55 police officers

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additional IGP (supernumerary) Krishna Pada Roy also posted in the PHQ.

Among the five additional DIGs, who were transferred to different posts, Sakhawat Hossain, who was attached to the PHQ transferred to the Tourist Police, Akkas Uddin Bhuyan of the Sarda Police Academy transferred to the Anti-Terrorism Unit (ATU) of Dhaka, Asad Ullah Chowdhury of ATU has been transferred to the River Police, Enamul Kabir of the Sylhet Range Office has been transferred to the Armed Police Battalion and Specialized Training Center, Khagrachari, and Mir Modasser Hossain of the Armed Police Battalion and Specialized Training Center, Khagrachari has been transferred to the Highway Police.

Finally, in two other separate circulars, the ministry posted and transferred 48 SP rank officers to different police units in different districts of the country, most of whom had also got their promotions earlier.