



PHOTO: SHEKHA MEHEDI MONSHED

## A sneak-peek into the unlikely pairing of Antik Mahmud and Dilara Zaman

RAKSHANDA RAHMAN MISHA

Previously, Antik Mahmud had teamed up with the legendary Abul Hayat for a special animated video. This time, he is partnering with renowned actress Dilara Zaman, who will be lending her voice to a cartoon for the very first time. Interestingly, this unusual collaboration had been on Antik's mind ever since he worked with Abul Hayat.

"Last time, when I recorded with Abul Hayat sir, I mentioned that I wanted to work with Dilara Zaman ma'am. A year removed, that dream came true. It took me a year to come up with the perfect script," said Antik.

Though he didn't want to reveal too much about the new project, he did open up about Dilara Zaman's character. "She plays Amena *apa*, who lives in an old-age home," he explained.

"But just because her character lives there, doesn't mean the story will be sad. There's actually a funny angle – Amena *apa* decides that she wants to become a YouTuber! The story follows her journey as she learns how to become famous on YouTube.

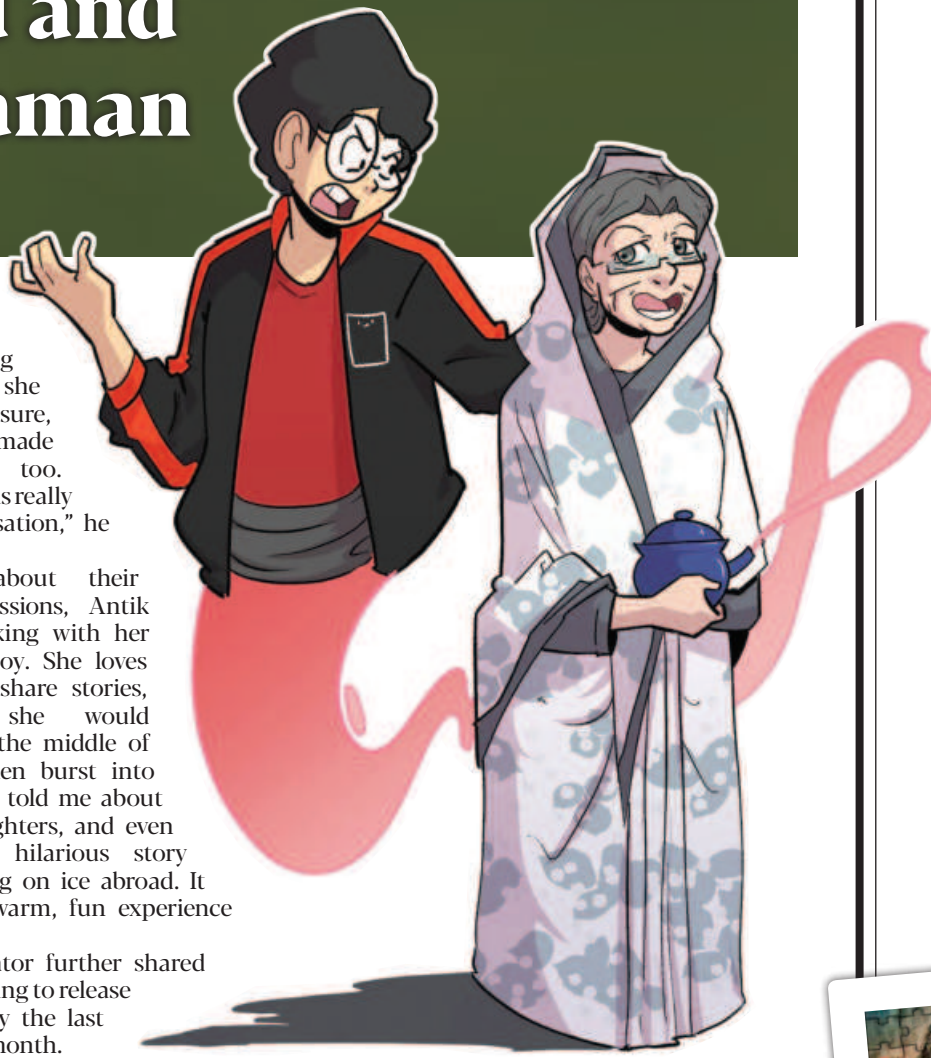
Antik also laughed as he recalled his first interaction with Dilara Zaman ma'am and how nervous he was before meeting her. "When I worked with Abul Hayat sir, I went to his house and could see his expressions directly. But with Dilara Zaman

ma'am, most of our communication happened over the phone. I was really nervous because she kept asking me what she should wear to the recording – 'Should I wear a saree or a salwar kameez?' she asked. I was so confused and I told her 'Ma'am, you'll only be recording your voice!' Since it was her

first time doing voice acting for a cartoon, she was a bit unsure, and that made me nervous too. However, it was really a fun conversation," he chuckled.

