



Kobori



Shomi Kaiser



Aruna Biswas



Rokeya Prachy

## Stars to battle for reserved seats for women in parliament

*Selling of nomination forms to aspirants for reserved seats for women in the 11th parliament, kicked off on January 15. A number of popular faces were spotted collecting their nomination forms. Following is a special report on women artistes who intend to fight for the reserved seats.*

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Celebrated actor Moushumi collected her nomination form accompanied by the President of the Directors' Guild Association and member of the censor board, Mushfiqur Rahman Gulzar. Her husband, Omar Sani, made the announcement on social media and she held a press conference in this regard recently.

Actor Rokeya Prachy, who competed for nomination for the Feni-3 constituency on behalf of Awami League (AL), also collected her form for reserved seats. Shomi Kaiser, one of television's most adored faces, also bought a form for the same.

Tarin was one of the many celebrities who participated in the election

campaign for the AL in the General Elections last year. She has also collected her nomination form.

Sarah Begum Kobori was elected as a member of parliament from the Narayanganj-4 constituency as an AL politician in 2008 and served till 2014. This time as well, she bought her nomination form for the reserved seats. Similarly, Aruna Biswas, who played an active role in the election campaign for AL, is hopeful for a seat in the parliament this time.

Other celebrities, who are set to contest for the reserved seats for women include, Apu Biswas, Anjana, Dilara, Falguni Hamid, Jyotika Jyoti, Shahnoor, Suborna Mustafa and Sujata.



Moushumi



Tarin

PHOTO: STAR



PHOTO: COLLECTED

## Celebrating Goran Paskaljevic's films at DIFF 2019

PRIYANKA CHOWDHURY

Film festivals are an opportunity to be introduced to great filmmakers from all over the world. This year, the Dhaka International Film Festival (DIFF) has dedicated the retrospective section to one of Europe's most respected independent directors, Goran Paskaljevic. Variety International Film Guide, in 2001, marked him as one of the world's top five directors of the year.

Born in Belgrade, Goran Paskaljevic was raised by his grandparents in Niš in southern Serbia. Paskaljevic spent much of his adolescence at the Belgrade Cinematheque, which his stepfather founded. At the age of 20, he began studying cinema at Prague's celebrated film academy, Film and TV School of the Academy of Performing Arts. After the Soviet invasion, Paskaljevic returned to Yugoslavia. He then made about 30 documentaries and 16 feature films, which were screened at many international film festivals such as Cannes, Berlin, Venice, Toronto and San Sebastian. They were all met with critical acclaim. The Museum of Modern Art in New York in 2008 and the British Film Institute (London) in 2010, both screened his feature films, along with the publication of a monograph in English about his work.

Paskaljevic's style is mostly narrative-based. His works revolve around idiosyncratic and humane characters. His films portray the extraordinary in the reality of everyday.

This year, DIFF is celebrating seven of his films, namely, *Dev Bhoomi* (Land of the Gods), *Andeo čuvar* (Guardian Angel), *Optimisti* (The Optimists), *San zimske noći* (Midwinter Night's Dream), *Tango Argentino*, *Kad svane dan* (When Day Breaks) and *Cabaret Balkan* (Powder Key).

## MIME MAESTRO

# PARTHA PRATIM MAJUMDER

## to star alongside Soumitra and Naseerudin

ZAHANGIR ALOM

Today marks the 65th birth anniversary of the legendary mime artiste and film actor, Partha Pratim Majumder, who will be seen in a new Indian film shortly. Two powerhouse performers, who had generations hooked to the big screen, will also be seen for the first time together in the film. Thespian Soumitra Chatterjee and Bollywood legend Naseeruddin Shah are set to come together for Saibal Mitra's trilingual film on intolerance titled *Debotaar Grash*, an adaptation of the novel, *Inherit the Wind*, by Jerome Lawrence and Robert E Lee.

The director of the film Saibal Mitra, said that he had been working on the script for around a year and a half, and it also reflects his thoughts on communalism, intolerance and the religious chaos in the society. After reading the play, he also saw the 1960 Hollywood film of the same name, directed by Stanley Krammer, and thought of scripting a film on it.

After getting in touch with Naseeruddin Shah, Saibal Mitra found out that Shah was also anticipating a similar role for 20 years, and when he approached him, Shah was quite excited, and agreed immediately. Soumitra Chattopadhyay expressed that he was moved by the script and eager to share the screen with Naseeruddin Shah.

The cast was carefully chosen for the film. Apart from Partha Pratim Majumder, Anusua Majumder, Shubhrajit Datta and Amrita Chattopadhyay, Kaushik Sen will also be seen playing the character of a Delhi based journalist. Pandit Tejendra Narayan Majumdar is directing the music for the film.

The language of human exultation, love, pain, rage, gesture and eye contact is universal. The appeal of that language surpasses conventional or structural language. Internationally famed Bangladeshi mime maestro, Monsieur Partha Pratim Majumder has made a unique and original bridge between Eastern and Western forms of mime which is entirely his own creation.

He has bagged many awards like Master of Mime by Mime Institute of India, Master of the World by the Journalist Association of Malaysia, Molière Award by Association professionnelle et artistique du théâtre, Munier Chowdhury Award, Ekushey Padak by the Government of Bangladesh and Chevalier De L'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres by the Government of France.



PHOTO: COURTESY