

'Khachar Bhitor Ochin Pakhi' script excited me: Tama Mirza

SHAH ALAM SHAZI

National award-winning actress Tama Mirza won the hearts of audiences and critiques alike with her performance in "Nodijon".

The versatile actress's latest web-film "Khachar Bhitor Ochin Pakhi" was released in Chorki recently. Tama's two other movies "Anandi" and "From Bangladesh" awaits to be released in theatres. Apart from acting, the "Game Returns" actor has also done hosting for various programmes.

In a candid conversation with The Daily Star, the "Nodijon" actor talks about her upcoming projects and her love for challenging roles.

Talk to us about your latest web film, "Khachar Bhitor Ochin Pakhi".

"Khachar Bhitor Ochin Pakhi" – the project's strength lies in its script and acting. The script was so amazing that I was instantly attracted to the role.

My character's name in the movie is 'Pakhi' and she comes from a rural background. She comes to Dhaka and starts to work in a factory where she gets trapped all night long.

'Pakhi' was a really challenging character to play, and I had to take in a lot of preparation to adapt the role to the perfection. I really hope the audiences will appreciate my character.

You have received a National Award for your movie "Nodijon". What kind of roles are you looking forward to play in films?

I want to play roles that gives me the scope to experiment with various characters. I started my career with glamorous roles but later on I moved forward to story based characters. I want to immerse myself in roles and movies that is unique and challenging. "Nodijon" gave me my first National Film Award and people still remember me for that character till date.

Can you tell us a little bit about your new movie "Anandi"?

The movie "Anandi" is also a story-based film, which was shot at a Daulatdia brothel. The film highlights the struggles and life of children raised in brothels. I learned many things through this movie, which I am very excited about.

Are you worried that fewer audiences will turn up in the theaters, due to the pandemic?

I am really worried about the lack in viewership across cinema halls. I am a part of film industry, and I truly love this field. I really want the audiences to go to the cinema halls, and we are doing movies for the sake of the audiences. All of our hard work will go in vain if the viewers do not turn up to the halls.

If the audiences do turn up and watch our movies on the big screen, then it will profit both the entertainment sector and the cinema hall owners, whose business solely relies on ticket sales.



(L) Rhea Chakraborty was accused of procuring drugs for the late Sushant Singh Rajput. (M) Salman Khan was arrested in connection with a hit-and-run case registered in 2003. (R) Shah Rukh Khan with a "Sanju we're with you" poster.

PHOTOS: COLLECTED

Bollywood stars on the wrong side of the law

SHABABA IQBAL

Bollywood stars have found themselves on the wrong side of the law on many instances throughout the years.

When Aryan Khan, the 23-year-old son of celebrity couple Shah Rukh Khan and Gauri Khan was arrested in a drugs case from on board a cruise ship earlier this month, Bollywood came under the spotlight again for the wrong reasons.

One of the top stars to serve jail sentence is Sanjay Dutt - in connection



Ajay Devgn, Saif Ali Khan, Salman Khan and Akshay Kumar came out in support of Sanjay Dutt after his arrest.

for keeping a Kalashnikov assault rifle which was part of the consignment that landed ahead of the 12 March, 1993 Mumbai serial blasts case. A TADA court in Mumbai had convicted him which was upheld by the Supreme Court. His turbulent life was the subject of the acclaimed Bollywood movie, "Sanju". Salman Khan was arrested in



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connection with a hit-and-run case registered in 2003, in which one person died and two others got injured. Salman was convicted by the Mumbai Sessions Court, however, the Bombay



Sooraj Pancholi was arrested for abetting Jiah Khan's suicide.

High Court acquitted him. The matter is currently in the Supreme Court.

Salman was also arrested in a blackbuck poaching case. Saif Ali Khan, Sonali Bendre, Tabu, and Neelam were co-accused in the case.

Another case from Bollywood that grabbed eyeballs is related to the conviction of actor Shiney Ahuja. He was on his way to becoming the next big thing in Bollywood with his performances in films such as "Hazaaron Khwaishein Aisi" and "Gangster" but his career went south when his domestic help accused him of rape in 2009. Despite the domestic help later retracting her statement, the sessions court convicted Ahuja based on

circumstantial evidence.

In 2001, Fardeen Khan was arrested for possession of cocaine from a dealer. The case proceeded before a special NDPS court. A few years ago, a court granted him immunity from prosecution in the case. However, the court made it clear that if the actor is arrested for a similar offence in the future, the immunity against him shall be withdrawn.