Talking about their recording sessions, Antik added, "Working with her was such a joy. She loves to talk and share stories, sometimes she would scold me in the middle of recording, then burst into laughter. She told me about her two daughters, and even shared this hilarious story about slipping on ice abroad. It was such a warm, fun experience overall."

The animator further shared that he is hoping to release the project by the last week of this month.



## Star Cineplex celebrates 'Humayun Ahmed Week' with four classic films



To commemorate the 77th birth anniversary of noted author and filmmaker Humayun Ahmed on November 13, Star Cineplex has announced a special celebration titled **Humayun Ahmed Week**, running from November 7 to 13.

According to a press release, four of Humayun Ahmed's most popular films – **Amar Ache Jol**, **Ghetuputra Komola**, **Noy Number Bipod Sanket**, and **Daruchini Dwip** – will be screened throughout the week.

The films will be shown across Star Cineplex branches at Shimanto Shambhar, Sony Square, and the Bangladesh Army Museum. During this period, visitors can enjoy a special "Buy One, Get One Free" ticket offer.

### WHAT'S THE HAPS?

## 'Agricultural Quest of Sultan'

As part of SM Sultan's birth centenary celebrations, University Press Limited and Duniyadari Archive present a special discussion on Pavel Partha's manuscript **Sultan's Agricultural Inquiry**. Featuring noted scholars and artists, the event explores the visionary painter's ties to land, labour, and ecology in Bangladesh's cultural landscape.

**Date:** Friday | November 7, 2025  
**Time:** 4pm onwards  
**Venue:** University Press Limited, RH Home Center, Green Road



সুলতানের কৃষি জিজ্ঞাসা  
পাবলি প্যাথ পিয়ার্সন  
ড. ফিরোজ হাফিজ, লিঙ্গা, প্রবাস বিজ্ঞান  
প্রবীণ রাস মাসুদ, শিল্পী ও লিঙ্গা  
সেহরান হাফিজ, শিল্পী ও লিঙ্গা  
ড. উম্মেদ ফাহিম, লিঙ্গা, প্রবাস বিজ্ঞান

## Arifin Shuvoo and Mondera-starrer 'NeelChokro' set for OTT release



After a successful theatrical run during Eid-ul-Adha, the much-anticipated thriller **NeelChokro (Blue Circle)** is set to make its OTT debut on iScreen this November 13. The announcement came through a teaser released by the platform earlier this week.

Directed by Mithu Khan, the film stars Arifin Shuvoo and Mondera Chakroborty in

lead roles. The cast includes Fazlur Rahman Babu, Shirin Alam, Khaleida Akter Kolpana, Shahed Ali, Priyonti Urbee and Masum Rezwan. The screenplay has been co-written by Mithu Khan and Nazim Ud Daula.

# NEWS

## Stored with hope, lost in silence

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It is the same story over at Molla Cold Storage in Joypurhat's Khetlal upazila, which sold 30,000 sacks of potatoes belonging to traders.

One such trader is Golam Mostafa, who had stored 10,000 sacks in the cold storage, of which 2,000 sacks are gone without his knowledge.

"We sold half the potatoes belonging to traders who had a large quantity stored with their permission," said Mustafizar Rahman, manager of Molla Cold Storage.

Compensation is being given based on the current market rate of potatoes.

When probed further about taking the traders' consent for selling the potatoes, he said they took written permission from 45 large traders.

Like Molla Cold Storage, Hafizur Rahman Beez Himagar in Khetlal also sold potatoes belonging to traders.

About 4,000 sacks

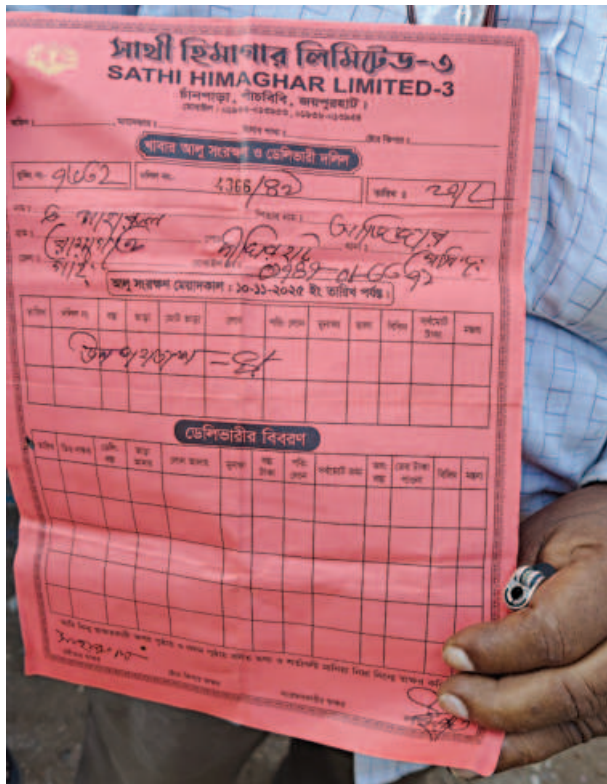
belonging to local traders were sold, according to Belal Sarkar, the manager of the cold storage.

Asked why they sold before the deadline, he said: "There were too many potatoes. We sold some because we thought it would be difficult to remove all the potatoes from the cold storage by the end of November. Besides, we had a condition with the farmers and traders to withdraw their potatoes by September 30."

Selling a farmer's or trader's potatoes without their knowledge is a crime, said Mehdi Hasan, Joypurhat district agricultural marketing Officer.

"We have warned the cold storages. If they commit the same offence again, we will recommend the cancellation of their licences. We will formally notify the cold storage owners in writing," he added.

The cold storage owners have been instructed not



to sell farmers' potatoes before the contract expiry dates of November 10 and 15, said Mostafa Azad Chowdhury Babu, president of the Bangladesh

Cold Storage Association.

"If farmers file written complaints with us against those who have already sold their potatoes, we will take strict action against them."

## National Revolution and Solidarity Day

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fateha at the grave of late president and party founder Ziaur Rahman at 10:00am.

The BNP's Dhaka north and south city units will also take out a procession from the party's Nayapaltan central office at 3:00pm. All district and upazila units will carry out similar programmes.

In addition, BNP's associate bodies and all units will organise various events, including discussions, cultural events, photo exhibitions, distribution of educational materials among orphan students, and documentary screenings.

Special supplements will also be published in newspapers to mark the day.

On November 12, the party will hold a discussion at the Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Centre.

Observing the day, BNP acting chairman Tarique Rahman yesterday said in a Facebook post that the soldier-people revolution

of November 7 marked not only a major turning point in Bangladesh's history, but also the beginning of nationalist politics opposing imperialism. The revolution, he said, played a crucial role in protecting the nation's sovereignty.

He wrote that, on that day, driven by patriotism, soldiers and citizens took to the streets vowing to protect national independence and restore democracy. "For this reason, the revolution of November 7 is regarded as a highly significant event in Bangladesh's history."

"I believe that in the spirit of November 7, all nationalist forces must unite to build a strong democracy. For that, protecting national independence and sovereignty is very important at this moment."

Announcing the programmes at the party's Nayapaltan office on Sunday, BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir said November 7 is a

very important day in Bangladesh's political and national history, as it brought a historic change in the country's politics.

He said the unprecedented unity of the people and soldiers that day paved the way for Ziaur Rahman's entry into politics and his efforts to rebuild the nation through major economic reforms.

During his rule, the country experienced a wave of development, and a spirit of enthusiasm spread among the people. Sadly, the enemies of Bangladesh brutally killed president Ziaur Rahman at the Chattogram Circuit House, marking another dark chapter in our history, he said.

Fakhrul said the philosophy of Ziaur Rahman, based on Bangladeshi nationalism, "can never be defeated. That's why the BNP has never been defeated – it has risen again and again from the ruins, just like the mythical phoenix."

