

We can change the industry together

Ilias Kanchan

Renowned actor Ilias Kanchan is a powerhouse performer who carved a place into the hearts of audiences with his super hit moves and iconic characters.

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

The actor will participate the upcoming Bangladesh Film Artistes' Association election, for the post of President.

In a candid conversation with The Daily Star, the "Beder Mey Josna" actor talks about what inspired him to take on the this particular challenge.

Why did you decide to run for the President in this election?

Nipun came up to me, and asked me numerous times to participate in the election. She requested me at least 10 times to contest for this role, and I obliged later.

There needs

What is your opinion regarding the previous committee?

I won't say anything against anyone, as I want everyone to work with everyone in the film fraternity. However, the miserable condition of the artistes is something that truly troubles me. Why do we need to give relief to artistes, when we can give them work?

I want to create a healthy environment, so that our film industry can develop efficiently.

How are you planning on helping the artistes in need?

I don't understand why do we have to use the term 'artiste in need'. Artistes have the full right to live their life with full dignity. I don't understand the meaning of going Facebook live and showcasing clips distributing 'relief' to artistes. If we are able to make more films, then the artistes will not have to depend on such temporary basic needs.

What do you think about the current crisis in the film industry?

The crisis didn't occur in a single day, all of needs to work unanimously to some together and face this crisis bravely.

If I am able to win the election, I would ask for a special fund from the Prime Minister, and I will use that fund for the development of the film industry.

Our honourable Prime Minister had already allocated 1000 crore for hall owners, which they refused to take. No hall owners took the money, as it is futile to restore the halls if there are scarcity of movies.

To solve the crises, we will definitely make more films.



to be changes in the industry, and I think we can do that together.

My son also encouraged me to participate in the election so that I can fulfill my duty towards the industry which gave me stardom.



PHOTO: SHAHREAR KABIR HEEML



'Epic 1971' commences at Galleri Kaya

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Celebrating 50 years of the independence of Bangladesh, Galleri Kaya unveiled its much-anticipated art exhibition 'Epic 1971' on January 14.

The exhibition featured fabulous paintings by masters like Shahabuddin Ahmed, Somnath Hore, Jamal Ahmed, Ranjit Das, Chanda Bhattacharjee, Aditya Basak, Atin Basak and Aloptogin Tushar.

The inaugural ceremony, which followed proper Covid protocols, were attended by the Trustee of Bangladesh Liberation War, Mofidul Hoque and the Editor of the daily Prothom Alo, Matiur Rahman, among other guests.

"Epic 1971" is open for all until January 29, from 11:30 am to 7:30 pm.

READ FULL NEWS ONLINE

BAHAR
to air season 3 from today



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

The first two seasons of Turkish series "Bahar" earned immense popularity among Bangladeshi audience, after it was licensed and dubbed in Bangla.

Aired on Deepo television, the series is voiced by local artistes. The third and the last season of "Bahar" will commence airing from today, everyday from 6 pm and 9 pm onwards.

The voice-overs are directed by Shafiqul Islam, and produced by Taslima Tahrin.

The series, originally titled "Kadin", was aired on Turkey's Fox Television.

COUNTRYWIDE

**Peace lost to personal rivalry
Feud between incumbent, ex-UP chairman makes people suffer**

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pirojpur

People of Kadamtala union in Pirojpur Sadar upazila are passing days amid panic, fearing police arrest.

The situation arises due to a longstanding rivalry between incumbent Kadamtala Union Parishad (UP) Chairman Sheikh Shihab Hossain, and Mohammad Hanif Khan, former chairman of the UP.

Local people, seeking anonymity, said the atmosphere of the area turned worsened since Shihab's men allegedly severed the right hand of Nadim, one of Hanif's supporters, on Thursday.

Later, victim Nadim's aunt Tamanna filed a case with Sadar Police Station accusing 32 people, including Shihab, and 20 to 25 other unnamed on Friday.

Pirojpur Superintendent of Police (SP) Mohammad Saidur Rahman said additional police have been deployed at different points to avoid any untoward incident.

Earlier on December 8, Shihab's men allegedly broke both the legs of Hanif's another supporter Ruhul Amin Sheikh, a member of Ward No 9 under adjacent Sikdar Mollie union.

Locals alleged that incidents of attacks and counter attacks between the two rival groups have become a common scenario.

The rivalry started since the first phase of the UP polls held on June 21 last year, they said.

The two groups have also filed over a dozen of cases with Pirojpur Sadar Police Station against each other.

A number of villagers alleged that frustration is mounting among local residents over police role for failing to bring the situation under control.

While visiting the union on Friday this correspondent noticed fewer presence of people on roads and outside homes.

Local resident Shahidul Islam said Hanif's role was not satisfactory when he was the chairman of the UP.

Another villager Humayun Kabir Sheikh said they are passing days amid fear as clashes are often occurring among Hanif and Shihab's men.

Contacted, Hanif, also general secretary of the union unit Awami League, said many of his supporters have left the locality, fearing Shihab's wrath.

Despite repeated attempts, this correspondent could not reach Shihab over phone for his comment.

MADHAIKHAL BEEL IN KURIGRAM

Leased out to non-fishermen, fishermen deprived

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

Madhaikhal beel, which lies on 157 acres of land in Kurigram's Nageshwari upazila, was the main source of income for more than four hundred fishermen families.

The water body was open for all and anyone could catch fish even 15 years ago.

Apart from the fishermen families, hundreds of locals also made a living by fishing in the beel which had an abundant supply of indigenous varieties of fish.

But now the Land Ministry has

leased the water body to a section of non-fishermen who solely control the waterbody depriving the fishermen.

Fisherman Suren Chandra Das, 72, of Madhaikhal village, who inherited the profession from his father, said his father Prabhat Chandra Das and his grandfather Lengtu Chandra Das used to fish in the beel. He used to run his family by fishing in this beel.

But his sons and grandsons can no longer fish in this beel.

"The lessees of this beel do not allow the fishermen to catch fish in the beel. Many fishermen have been forced to give up their ancestral profession," he said.

Aftab Ali, a local of Madhaikhal village, said not only the fishermen but also the locals used to make a living by fishing in the beel. Now they are not allowed to fish in the beel.

Dinesh Chandra Bishwas, president of Kaliganj Fishermen's Association, said 500 families are getting benefits from the beel.

Of these, only 25 are families, whose ancestral profession was fishing.

Although the beel is leased in the name of fishermen, the non-fishermen have become partners due to money.

"We don't have money that's why we have had to involve the non-fishermen

as partners," Dinesh said, adding that although local fishermen are not partners in the beel, they are hired and paid for fishing here.

Former UP member Abdul Jalil said the beel is being leased for more than Tk 9 lakh every year. Even though outsiders can't catch fish here, they are given fish.

Kurigram District Fisheries Officer Kalipada Roy said the beel was leased from the Land Ministry.

"It is up to the ministry to decide whether the Madhaikhal beel will be open to all as it was in the past," he added.



The lessees do not allow fishermen to catch fish in Madhaikhal beel of Kurigram forcing many fishermen to leave their ancestral profession.

PHOTO: S DILIP ROY