



Nazifa Tushi unravels ‘PAGLI’ IN ‘ROID’

RAKSHANDA RAHMAN MISHA

Nazifa Tushi’s star seems to be on a roll. In consecutive Eid seasons, her films have hit theatres, with both roles portraying fierce women who challenge societal norms. This Eid-ul-Azha, her film *Roid* is set for release, where she plays a character with no name of her own, known to villagers simply as “Pagli” or “Sadur bou”. Amid her busy schedule of juggling shooting and promotions, we caught up with the actress to talk about *Roid* and her Eid plans. Recently, Nazifa Tushi made headlines for her first-ever playback singing performance of *Paglir Prem Jala* at the *Roider Gaan* concert held at Rabindra Sarobar. “When the *Roid* team asked me to sing, I was really scared. I honestly had no idea whether the audience would like it or not. However, when I performed it live in front of the audience, the way people clapped and danced to the song made me really happy. The story of *Roid*, its atmosphere, and its songs are all very grounded. That feeling is also reflected in the song. I tried to sing it with my own emotions. I hope the audience will like it even more after its release.” Tushi, who found herself deeply drawn to the music of *Roid*, said she instantly connected with the project after hearing one of its songs. “Almost all of the songs are beautiful, but when I listened to *Mon chara ki* by Kanai Das Baul, I

knew in my heart that I wanted to be part of it,” she shared.

Speaking about preparing for the psychological depth of Pagli’s character, she emphasised her approach of separating real life from performance while still drawing emotional truth from within.

“No character I play is ever like my real life. I can’t become that way in real life—it’s not possible for me to just wander around the streets like that. That is purely a character, not me,” she said. However, she added that what resonates with her most is the emotional core of the character. “Pagli’s psychological state and the way her mind works — those aspects connected deeply with me.”

Roid is a love story loosely inspired by the tale of Adam and Eve. The shoot took place in remote locations with no trees, mobile network, or modern facilities, where the cast lived closely with villagers—an experience that made it difficult for Tushi to detach from her character.

For nearly a year, she immersed herself in the role of Pagli. “It was really difficult for me to come out of the character. My physical transformation became complete. I stopped wearing my own clothes. Not just me — the others playing villagers also lived together. We cooked, ate, climbed trees, caught fish, and rowed boats together. Every day, we visited different villagers’ homes,” she said.

According to Tushi, returning

to normal life after the shoot took time. “I become very intense when I play a character, and sometimes that affects my personal life and the people around me,” she added.

Reflecting on how Eid has changed for her over the years, she said, “Honestly, celebrations have become more like a tradition. But I believe every single day has its own beautiful moments. The moment I feel alive—that’s what I love the most. It could be sitting in the mountains, hanging out with friends, or sharing a meal with my mother at the same table. That moment itself is my feeling.”

When asked about her favourite part of Eid, she spoke warmly about her mother’s cooking. “I’ve always loved my mother’s cooking,” she said. “During Eid, she makes korma and jorda, which I enjoy a lot. Whether it’s beef or fish dishes, I love all the Eid food she prepares.”

Recalling a memorable Eid, she shared a moment that felt both joyful and bittersweet. “One year, Eid fell on my birthday,” she said. “I received a lot of gifts and salami, then went out with my friends. While roaming around, I ended up spending money carelessly, and afterwards I felt really upset.”

Looking back, she now remembers the incident fondly. “It felt like I experienced the happiest and the most painful day at the same time,” she added with a laugh. “Now it feels like a funny childhood memory.”



‘NEELCHOKRO’ headlines Channel i’s Eid special film broadcast

As part of its Eid-ul-Azha special programming, Channel i is set to air the film *NeelChokro* today at 10:15am.

Written by Nazim Ud Daula and directed by Mithu Khan, the film stars Arifin Shuvoo and Mondera Chakroborty in lead roles. The project is part of the channel’s festive Eid line-up celebrating Eid-ul-Azha with special film broadcasts.

NeelChokro has previously drawn attention for its suspense-driven narrative and contemporary themes. The film has also generated discussion among audiences following the release of its promotional materials ahead of its theatrical and digital rollout.

Nirab Hossain hosts ‘Nayoker Nayika’ celebrity podcast series for Eid-ul-Azha

This Eid-ul-Azha, GTV is bringing together some of Dhallywood’s leading actresses for a week-long celebrity podcast series titled *Nayoker Nayika*, hosted by actor Nirab Hossain.

