

Mosharraf Karim leads Hoichoi's 'Bohemian Ghora' with strong female ensemble



Hoichoi is set to premiere *Bohemian Ghora*, featuring Mosharraf Karim in an unconventional role under the direction of Amitabh Reza Chowdhury.

Known for *Mohanagar* and *Mobaraknama*, Karim plays Abbas, a quirky truck driver whose journey unfolds through unexpected turns. "The character fascinated me from the start," said the lead actor.

The series features Tanzika Amin, Runa Khan, Moushumi Hamid, Sadia Ayman, Jui Karim, Farhana Hamid, and newcomers Aditi and Brishti.

Runa Khan portrays a bold character, while Moushumi Hamid takes on the unique role of a honey collector.

Describing the series, director Chowdhury called it a humorous yet emotionally layered tale of relationships and self-discovery.

Bohemian Ghora marks another collaboration between Mosharraf Karim and Hoichoi, promising dynamic storytelling with diverse female leads.

Nazifa Tushi to return to the silver screen with 'SHOKHI RONGOMALA'

Nazifa Tushi is set to return to the silver screen as the lead in *Shokhi Rongomala*, directed by filmmaker N Rashed Chowdhury. She confirmed the news to Prothom Alo, expressing her excitement about the project.

Based on Shaheen Akhtar's novel, the film explores the life and struggles of a woman from an 18th-century zamindar family in Noakhali. Tushi, last seen in *Hawa* (2022), shared that she felt a deep emotional connection to the character due to her own Noakhali roots.

The first phase of shooting has been completed, with the second phase scheduled for June. The cast includes Swarnali Chaiti, Prantar Dastidar, Mostafizur Noor Imran, Toufiqul Emon, and Shilpi Sarkar Apu, among others. The film is expected to be released by the end of this year.

Three eminent lyricists honoured by Lyricist Association of Bangladesh



Geetikobi Shongho Bangladesh (Lyricist Association of Bangladesh) honoured three renowned lyricists—Shahid Mahmud Jangi, Liton Adhikari Rintu, and Golam Morshed—at the inaugural edition of *Geetikobi Adda*, held last Saturday at the Bishwo Shahitto Kendro auditorium in Dhaka.

The event brought together notable cultural figures, including Naquib Khan, Foad Nasser Babu, and Shawkat Ali Emon. Hosted by Tushar Hasan, the evening featured individual sessions with the honoured lyricists, moderated by Joy Shahriar, Saki Ahmed, and Adhara Jahan.

Each shared stories from their musical journeys, accompanied by short biographical videos. The *adda* offered heartfelt tributes and highlighted lesser-known aspects of their lives.

The association also officially launched its YouTube channel at the event. Geetikobi Shongho president Asif Iqbal delivered the closing remarks, marking a significant moment in recognising the legacy of Bangla music lyricists.



Bubly takes on a villainous role in her next project

After earning praise for her role in *Jongli* last Eid-ul-Fitr, Shobnom Bubly is all set to take another leap in her career with a new experiment as she took on a villainous role for her next project.

Reports suggest that Bubly is set to grace Eid-ul-Azha with a completely new look and role in the upcoming film *Pinik*, directed by Zahid Jewel. The project also features Ador Azad in the lead role.

This will be Bubly and Azad's third on-screen pairing, following their roles in *Talash* and *Local*.

Pinik is a thriller packed with suspense and action, revolving around themes of violence and revenge. The film's supporting cast includes Ali Raj, Fazlur Rahman Babu, and Azad Abul Kalam.

WHAT'S THE HAPS?



NATYA UTSAB 2025

Jahangirnagar Theatre will host a four-day festival under the slogan, "With toil as our tool and dreams as our guide, we breathe life into the stage."

The festival will feature an opening ceremony, stage performances of *Parabola* and *Informers*, a midnight poetry and music session, and a grand reunion on the fourth and final day.

Date: Sunday | May 13-16

Time: 7:30pm onwards

Venue: Jahangirnagar University

Bangladesh Federation of Film Societies announces new leadership

The Bangladesh Federation of Film Societies has appointed Zahidul Islam Kochi as president and Mohammad Nurullah as general secretary.

The announcement was made last Saturday by Professor Abdus Selim during the National Film Society Conference 2025, held at the Bangladesh Film Archive seminar hall.

Discussions that day addressed challenges such as declining audiences, financial struggles, and a shortage of quality films, while also identifying opportunities to strengthen grassroots cinema culture.



