



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

The return of Nova

"I have an insatiable taste for acting"

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Actress-model-and TV anchor, Nova has staged a return to the small screen. She is busy with shoots for several TV dramas, while some of her TV serials are already on air. The multi-talented artiste talked to The Daily Star about her many assignments.

How long were you away from the scene?
Nova: Six months. I have become a regular since January this year. Last year, I took a break after a severe car accident that I narrowly survived. From now the audiences will see me on screen regularly and I'm happy about my return.

Which TV plays are you doing at the moment?
Nova: A daily soap "Tobu Bhalobashi", drama serials "Baro Gharer Ek Uthon" and "President Sirajuddaula" will be telecast soon. Apart from this, "Jibon Theke Nawa" and "Sunno Theke Shuru" are now being aired on Banglavisión and Rtv. I have received a very good response from audiences to the two serials.

What characters do you like to play?
Nova: I go for roles where I can reveal my acting skills. I have an insatiable taste for acting. I missed acting greatly when I didn't work for a few months. An actor can never stay away from acting.

What are your hobbies?
Nova: I love traveling, watching movies and hanging out with friends.

What films have you watched recently?
Nova: "Krishnopokkho". In between, I watched "Bela Sheshe" at my home. The Kolkata blockbuster was a good watch.

How do you spend your weekends?
Nova: I go on outings with my child. Sometimes, we go eat out.

What do you consider the turning point in your career?
Nova: The play "Prem O Ghamer Gondho", directed by Animesh Aich. Zahid Hasan was my co-star in the project. The drama was nominated for the Meril-Prothom Alo Awards.

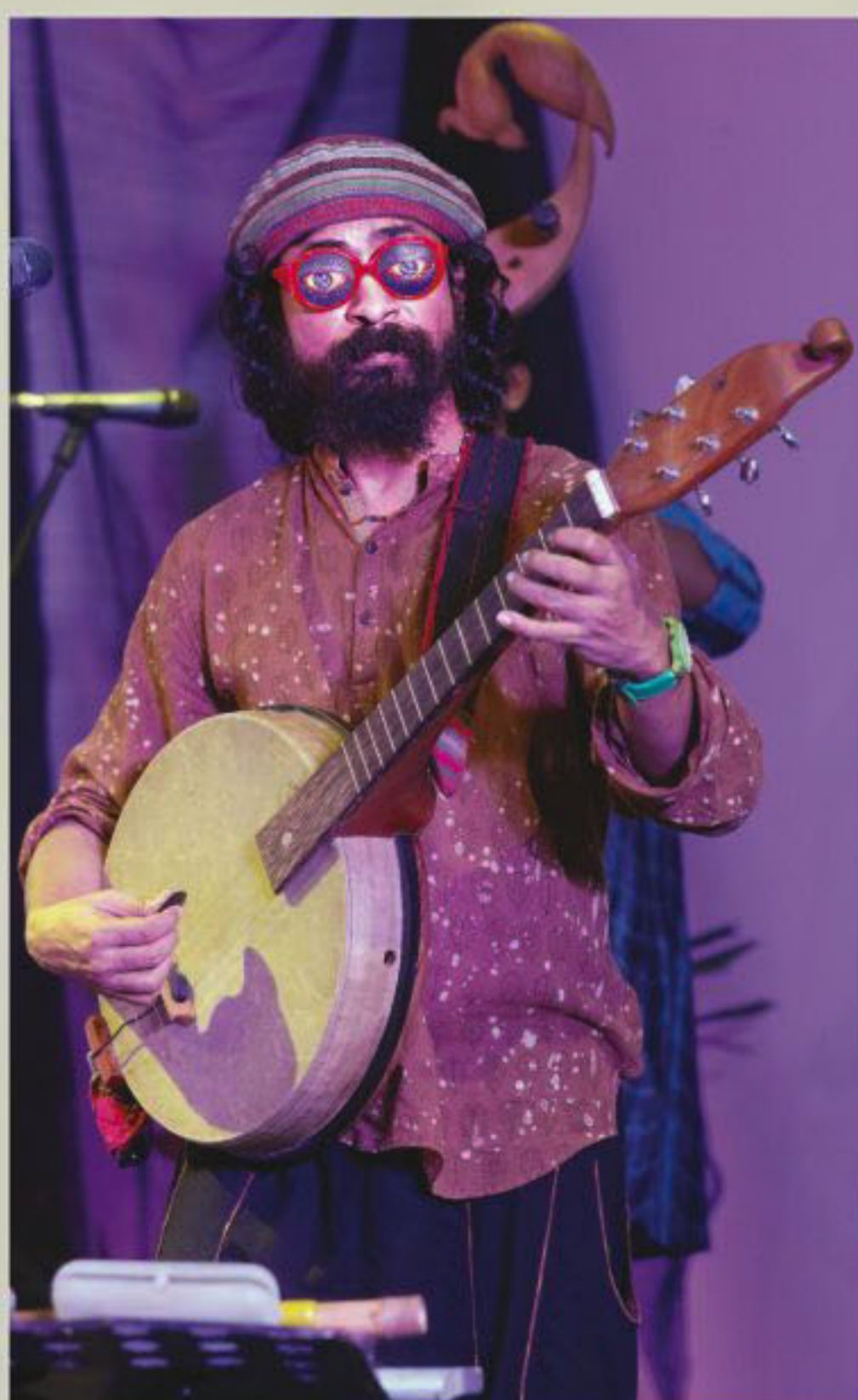
What is your dream on the professional front?
Nova: I love acting, whatever the medium. If a filmmaker selects me for a good role, I'd be happy to work for the silver screen.