Airing daily from today to June 3 at 7:30pm, the programme

promises candid conversations, behind-the-scenes stories, and informal adda sessions with stars from the Bangladeshi film industry.

The guest lineup includes Purnima, Apu Biswas, Pori Moni, Bobby Haque, Prarthana Fardin

Dighi, Tama Mirza, and Keya Payel. According to the organisers, the show has been designed as more than a conventional celebrity chat programme, with each episode focusing on personal experiences, career journeys, and untold industry stories.



NEWS

Traders count losses as cattle prices tumble

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Shajahanpur and Tejgaon, a large number of cattle were found to have been sold, but traders were struggling to attract buyers for the remaining animals.

“Our owner, Abu Sarkar, has already incurred a loss of Tk 1 lakh after selling three of his six bulls because he did not get the expected customers on Tuesday. However, the situation is worse today as the number of customers is very low compared to the number of cattle,” said Mohammad Muslim, caretaker of six bulls brought from Jamalpur. He said the owner was deeply frustrated and might have to mortgage his land to repay farmers who had provided cattle on credit.

Mohammad Rabbi, a trader from Tangail who brought 14 bulls to Tejgaon cattle market, said they had so far sold nine but incurred losses amounting to Tk 22,000.

A similar situation was seen at Kamalapur and Shajahanpur cattle markets, where traders reported a sharp fall in prices amid low customer turnout despite a large number of cattle arriving since Tuesday night.

According to traders, the steepest

fall was seen in larger cattle valued above Tk 1.5 lakh, with some animals losing between Tk 1 lakh and Tk 2 lakh in market value. Cattle priced above Tk 1.5 lakh reportedly declined by around Tk 30,000, while those valued below Tk 1 lakh saw prices drop by Tk 20,000-25,000.

At Kamalapur market, trader Al Amin from Bogura brought two cattle for sale. He said one animal had already been sold at a loss of Tk 10,000, while the second one, bought for around Tk 80,000, had received offers of only up to Tk 55,000.

He claimed prices had fallen by another Tk 10,000-15,000 compared to the previous night.

Another trader, Miajul Islam from Tangail, brought a one-tonne cow that he bought two years ago for Tk 1.5 lakh. He said he had spent more than Tk 6 lakh raising the animal and had initially sought Tk 12 lakh for it.

On Tuesday night, the highest offer reached Tk 7.1 lakh, but by yesterday the top bid had fallen to around Tk 5.1 lakh, leaving him facing significant losses.

Akmal Hossain from Kushtia arrived with nine cattle and managed to sell three on Tuesday night with

small profits. However, he is now struggling to sell the remaining six.

One cow bought for Tk 2 lakh received an offer of Tk 1.85 lakh on Tuesday night, but by yesterday offers had reportedly dropped to around Tk 1.5 lakh or lower.

He expressed concern over incurring substantial losses on multiple animals.

Meanwhile, some buyers benefited from the falling prices.

Shakil Hossain from Manda said he had been unable to perform Qurbani over the last few years due to financial constraints. A cow that had been priced at Tk 75,000 the previous day was eventually sold to him for Tk 45,000.

“I was ready to sacrifice a bull on share, but after finding one within my budget, I bought it on my own,” he said.

Traders at Shajahanpur cattle market reported a similar scenario, saying the market remained overcrowded with cattle while customer numbers were very low.

Many sellers said they had waited for long periods without making sales, increasing uncertainty and pressure during the long hours of trading.

understanding that was “still not finalised”, the report said Iran would resume commercial shipping through the strait within a month of lifting of the US blockade, while continuing to manage shipping lanes, inspect vessels, and impose service fees on ships.

The measures would not apply to military vessels, and Tehran had not agreed to fully reopen the strait.

The draft also mentioned a US commitment on troop withdrawal, though its scope remained unclear. It proposed a 60-day negotiation period before any final deal could be approved by a binding UN Security Council resolution.

However, it was quickly rejected by White House.

“This report from Iranian controlled media is not true and the MOU they ‘released’ is a complete fabrication. Nobody should believe what Iranian state media is putting out. FACTS MATTER,” the White House said on X as it lashed out at US media for reporting the Iranian claims.

Bangladesh eye strong start

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final match on May 31.

As India had a kickstart with a massive 11-0 win over Maldives, the women in red and green will certainly be looking forward to staying ahead of India with a better goal difference, keeping a thing in mind that a draw against India will also keep them on the top of the group.

English coach Peter Butler however, kept his feet on the ground by respecting all opponents in the tournament.

“Stay humble. Sometimes everyone’s like talking about this game, that game, the game on the May 31, permutations, what could happen. The most important game

is the next game and we treat them in a respectful manner. We go out there and all I’m asking for the girls is to put in a performance,” said Butler after conducting more than a one-hour training.

“...But first and foremost, I just want the girls to go out there and give the best account of themselves and go out and just perform. And don’t get visions of grandeur thinking you’re going to score 10 goals, 11 goals, 12 goals. Football doesn’t work like that,” said Butler also mentioning football game is a marathon rather than a sprint.

Captain Maria Manda also echoed the same sentiment of Butler.

“It is our first match where we set

our target to secure full three points first. Scoring goals depend on the match, so we will be trying to play our best against Maldives,” said new captain Maria expressing to deliver a Eid gift to the nation by producing something good against Maldives, a team Bangladesh defeated in four previous meetings so far.

In a reply, Maria said, “I just came to know from you that Bangladesh lost to India during the final of 1999 SAFF Championship here but we have come here with a big expectation. So I seek prayer from the countrymen for something good and we will be trying not to break the hearts of the country men this time.”

DSCC restores designated spots

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locations, while the DSCC had none.

This year, the DSCC has reintroduced designated spots, although the DNCC has not taken a similar initiative.

Many residents say a significant portion of sacrifices in the capital is still carried out in residential garages, alleyways, or in front of apartment buildings. Residents of high-rise buildings, in particular, prefer to conduct sacrifices near home for convenience in transporting animals

and distributing meat.

Md Rafiqul Islam, a resident of Arambagh, said, “If the designated place is far from home, it becomes difficult to transport the animal and carry the meat and other materials back and forth. That is why many people prefer to perform the sacrifice in front of their homes.”

DSCC Administrator Abdus Salam said introducing the culture of sacrificing at designated locations could significantly reduce

environmental and public health risks.

He said blood and waste flowing directly into drains often worsen waterlogging and create foul odours across the city.

DSCC officials said the designated locations will have cleaning staff and waste removal arrangements. Residents are also being encouraged to store sacrificial waste in leakproof bags or designated disposal bags before handing it over for collection.

Possibility of return to war

FROM PAGE 4
meanwhile, said that the US and Israel were still seeking to overthrow the Islamic republic and partition Iran.

The ministry said it had evidence that they would smuggle “various weapons, ammunition and illegal communication tools, especially Starlink” satellite internet devices, into Iran to foment religious and ethnic divisions and carry out sabotage missions.

The Iranian authorities partially restored access to the global internet on Tuesday, after a three-month shutdown.

Iran and the US have for weeks been engaged in a war of words as they try to negotiate a deal, with mediation efforts led by Pakistan.

Chinese Foreign minister Wang Yi yesterday reiterated calls for parties involved in the fragile ceasefire to respect the truce, expressing hope that the United States and Iran would each make concessions.

With no clear winner in the

war, neither side appears ready to compromise on the key sticking points, which include the Strait of Hormuz and Iran’s nuclear programme.

Iran blockaded the strait, which is vital to global energy flows, in retaliation for the war, while the US responded with a counterblockade of Iranian ports.

Yesterday, the Revolutionary Guards’ navy insisted that only ships “willing to abide by Iranian order” would be allowed to pass through the waterway.

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio had said on Tuesday that a peace deal remained within reach, but that Hormuz would be reopened “one way or the other”.

Yesterday, Iranian state television reported that a draft framework deal with the US included commitments to lift the naval blockade on Iran, restore traffic through Hormuz, and withdraw US forces from the Gulf region.

Citing a draft memorandum of

financial obligations. “I’m paying for a two-storey building for my family and cannot afford a trip home now.”

Israeli airstrikes in May displaced thousands of Bangladeshi workers in southern Lebanon. Some were also killed. Though the strikes have paused, fear of their resumption looms.

For those displaced, survival has come to depend on food support from charities and the embassy.

Mohammad Zakaria, founder of Jagrata Humanity Foundation, said they are supporting the displaced migrants by connecting them to employers.

“The fear of war, however, is difficult to shake off,” he said.