

‘10 e 10’: Shibu hopes to disrupt the music industry

“I released this song in April, but it didn’t make much of a splash. Then, on October 10; 10-10-25—people started making Reels that day and calling it ‘10 e 10’ Day,” Shibu explained.

PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

RAKSHANDA RAHMAN MISHA

If you’ve been scrolling through Instagram or TikTok lately, you’ve probably seen everyone sharing Reels or dancing to **10 e 10**. It’s everywhere! But do you know how it went so viral?

Shehab Shahariar, also known as Shibu—the upstart musician behind the song—shared how it all happened. “I was on a bus, heading home from university, when Hania Aamir posted my song. By the time I got home, I had 50 Instagram requests—something that had never happened to me before!”

“I released this song in April, but it didn’t make much of a splash. Then, on October 10; 10-10-25—people started making Reels that day and calling it ‘10 e 10’ Day,” Shibu explained.

Talking about the inspiration behind the track, he shared, “At the beginning of this year, I weighed 114 kgs and was really struggling with my weight. I felt insecure, and a lot of people disrespected me. One day I woke up and realised I needed to completely change my life. That’s when I wrote **10 e 10**. It was my way of encouraging the audience to never think badly about themselves. No matter what, you’re always ‘10 e 10.’ I just had to change myself first because I wasn’t comfortable with that version of me. Since then, I’ve lost almost 30 kgs.”

Shibu now enjoys a massive following on Spotify, with almost 90 thousand followers.

“A lot of people listen outside Bangladesh. In Bangladesh, I have about 36 percent listeners. I actually have a bigger global fanbase compared to my Bangladeshi listeners. People from the US, Canada, many NRBs (Non-Resident Bangladeshis), and recently Pakistan, India, and Nepal are also loving my music.”

His latest song, **Tauba**, has also been trending. “I made the beat for **Tauba** back in 2024. I sampled parts from Arfin Rumei’s **Sohena Jatona**—the harmonium, guitar, and mandolin portions—and the beat turned out pretty nice. After the success of **10 e 10**, I was confident it would work—and it’s blooming now.”

Up next, Shibu will perform at Arka Fashion Week alongside Muza on December 7 at 8:15pm. The singer, who first made his mark with pop, is now shifting his focus toward folk fusion and hopes to introduce the style to a wider audience. The first track from his upcoming album, **Opekkha**, has already been released, and more songs are on the way, with one set to drop later this month.



‘The Family Man’ Season 3 becomes Prime Video India’s most-watched series of 2025

The Family Man Season 3 has become Prime Video India’s most-watched title of 2025, reaching 96 per cent of pincodes within its first week.

The new season, which began streaming on November 21, also posted the franchise’s strongest opening yet and is trending in the top 5 in more than 35 countries, including the UK, UAE, Canada, Australia, Singapore and Malaysia.

Creators Raj Nidimoru and Krishna Dasarakothapalli said the response shows the series’ deep connection with audiences. The season features Manoj Bajpayee, Priyamani and Sharib Hashmi, with Jaideep Ahlawat and Nimrat Kaur joining the cast.

WHAT’S THE HAPS?

‘The Merchants Trail’

This curated walk dives into the river born soul of Dhaka, unfolding hidden courtyards, Mughal relics, lost merchant quarters, and streets still humming with centuries of trade. It offers a rare, intimate glimpse into a city shaped by the Buriganga—where history, architecture, and lived culture collide in vivid detail.

DATE: FRIDAY | DEC 5, 2025
TIME: 8:30AM- 2PM
VENUE: PURAN DHAKA



Shironamhin drops much-anticipated track ‘Ei Obelay 2’

Popular band Shironamhin released **Ei Obelay 2** yesterday, unveiling both Bangla and English versions of the sequel to their 2019 hit **Ei Obelay**. The track closes the band’s new album **Batighor** and premiered on their official YouTube channel. The English version is titled **Remember Me**.

Band leader Ziaur Rahman wrote the sequel and said listeners had long requested a follow-up. Drummer Kazi Ahmed Shafin directed the music video, with Resh Rahman providing the English translation.