"November 7 remains

an important day in our political life. We want to remember this day with respect and move forward with the spirit of revolution and solidarity it represents," the BNP leader added.

## BNP pledge bound to implement July charter

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and wounded the July uprising by ensuring that no new questions are raised or crises are created regarding the implementation of the July charter, it said.

The party has also urged the government to take sincere and effective actions to ensure the national elections are held on time.

Last night's meeting of the highest policymaking body of the BNP was held at BNP chairperson's Gulshan office. Party acting chairman Tarique Rahman presided over the meeting from London.

## Fugitive crime boss ordered hit on Sarwar

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Bostami area, first came under the spotlight after the murder of ward councillor Liaquat Ali Khan in June 1999. He was accused in the case but was acquitted due to lack of witnesses.

In July 2000, six now banned Chhatra League activists were heading to a rally when armed men ambushed their microbus at Bahaddarhat. The armed men killed eight people on the spot, including the six.

Sazzad was accused of leading the killing mission. He was arrested later that year with an AK-47 assault rifle. He got bail in 2004 and fled the country.

Police sources say Sazzad pulled all the strings of the underworld from abroad. Nur Nabi Maxon, Sarwar, Akbar, and "Chhoto Sazzad" were his key hands.

Maxon died mysteriously in India and with Sarwar and Akbar gone, "Chhoto Sazzad" became Sazzad's right hand in 2015.

But "Chhoto Sazzad" is now in jail, which created room for Mohammad Raihan, accused in 15 cases, to assume Sazzad's main man.

Sazzad controls the illegal sand, cement, and brick kilns trade as well as extortion in Bayezid Bostami with Raihan.

Raozan and Hathazari

are also strongholds of the gang.

Slain Sarwar's brother Md Alamgir yesterday told The Daily Star, "My brother had disputes with Sazzad over trade. He was in the sand and cement trade, but Sazzad opposed him. Sazzad had tried to kill him twice before but failed."

Sarwar's family allege that Raihan was behind the killing.

Police say Raihan was behind several recent killings, including a double murder in March this year in Bakalia. Two men were shot dead after a car chase. Sazzad was allegedly the target and he narrowly

escaped.

Despite several raids, police have yet to arrest Raihan.

CMP Commissioner Hasib said, "Sarwar had a criminal history and was likely the main target of the attack. Many of those behind the incident are already in jail, but there is a clear instigation from abroad."

On December 4, police raided a flat in the Oxygen area, but "Chhoto Sazzad" fired at officers and escaped via the roof. Two policemen and a civilian were injured.

Hasib Aziz, commissioner of Chittagong Metropolitan Police, later announced a Tk 5 lakh bounty on "Chhoto Sazzad".

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The arguments, lasting more than 2 1/2 hours, came in appeals by the administration after lower courts ruled that Trump's unprecedented use of the law at issue to impose the tariffs exceeded his authority. Businesses affected by the tariffs and 12 US states, most of them Democratic-led, challenged the tariffs.

Conservative Chief Justice John Roberts told US Solicitor General D John Sauer, arguing for the administration, that the tariffs are "the imposition of taxes on Americans, and that has always been the core power of Congress."

The tariffs - taxes on imported goods - could add up to trillions of dollars in revenues for the United States over the next decade. The US Constitution gives Congress the authority to issue taxes and tariffs.

Roberts suggested that the court could apply its "major questions" doctrine, which requires executive branch actions of vast economic and political significance to be clearly authorized by Congress.

"The justification is being used for a power to impose tariffs on any product, from any country, in any amount, for any length of time. I'm not

suggesting it's not there, but it does seem like that's major authority, and the basis for that claim seems to be a misfit," Roberts said.

The Supreme Court applied the "major questions" doctrine to strike down key policies of Trump's Democratic predecessor Joe Biden.

Trump has heaped pressure on the Supreme Court to preserve tariffs that he has leveraged as a key economic and foreign policy tool. A ruling against Trump would mark a significant departure for the court, which has backed him in a series of decisions allowing on

an interim basis his far-reaching actions in areas as varied as his crackdown on immigration, the firing of federal agency officials and banning transgender troops.

Trump invoked the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, or IEEPA, to impose the tariffs on nearly every US trading partner. The law lets a president regulate commerce in a national emergency. He became the first president to use IEEPA for this purpose, one of the many ways he has pushed the boundaries of executive authority since returning to office in January.