ASK AWAY TO RAHUL ANAND

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Star Arts & Entertainment brings you the golden opportunity to ask your favourite personalities from the cultural fraternity questions you have always wanted to. Every month in 2016, one celebrity will take on your questions, and the best questions and their answers will be published in The Daily Star.

Rahul Anand, the gifted singer, multi-instrumentalist and the frontman of Joler Gaan, is the featured artiste of this month. Ask your questions away -- via email, along with your name, location and occupation, to culturetds@gmail.com by 11am, March 5.



"Cricket and entertainment are completely different" ... Sourav Ganguly

SAURAV DEY

Sourav Ganguly, once a captain of Indian Cricket Team and now a powerful entertainer and an apt commentator, is a tremendously popular name in both cricket and outside cricket arena. From leading a team on the field to hosting a show on television, Ganguly is as versatile on-field as he is off it.

The cricketer-turned-entertainer recently came to Dhaka to join the launching of Rupayan City Uttara, the first gated community in Bangladesh, as its brand ambassador. This reporter caught up with him for an interview. Excerpts:

Do you remember your first tour to Dhaka?
Sourav Ganguly: Yes, I remember it very well. It was in 1989 when I first came here to play Asia Cup Under19. Two years, later I came here as part of Bengal Cricket Team in 1991.

Since your retirement you've been engaged with much else, and hosting an immensely popular show is one of them. Is there any connection between cricket and entertainment?

Sourav Ganguly: Cricket and entertainment are two completely different entities. You cannot relate them. However, I have got used to both.

From cricket field to commentary box and to television shows, you have seen success everywhere. Does it take anything special to be successful at what you do?

I am very happy to see Bangladesh cricket. They have improved immensely. When Bangladesh first played test cricket in 2000 against India, it was my debut match as a test captain. If I look back now, and draw a comparison between the two times—I feel wonderful to see their improvement.

Sourav Ganguly: You have to be good. As a player you have to be good, as a television person you have to be good. You have no substitute for excellence in life.

How do you think, as a brand ambassador,



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Rupayan's gated community can benefit Bangladesh, especially Dhaka being one of the most densely populated cities in the world?

Sourav Ganguly: This is the first gated community in Bangladesh. It will definitely bring a positive change as the concept of living is changing with time. We need to adapt to that change as well.