The video was filmed across Ko Kham, Ko Mak and Ko Chang in Thailand, featuring television presenter Neel Hurerzahan. The Premium Homes Limited supported the production. Both versions are now available.

NEWS

Digital Bangladesh vision

FROM PAGE 12
proposed in more than 40 direct project proposals reveals procurement anomalies exceeding Tk 1,000 crore, driven by unnecessary equipment proposed repeatedly for procurement without operational needs and under-specified technical requirements, the report said.

Direct evidence of overpricing is also found with instances of equipment acquired at up to 2-4 times the global market value.

Connectivity projects increased dependence on private monopolies, creating public-funded networks operated through private hands and fragmented donor systems, weakening state control over core infrastructure.

The investigation found that key initiatives, including Aspire

to Innovate (a2i), were built on promotional metrics rather than verifiable outcomes.

The programme’s reputation as an innovation lab relied heavily on publications and potential efficiency claims, while actual performance data remained limited.

A dual-governance system allowed UNDP-affiliated consultants substantial influence over procurement and programme design, shielding decisions from domestic accountability.

Education-focused programmes such as the Sheikh Russel Digital Lab (SRDL) and School of Future showed widespread non-functionality, it said.

Many labs lacked maintenance, equipment or connectivity and school selection showed clear political bias.

Independent assessments detected no measurable improvement in student outcomes that can be attributed to SRDL.

Urban digital projects, including the Digital Sylhet City Project, collapsed under political patronage, procurement capture and administrative gaps.

Wi-Fi coverage reached less than 5 percent of intended beneficiaries and no agency assumed operational responsibility.

Nine major projects showed breaches of fiduciary duty, misclassified procurement and weak data governance.

Fulfilling the original promise of Digital Bangladesh requires restoring the integrity of the institutions responsible for its delivery, the report added.

3-year-old boy

FROM PAGE 12
Kushwaha’s father Siddharth Singh called his son’s achievement “a matter of great pride and honour”, Indian media quoted him as saying. “We want him to become a grandmaster.”

Kushwaha defeated three rated players in events across his state and other parts of the country to secure his record-breaking status.

India is a stable of chess grandmasters and has produced top stars including latest world champion Gukesh Dommaraju and five-time World Cup winner Viswanathan Anand.

Putin in India

FROM PAGE 12
“very happy” to be meeting “my friend” Modi.

“The range of our cooperation with India is huge,” he said.

Modi hosted Putin for a private dinner yesterday evening, followed by a summit meeting today.

Beyond defence, trade relations are expected to feature prominently as India walks a diplomatic tightrope. Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said talks to expand the supply of Russia’s advanced S-400 air defence systems had an “important place on the agenda”.

Indian media reports suggested Moscow may also offer co-production of Russia’s Su-57 fighter jets.

Pry teachers suspend strike

FROM PAGE 12
In this regard, the Directorate of Primary Education issued an order last night. The order, signed by Mahfuza Khatun, assistant director (policy and operations), said the transfer was made against a vacant post for administrative reasons.

Sharing a document on a Facebook post, Shamsuddin claimed that 41 more teachers were transferred “for taking part in their protest”.

Many assistant teachers of government primary schools were absent for the fourth consecutive day yesterday. The strike disrupted annual exams nationwide.

What began as a work stoppage on Monday escalated into a fully-fledged shutdown by Wednesday, as teachers pressed for pay scale upgrades and promotions. Their refusal to return to exam duties despite repeated ministry orders left thousands of students in limbo.

While some schools yesterday managed to hold exams with support from headteachers, office staff,

and guardians, many others have suspended them.

At Chonkanada Primary School in Jamalpur Sadar upazila, exams were conducted only after the upazila nirbahi officer and guardians broke the locks on classroom doors. In Mymensingh, similar interventions were seen as guardians and officials stepped in to ensure the tests were held.

In Barishal’s Muladi upazila, demonstrating teachers locked the gate of a school. The upazila education officer later broke the lock at Muladi Model Government Primary School.

In Rajshahi, Ashraful Islam, assistant district primary education officer, said tests were not held at 25 schools of Bagmara upazila, as headteachers came under pressure during the strike. “Arrangements are being made to hold the exams on Sunday.”

