



(L-R) Jaya Ahsan, Mahfuz Ahmed and Shakib Khan, and (below) Priyanka Gope receive the award from Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

PHOTO COURTESY: PID

# THE AFTERMATH OF VICTORY

## Nat'l Film Award winners share feelings

SHAH ALAM SHAZU and ROBINA RASHID BHUIYAN

Despite the rainy afternoon that resulted in impenetrable traffic, the National Film Awards 2015 held on Monday was a monumental success. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina personally conferred the awards to the winners. A few awardees shared their feelings following the event with The Daily Star. Excerpts:

Shakib Khan, best actor, "Aro Bhalobashbo Tomaye"

I have been the recipient of the National Film Award before, but I feel that this time will stand out in my memory. Being an actor is my only identity, and everything I do is for the love and approval of the audience. I hope to win more awards in the future, and for that I hope to do more work worthy of such recognition.

Mahfuz Ahmed, best actor, "Zero Degree"

This is the highest form of achievement for any Bangladeshi actor. We wouldn't be actors if work was not our passion, and the joy we feel when recognised for doing what we love to do is boundless. "Zero Degree" was a dream project as it was produced by me, and so this award has more significance to me than just as an actor.

Jaya Ahsan, best actress, "Zero Degree"

This is my third National Film Award,



and the third time the Prime Minister has kindly handed it to me. The one thing that gave me most joy was when she remarked that I had not won any international awards yet because I am putting my heart and soul into winning the approval of my

motherland. I would like to dedicate this honour to the audience, and my team members at "Zero Degree".

Masum Reza, best screenplay, "Bapjaner Bioscope"

When the Prime Minister handed the award to me, she said, "As a writer,

you have the most difficult job." This moment was indeed the highlight of my evening, as scriptwriters tend to be forgotten in the limelight. My work has garnered awards and accolades before, but the National Film Award is my most valuable achievement.

Toma Mirza, best supporting actress, "Nodijon"

The evening was a star-studded affair, but it is clear that the Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina was the biggest celebrity who held us all in awe. I cannot describe in apt words the joy and pride I felt at receiving the awards from her hands. This gives any actor the courage to strive more in the future, and do even better in our fields. To celebrate, I am taking my family on a vacation soon.

Swani Zubayer, best music director, "Anil Bagchi'r Ekdin"

Such recognition is extremely joyful, though I don't want to express my

elation. My family is immensely pleased with my achievement. This has only increased my responsibility and dedication towards music, and I hope to do justice to this award by producing quality work in the days ahead.

Priyanka Gope, best female singer, "Anil Bagchi'r Ekdin"

My feelings after receiving this award know no bounds. I am extremely lucky to have received the award from the Prime Minister. I seek blessings from everyone to continue in this strain.

Iresh Zaker, best actor in negative role, "Chhuye Dile Mon"

I don't think I have felt such pride in my work before this. As an actor, this is undoubtedly the highest acclaim one can receive, as well as the most inspiring. Recognition towards one's contribution is the highest motivator, and this shall remain the highest source of motivation for me.

## NEWS bytes

### Hathaway to replace Schumer as "Barbie"

After losing Amy Schumer due to scheduling conflicts, Sony looks to have found its replacement for the upcoming live-action "Barbie" film, with Anne Hathaway in talks for the lead role.

Australian "Fun Mom Dinner" director Alethea Jones is in talks to helm the comedy.

Studio reps said the casting is premature as scheduling arrangements have not been worked out and there is no deal as yet.

The big screen adaptation of Mattel's iconic toy line was originally expected to start production on June 23, but Schumer's busy schedule included a promotional tour for her



## TAREEN

### will spend a busy birthday

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Tareen may be an acclaimed star of the small screen in her professional life, but as a person she is quite close-knit to her family. No matter where she is, Tareen's heart lies in her humble abode in the midst of Dhaka city, where her parents eagerly await her. And as for birthdays, Tareen will be celebrating her big day today with her mother and father.

For her fans, however, Tareen will celebrate her birthday this year through live programmes on two television channels - "Tarokalap" on Rtv and "Taroka Kothon" on Channel i.