What's your take on Bangladesh Cricket Team?

Sourav Ganguly: I am very happy to see Bangladesh cricket. They have improved immensely. When Bangladesh first played test cricket in 2000 against India, it was my debut match as a test captain. If I look back now, and draw a comparison between the two times—I feel wonderful to see their improvement. Not only senior cricket, Bangladesh has done really well in junior cricket (age-level) too. Because the junior cricket has improved, the senior cricket has improved as well. Bangladesh cricket will go a long way, and see more success in the days coming.

How do you think cricket can brand a country?

Sourav Ganguly: Being a very popular sport, cricket plays a big role in branding a country. Look at Bangladesh, and see what cricket has done for this nation. Say Brazil, entire world mostly knows them for football, if not for coffee.

You're working for the promotion of education. What's your thought on this?

Sourav Ganguly: This is like a hobby. I love working for child education. I want them to be educated and do well in sports. I have my own cricket academy for teaching children cricket.

You have done "Egiye Bangla", a television show on young entrepreneurs. How can this type of show put a positive impact on society?

Sourav Ganguly: I did it on request of West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee. It had a very positive impact, but it was not as popular as "Dadagiri" (chuckles).

Some shows on Zee Bangla take participants from Bangladesh. Given the fact that "Dadagiri" has immense popularity in Bangladesh when can we see participants from Bangladesh to your show?

Sourav Ganguly: It depends on what I am asked to do. It's completely up to Zee Bangla, and the show-runners.

Who is busier, cricketer Sourav or the present Sourav?

Sourav Ganguly: This Sourav Ganguly is much busier. This life is more challenging than leading the Indian Cricket Team.



Moushumi-Riaz piar up for "Megh-er Araley"

A CORRESPONDENT

Moushumi and Riaz, two of the most popular faces on film and television, have paired up for tele-film "Megh-er Araley". Written and directed by Z. H. Mintu, a busy cinematographer venturing into television direction, the tele-film once again reunites the National Film Award winner duo.

About the tele-film Mousumi said, "I worked with Mintu a couple of times when he was a cinematographer, but this is the first time I worked under his direction. The shooting went well. Also Riaz is an amazing actor; we are very good friends."

Riaz echoed his co-artist, saying, "Mousumi are I have a very good understanding. She is loving, and full of life."

"Megh-er Araley" will soon go on air on Channel i.

NICOLE SCHERZINGER to star in "Dirty Dancing" Reboot

Nicole Scherzinger has been tapped to appear in the TV reboot for 1987 classic film "Dirty Dancing", taking on the role originally played by Cynthia Rhodes.

The three-hour TV movie is being written and exec produced by Jessica Sharzer and, like the 1987 Patrick Swayze/Jennifer Grey starrer, revolves around Baby (to be played by Abigail Breslin), an innocent young woman who vacations with her affluent parents at an early-1960s Catskill Mountains resort and gets swept off her feet by Johnny (Colt Prattes), a handsome, working-class dance instructor. Penny (Scherzinger) is Johnny's dance partner and part of the entertainment staff at the resort. She and Johnny enlist Baby's help and teach her to dance. Debra Messing co-stars as Marjorie Houseman, Baby's mother.

The movie is produced by Lionsgate TV and Allison Shearmur Productions ("The Hunger Games"), with Eleanor Bergstein — who penned the screenplay for the original movie — on board as an executive

producer. Grammy nominee Adam Anders and Peer Astrom will tackle music for ABC's rendition. Anders and Judy Cairo will produce, while Wayne Blair (The Sapphires) will direct.

The role brings Scherzinger back to ABC after she won season 10 of the network's "Dancing With the Stars". The former Pussycat Doll is in talks to reprise her Olivier-nominated role as Grizabella in the Broadway revival of "Cats".

A premiere date for "Dirty Dancing" has not yet been determined.

Source: **Hollywood Reporter**