NEWS

Curb absolute

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Crimes Tribunal Act that allows political parties to be brought under judicial process, the BNP leader said the BNP had long demanded this move.

"During a February 10 meeting with the chief adviser, the BNP formally submitted this proposal in writing, stating that the Awami League should be held accountable as a political organisation for genocide and crimes against humanity."

Meanwhile, Nahid Islam, convenor of the National Citizen Party, stressed the need for a constituent assembly for fundamental reforms of the constitution.

"Unless there is consensus on fundamental issues like balance of power and decentralisation, democratic processes cannot function. If we truly want fundamental reforms, we must hold elections for a constituent assembly."

"Without drafting a new constitution, we cannot claim to have built a new Bangladesh."

"To abolish the fascist system, not only the constitution but also economic, political, and cultural reforms are necessary. Moreover, the fundamental principles of the constitution must be separated from partisan ideologies."

He further said NCP supports the statement of the chief adviser in that there is no connection between reform discussions and elections.

"However, before any election takes place, the trial of the Awami League and the implementation of fundamental reforms must be completed."

Criticising the 1972 Constitution, Prof Ali Riaz, vice chair of the National Consensus Commission, said the charter created room for authoritarian tendencies.

"It gave unilateral power to the prime minister and failed to ensure accountability within the executive branch. It is essential to maintain a balance of power."

Regarding the balance of power within a bicameral legislature, he said that while the upper house should have responsibilities for monitoring, giving it too much power could lead to clashes with the lower house.

Meanwhile, Irene Khan, a prominent human rights activist, urged political leaders to commit to implementing the Nagrik Coalition's seven proposals and to declare two roadmaps for their implementation.

Among others, Ganosamhati Andolon coordinator Zonayed Saki, TIB Executive Director Iftekharuzzaman, and National Consensus Commission Member Badiul Alam Majumdar also spoke at the event.

260 individuals pushed

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on Wednesday said, "We have strengthened border security and enhanced surveillance. We are on high alert."

The Forest department on Saturday night handed over 78 Bangladeshi nationals to the coast guards after the BSF dropped them off on a char in the Mandarbaria area of the Sundarbans.

Ziaur Rahman, station officer of the Burigalini Forest Station, said BSF personnel brought the individuals by speedboats early Friday and left them stranded.

Moshirul Rahman, Assistant Conservator of Forests, said many were found in poor health, with some bearing signs of abuse.

Two of the returnees — Saidul Molla, 27, and Abu Bakar, 22, from Narail — told The Daily Star they were detained by Indian police and kept at a BSF camp in South 24 Parganas before being pushed back.

"All the 78 individuals are now in coast guard custody, and investigations are underway for further procedure," said Lt Cdr HMM Harun-Or-Rashid, media officer of the BCG.

On the other hand, at least 59 Bangladeshi nationals were pushed back by BSF through two borders in Moulvibazar — 15 through the Dhala border in Kamalganj and 44 through the Pallarthal border in Barlekhia — on Wednesday and Thursday.

The same day in Khagrachhari, 79 more Bangla-speaking individuals were detained after being pushed in.

Acting Deputy Commissioner Nazmun Ara Sultana said all individuals are under BGB custody and the local administration is closely coordinating with border officials.

National Security Adviser Dr Khalilur Rahman on Wednesday said, "Dhaka is trying to establish contact with New Delhi on the reported pushings of people from India through the Indo-Bangladesh borders in Kurigram and Khagrachari."

"If they are identified as citizens of Bangladesh, we will accept them. This will have to be done in a formal channel. Pushing them in is not the way," he said.

At least 10 people, including two school students, have died from lightning strikes in the last 10 days in Kishoreganj. Seven others have also been injured.

Meanwhile, three farmers died while doing agricultural work in Bhairab and Kuliarchar upazilas of Kishoreganj in the afternoon.

In Bongoj village of the same union, another farmer, Jamir Khan, was struck by lightning and died on the spot while he was heading to the fields with a paddy harvester.

Regarding the balance of power within a bicameral legislature, he said that while the upper house should have responsibilities for monitoring, giving it too much power could lead to clashes with the lower house.

Meanwhile, Irene Khan, a prominent human rights activist, urged political leaders to commit to implementing the Nagrik Coalition's seven proposals and to declare two roadmaps for their implementation.