Tareen's last whereabouts was in Rajendrapur, where she is filming for Tauqir Ahmed's upcoming Eid tele-film "Megher Arale Megh". Before going there, Tareen had just returned from Barisal after filming for another Eid tele-film "Ilish", directed by Niaz Mahbub. About her birthday, she said, "I have nothing to ask for on my birthday. I would just ask everyone to pray for me and pray for a healthy and lengthy life for my parents."

Both her tele-films will be aired on ntv during Eid-ul-Azha.



## "Chhole Bole Koushole" on ATN Bangla

A CORRESPONDENT

ATN Bangla will air a new drama series starting today, titled "Chhole Bole Koushole" helmed by Sajjad Shumon and written by Shafiqur Rahman Shantanu. Joining the main cast are ATM Shamsuzzaman, Arfan Nisho, Irfan Sazzad, Sanjida Priti, Nabila and more. The play will premiere tonight at 8pm, and will air every Wednesday and Thursday.

The narrative outlines the humorous dynamics within Choton's family, and the dramatic turn his life takes. His father, whose means to affluence was due to the numerous bribes he accepts at work, is a miser who refuses to help his son out with his business. Choton obtains the money, but loses it all through unfortunate means. The story unfolds as Choton resorts to desperate means to get his money back.



## "Om Shanti Om" sequel may well be in the pipeline

Bollywood megastar Shah Rukh Khan recently dropped hints that his first film with Deepika Padukone, "Om Shanti Om", might be set for sequel.

In a Twitter chat, the film's director posted a picture of a jacket and suggests that they should have used it in the film, to which SRK wrote, "Arre yaar. Let's do it in part 2 now. Last nite kids telling me how much they love OSO."

Director Farah Khan replied, "Wish you were here to see how much love our film gets even in its 10th year..."

"Om Shanti Om" also featured Arjun Rampal, Kirron Kher, Shreyas Talpade and Satish Shah. The reincarnation-revenge drama was released in 2007.

The film was recently adapted for a Japanese musical and received wide appreciation.

Source: Hindustan Times



new Fox comedy "Snatched" as well as shooting for Rebecca Miller's "She Came to Me" opposite Steve Carell.

Sony still intends to stick to its projected June 29, 2018 release date, though it's not clear when production would start.

While Hathaway doesn't come from the stand-up comedian world like Schumer, she has shown a knack for comedic timing in films like "The Devil Wears Prada" and "Get Smart". Hathaway is about to start shooting the "Dirty Rotten Scoundrels" remake "Nasty Women" and is co-starring in the "Ocean's Eleven" spin-off "Ocean's Eight".

Source: Variety

## Next "Bond" movie sets release date

The next installment in the James Bond franchise has set a release date of November 8, 2019. This will be the 25th installment in the long-running series, although other details are yet to be locked.

Daniel Craig, who has held a license to kill since first playing Bond in 2006's "Casino Royale", has not been announced as being back as the British Secret Service agent, with EON Productions and Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer saying casting will be announced at a later date. A director has also not been revealed. Sam Mendes helmed the previous two installments.

The script is coming from Neal Purvis and Robert Wade, who worked on Craig's four Bond films: "Casino Royale", "Quantum of Solace", "Skyfall" and "Spectre".

While the date is set, many other things about Bond 25 remain unclear. MGM and EON have no US studio partner on the movie and are in secret talks with several contenders after its four-picture deal with Sony expired with "Spectre". Sources say Sony and Warner Bros. are vying for the rights.

It is also unclear whether Craig



will return. The actor has spoken disdainfully about continuing as Bond in the past, but more recent rumors have painted a more softened tone from the actor. Among the stars who have been seen as waiting in the wings to take on the role should Craig retire include Idris Elba, Tom Hiddleston, Damien Lewis, Tom Hardy and "The Hobbit" actor Aidan Turner.

The franchise has been very successful with Craig in the starring role. 2012's "Skyfall" earned \$1.1 billion, while 2015's "Spectre" earned \$880 million.

"Bond 25" will be produced by Michael G Wilson and Barbara Broccoli. It is set to open the same day as an untitled Disney fairy tale movie.

Source: THR