Mohiuddin Ahmed, Sylhet divisional director, said exams were held at all 5,054 primary schools,

though some faced difficulties as teachers tried to bar them.

In Narayanganj, District Primary Education Officer Ferdouse Begum said exams were conducted at all 547 schools in five upazilas. She said teachers boycotting duties had been reported to higher authorities.

Earlier, Convener Shamsuddin told The Daily Star that the primary education ministry had called for a meeting with Secretary Abu Taher Md Masud Rana, but it has yet to take place. “Without discussion or the fulfilment of our demands, we will continue our movement.”

The teachers’ three-point demand includes raising the pay scale to grade 10, resolving complexities in obtaining higher grades after 10 and 16 years, and ensuring 100 percent departmental promotion to headteacher posts.

Teachers are current at grade 13. There are over 65,000 government primary schools, with more than 1 crore students.

ICT issues arrest warrant for Joy

FROM PAGE 12
political leaders, former ministers, advisers, an Appellate Division judge, and a former secretary of the previous government.

They have now been charged with specific offences, removing them from that case.

Prosecutors brought three charges against Joy and Palak.

Charge-1 alleges that on the night of July 14-15, 2024, Palak, acting with Joy’s approval, posted three provocative Facebook statuses branding student protesters as “razakars,” and incited police, Chhatra League members and armed cadres to attack peaceful demonstrators at Dhaka University and elsewhere.

More than 1,400 protesters were killed and over 25,000 injured during the uprising.

Charge-2 accuses Joy of ordering Palak to shut down internet services to conceal the atrocities. Palak is alleged to have slowed and then blocked mobile and broadband networks, disabling apps such as Facebook, TikTok, and WhatsApp.

The blackout cut off protesters’ communication, forced reliance on

traceable SIM cards that facilitated block raids and arrests. It coincided with armed raids, drone surveillance, and helicopter gunfire that left 26 people dead.

The prosecution states, “The plan to shut down the internet originated with Sajeeb Wazed Joy, who consulted his mother, Sheikh Hasina, before making the decision. Accused Zunaid Ahmed Palak then carried out the shutdown.”

Charge-3 alleges that on August 5, during the “March to Dhaka,” Joy and Palak directed security forces and ruling party cadres to open fire on demonstrators in Uttara, killing 32 people and injuring dozens.

CHARGES AGAINST ANISUL, SALMAN

The second case alleges that Anisul and Salman held a phone conversation during the uprising, in which they said protesters should be “finished off” slapping a curfew. Based on this alleged conversation, indiscriminate shooting of students took place in Dhaka and other districts on and after July 20, prosecutors said.

Another allegation says that on July 22, 2024, Salman led a group

of businesspeople to a meeting with Hasina at the then Gono Bhaban, where he urged her to continue the crackdown, assuring her that the business community stood by her “even at the cost of their lives”.

Prosecutors say these actions amounted to incitement, assistance, and active participation in crimes against humanity.

An additional charge accuses Anisul of overseeing the filing of 286 “false cases” against some 4,50,000 student protesters, leading to illegal arrests and custodial torture.

Prosecutor Gazi Monwar Hossain Tamim told the tribunal that a recorded phone call from August 5 last year between Salman and Hasina’s sister Sheikh Rehana purportedly shows Rehana asking Salman to “listen to what Joy says”.

He further claimed that Hasina initially refused to resign despite pressure from police and army officials but changed her mind only after speaking to Joy.

Prosecutors say these elements establish Joy’s advisory role and his involvement in decisions linked to the alleged crimes.

DMP reshuffles 50 OCs

FROM PAGE 2
Bangladesh has 639 police stations – 527 in districts and 112 in metropolitan areas. Of the district-level postings, 98 OCs have been assigned in Dhaka range, 11 in Chattogram, 64 in Khulna, 36 in Mymensingh, 46 in Barishal, 39 in Sylhet, 71 in Rajshahi, and 62 in

Rangpur.

On November 26, the government appointed or transferred superintendents of police of all 64 districts through a lottery system. At least 33 additional deputy inspector generals were promoted to DIG, and Rajshahi Metropolitan Police got the new commissioner.