The victims are Faruk Mia, 60, of Rasulpur village in Bhairab upazila; Faisal Mia, 28, of Srinagar village; and Kabir Hossain, 25, of Hazari Nagar village in Kuliarchar upazila.

Umme Habiba Jui, medical officer

Civil surgeons to seek limited

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Commander of 46 BGB Battalion Lt Col Md Zakaria confirmed the detention of the 15 returnees from Dhala.

Kamalganj police are verifying their identities.

The commission, in its report, said inadequate healthcare services, poor quality, and widespread disparities based on class, group, region, and gender have contributed to this crisis in the healthcare system.

As a result, many people are facing difficulties getting treatment, with some even having to seek medical care abroad, it said.

POSSIBLE PROPOSALS

Referring to the recent incidents of violence against doctors and hospitals, Civil Surgeon of Dhaka Mohammad Zillur Rahman said they would seek workplace safety.

Civil surgeons of Chattogram, Rajshahi, Sylhet, and Khagrachari echoed the same view.

He said they want "limited" magistracy powers so that they can conduct mobile courts to take immediate action against illegal private hospitals, clinics, diagnostic centres, fake doctors, brokers, and those in possession of counterfeit drugs.

"We cannot take immediate action against these irregularities due to lack of power," he told this correspondent yesterday.

He said that there are only two posts — director general of Directorate General of Health Services and Directorate General of Medical Education — of grade I for health service cadres.

But there are some 37,000 members under health services, so the number of top posts (Grade I,2,3) should be increased, he added.

Rajshahi Civil Surgeon SIM Raziul Karim said they face different problems, including poor health infrastructure, while providing field-level health

services.

He added that Rajshahi Sadar Hospital is currently being used as the dental unit of Rajshahi Medical College Hospital. They will seek relocation of the unit by establishing a dental college and making the Sadar Hospital functional.

Sylhet Civil Surgeon Nasir Uddin said there are manpower shortage, particularly at grassroot level, which should be addressed to provide health services there. The issue is expected to be placed at the conference.

He added that they would seek instructions on how the recommendations of the Health Sector Reform Commission would be implemented.

The issue of healthcare in remote areas like in the hills is expected to be discussed, said Khagrachari Civil Surgeon Mohammed Saber.

Chattogram Civil Surgeon Jahangir Alam said they would take the matter of logistic support up at the conference.

Washington

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economies have met face-to-face to tackle the topic of trade since Trump slapped steep new levies on China last month, sparking a robust retaliation from Beijing.

TARIFFS 'LOSE-LOSE'

"The talks reflect that the current state of the trade relations with these extremely high tariffs is ultimately in the interests of neither the United States nor China," Citigroup global chief economist Nathan Sheets told AFP. He called the tariffs a "lose-lose proposition".

Govt forms

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Mohammad Hasan Chowdhury, the district where the former president hails from, was withdrawn. Besides, an additional superintendent of police posted at the immigration unit at the airport was also withdrawn, and a sub-inspector, who was the investigating officer in a case filed against Hamid in Kishoreganj, and an assistant sub-inspector of the Special Branch were suspended.

According to the chief adviser's press wing, the government-formed committee will submit its report within the next 15 days.

It will also have the authority to co-opt members if necessary. The home ministry's Public Security Division is expected to provide the committee with secretarial support.

Police earlier formed a body to probe the incident.

for his most valuable offer to play a greater role in bringing lasting peace to South Asia".

Meanwhile, Indian Army chief General Upendra Dwivedi has given the green light to all Army Commanders in the western borders to launch counteraction if the understanding reached between India and Pakistan's DGMOs on Saturday is violated.

India was set to send a team to the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) with the latest evidence of Pakistan's complicity with terrorism, per ANI sources.

In the border city of Amritsar, home to the Golden Temple revered by Sikhs, a siren sounded in the morning to resume normal activities brought a sense of relief and people were seen out on the roads.

"Ever since the day terrorists attacked people in Pahalgam we have been shutting our shops very early and there was an uncertainty. I am happy that at least there will be no bloodshed on both sides," Satvir Singh Alhuwalia, 48, a shopkeeper in Amritsar told Reuters.

The two countries, born out of British colonial rule in 1947, have gone to war three times — twice over the region of Kashmir.

Hindu-majority India and Muslim Pakistan both rule part of Kashmir but claim it in full.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has expressed gratitude to Trump for his "pathbreaking leadership and commitment to global peace and