Sooraj Pancholi, son of Bollywood couple Aditya Pancholi and Zarina Wahab, hit the headlines even before his debut following actor-singer Jiah Khan's mysterious suicide. He was briefly jailed on charges of abetting her suicide but was later released on bail. The case is still to conclude.

More recently, Rhea Chakraborty was arrested and later granted bail in a drug case related to actor Sushant Singh Rajput's death. She has been accused of procuring drugs for Rajput. The Narcotics Control Bureau had called her as an "active member of a drug syndicate". Rhea was arrested after Rajput, was found dead in his flat in Mumbai on June 14, 2020.

Several personalities from the Hindi film industry, including Salman Khan, Hrithik Roshan, Raveena Tandon, and Pooja Bhatt among others, have rallied behind Shah Rukh Khan, after the superstar's son was arrested in a drugs case.

Behind the tranquil melodies of Jahid Nirob

ASHLEY SHOPTORSHI SAMADDAR

Playing crazy arpeggios on harmonium for the song "Duniya" alongside the celebrated band Chirkutt for the Amitabh Reza directorial masterpiece "Aynabaji" – this is how musician and composer Jahid Nirob first stole the limelight, capturing the attention of both music lovers and the National Award winning band. Joining the band in 2015, Nirob went on to soon work his way up in the television and OTT platforms with his background scores and TVC jingles and OVC, slowly making his presence on the silver screen with "Poddapuran".

While his work in Ashfaque Nipun's Hoichoi original series "Mohanagar" received praises, he also garnered appreciation for his recent Chorki original web film "Munshigiri", directed by Amitabh Reza.

In a candid chat with The Daily Star, Jahid Nirob shares his journey, talks about his upcoming projects, and more.

Born in Munshiganj to noted folk singer and music guru Anowar Hossain, Nirob was first introduced to music at home. "All I had to do was study and practice music back when I was a child," he shares. With time, Nirob started helping his father conduct his music lessons and soon grew to



PHOTO: MARUF RAIHAN

become popular among the locals.

To try out his luck, he participated in the reality show Nescafe Get Set Rock at the tender age of 17, securing the fourth position. Leaping further towards his dream Nirob soon migrated to Dhaka, bagging up projects as a freelance keyboard player.

He started working as a music producer for Butter Communications with Pavel Areen at the same time while accompanying Chirkutt for local and international programmes.

"I had started composing jingles at the same time, trying to explore different trends and genres," adds

Nirob who has given background score to over 400 projects till date. "I don't cheat on my clients, but when it comes to fiction, I never cheat with myself."

Nirob then went on to work for television projects and earned much appreciation for his compositions, "A Mon Tomar Mone", "Prothom Upohar", and "Kar Laiga" and "Tomake Chai", both from the celebrated television project Close-Up Kache Ashar Golpo.

"Music is an expressive form of expression. We can feel and emote sorrows, anger, anguish, gloominess, or happiness through this medium and

that's what I enjoy about it the most," says Nirob. "Music is never perfect but the beauty of music lies in your imperfections."

Being one of the most promising music directors in recent times, Nirob's music directorial debut "Poddapuran" was released recently. "I have always tried to be disciplined and practice as much as possible as there is no shortcut to perfection," he shares.

"My experience so far has been amazing as most of our artists now are very meticulous and sincere. However, I wish we soon come up with more technical resources like sound tools, software and experienced record producers with good knowledge on voice articulation, dynamics, and aspirations as this will help nurture better music quality for our audience," he asserts.

The talented musician is currently spending busy days at his studio, working for his upcoming ventures "Noor" starring Arifin Shuvoo and Jannatul Ferdous Oishee, and "Poran", featuring Shariful Razz, Yash Rohan, and Bidya Sinha Mim, both directed by Raihan Rafi, and Rashid Polish's "Pritilata", alongside OTT projects. Being a strong believer in team effort, he also is grooming a team of six talented young musicians at Butter Communications.

"I never set expectations rather I just try to be honest with my music. I just wish to connect to my melodies while letting my work decide my success," concludes Jahid Nirob.

'Dune' playing in Star Cineplex now

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

"Dune", the 2021 American epic science fiction film directed by Denis Villeneuve, is now available in Star Cineplex.

Dune premiered on September 3, 2021 at 78th Venice International Film Festival. Warner Bros. Pictures theatrically released the film internationally on September 15, 2021, with a later release in the United States scheduled for October 22 because of the Covid-19 pandemic.

As with all of Warner Bros' releases in 2021, Dune is also scheduled for a simultaneous release on the HBO Max streaming service.

The film stars an ensemble cast including the likes of Timothée Chalamet, Rebecca Ferguson, Oscar Isaac, and Josh Brolin, among others.



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED