

'I felt like I was reborn'

KORNIA

My listeners want me to perform on rhythmic melodies during live shows, and I enjoy it too. I also try and keep requests when I get one. Being able to perform in front of millions is what I enjoy most and that only happens during live performances and concerts.

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Entering the music scene with the musical reality show Power Voice in 2012, Kornia has managed to build up a reputation as one of the promising playback singers of this generation. After a rather long break during the coronavirus pandemic, the artiste had finally returned to the stage last year.

The diva talks about her recent endeavours and upcoming projects in a candid chat with The Daily Star.

You have returned to stage shows after 2

years. How do you feel about this comeback?

Everything was static for 2 years due to the coronavirus pandemic, and it seemed as if the music industry had gone into hibernation. When stage shows returned, I felt like I was reborn.

I have done a few shows this month and also had to cancel a few, due to the outbreak of Omicron. We had only started to breathe but it seems like we have to bid farewell to stage performances again.

How do you like to perform on stage?

I like to perform pop songs on stage. My listeners want me to perform on rhythmic melodies during live shows, and I enjoy it too. I also try and keep requests when I get one.

Being able to perform in front of millions is what I enjoy most and that only happens during live performances and concerts.

When did you last shoot for any music video?

I had last appeared in a production for the occasion of Victory Day. The video, which featured 3 other artistes, was released in December.

I have also completed shooting for another one, which I plan to release as soon as things start to look normal again.

A music video requires huge investment, and we do not always come across sponsors. We do it for the sake of our audience.

What are your plans in music?

I really want to voice songs that people remember. The biggest obstacle for us artistes has been Covid-19, and I pray that the pandemic goes away soon.



PHOTOS: SHAHREAR KABIR HEEMEL

'Every time I compete in an election, I will win'

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Much controversy has taken place after Zayed Khan's triumph over Nipun as General Secretary in the Film Artistes' Association election on Friday.



Zayed Khan, who was accused by the Ilias-Nipun panel of 'bribing' voters, colluding with election officials, has denied all allegations, also claiming that the screenshots that are being spread are 'super edited'.

"I am in touch with the artistes, I am always there for them, and that is why I win every time," said Zayed to The Daily Star. "You can call this self confidence, since I have worked and dedicated my life for the betterment of artistes".

Tejasswi Prakash wins Bigg Boss 15

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Bigg Boss 15 announced Tejasswi Prakash as its winner. The young actress, who made her name as Ragini Maheshwari in the show "Swaragini - Jodein Rishton Ke Sur", showed her 'daredevil' persona in Rohit Shetty's Khatron Ke Khiladi 10 in 2021.

Salman Khan, in the finale of Bigg Boss 15, announced that she received the maximum number of votes. Tejasswi won a golden trophy, and a cash prize of Rs 40 lakh.

Pratik Sehajpal became the first runners-up, followed by actor Karan Kundrra as the second runners up. Tejasswi's journey in the Bigg Boss 15 house, from her much talked about relationship

with Kundrra to a fight with Shamita Shetty, was memorable.

In the Bigg Boss 15 house, she was known for her personality and the courage to make her opinions known.



COUNTRYWIDE

ESSENTIAL DRUGS COMPANY LIMITED
395-397, Tejgaon Industrial Area
Dhaka-1208

International Tender Notice

EDCL invites **Two Envelope System** International Tender for Supply of Pharmaceutical Raw Material on C&F © Dhaka By and Chittagong by Sea basis:-

S.L No.	Tender No. Date	Name of the Item	Cost of Tender Schedule	Last date of Closing & opening
01.	IMP/RM/SEM/58/2021-2022 dated 31/01/2022	Pharmaceutical Raw Material : (Specification as per tender schedule): 01. Tri Sodium Citrate BP 02. Benzyl Benzoate BP 03. Meropenem with Sodium Carbonate(Sterile) USP	Tk. 2,100.00/set Equivalent to US\$ 25.00 Non-refundable	Closing : 14/02/2022 At 11.00AM Opening : 14/02/2022 at 11.15 AM
02.	IMP/RM/SEM/59/2021-2022 dated 31/01/2022	Pharmaceutical Raw Material : (Specification as per tender schedule): 01. Propyl Hydroxybenzoate Sodium(Sodium Propyl paraben) BP 02. Doxycycline Hyclate BP 03. Diclofenac Sodium (Injectable Grade) BP 04. Esomeprazole Enteric Coated Pellets (Assay 22.5%) Ph. Gr. 05. Calcium Hydrogen Phosphate BP (Dibasic Calcium Phosphate)	Tk. 1,700.00/set Equivalent to US\$ 20.00 Non-refundable	Closing : 16/02/2022 At 11.00AM Opening : 16/02/2022 at 11.15 AM

Tender schedule will be sold from the Accounts Department of Essential Drugs Company Limited (EDCL), Dhaka on payment as stated above during office hours on all working days (except Friday, Saturday and Govt. Holidays). No tender schedule will be sold on the opening date of the tender.

The Tender will be accompanied by a amount of Earnest Money in the form of Bank Draft/Pay order/ Bank Guarantee from any schedule Bank of Bangladesh in favour of "Essential Drugs Company Ltd" without which the Tender will be considered as non-responsive.

EDCL authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tendets without assigning any reason whatsoever.

N.B: This Information is also available at our Website: www.edcl.gov.bd

**General Manager
Procurement
For : Managing Director.**

(9 x 4 col.)

Three teachers for 566 students!



Habiganj Government High School, established in 1883, is being run by half the number of teachers. Such acute shortage of teachers has been prevailing in six government high schools in the district.

PHOTO: STAR

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moubibazar

The acute shortage of teachers has been hampering the academic progress of Baniachang Government Girls' High School in Habiganj. The school established in 1968 currently has three teachers against about 566 students.

The school is supposed to have 25 teachers to teach these students. But at present, only three people are dealing with this overwhelming number of students. The posts of the headteacher and assistant headteacher are also lying vacant.

Only Bengali, Mathematics and Islamic Studies have one teacher each. There is no teacher to impart lessons on important subjects including English, Social Sciences, Biology, Business Education, Geography.

Abbas Uddin, acting headmaster of Baniachang Government Girls' High School, acknowledged the teacher shortage, saying the school is supposed to have at least 10 teachers according to the teacher-employee pattern.

"At present, we are struggling to teach 566 students with three teachers and seven part-time teachers. No teacher wants to be transferred to this school as it is far away from the city."

Not only this school, but similar situation is also prevailing in

six government high schools of Habiganj. There is no headmaster in any of the six schools. Out of total 204 posts in six schools, 116 are lying vacant. Year after year, the lack of subject-based teachers has led to frustration among school teachers, students and parents.

Such a picture of the teacher shortage has been found in the list of vacant posts sent to Sylhet by the Department of Secondary and Higher Education last month.

Habiganj BKGC Government High School, established in 1883, is being run by half the number of teachers.

In this school, 26 senior and assistant teachers are working against 52 posts. There are no teachers in geography, fine arts and agriculture. A total of 19 posts are lying vacant for teachers in Bengali, English, Mathematics, Social Sciences, Religion, Physics, Chemistry and Biology. The school has a total of 1,538 students.

In Habiganj BKGC Government Girls' School, out of 52 posts including those of headmaster and assistant headmaster, 23 posts are vacant. Although there is supposed to be 11 teachers in Bengali, Geography and Home Science, there is none.

There is a shortage of teachers in many subjects including English, Mathematics, Social Sciences, Business Education. Established in 1967, the school has 1,891 students.

Established in 1896, LR Government High School in Baniachang upazila has only six teachers out of 25 teachers. The remaining 19 posts are vacant. There are no teachers in Bengali, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Geography and Fine Arts.

Rajar Bazar Government High School in Chunarughat upazila, established in 1867, has only 10 teachers against 25 posts. There are no teachers in Geography, Fine Arts, Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Agriculture.

There are 11 vacancies for 25 posts in Gobindapur Government High School in Madhabpur upazila. There are no teachers to teach Agriculture, Religion and Fine Arts. Established in 1832, the school has about 600 students.

Sheikh Alfaz Uddin, the acting headmaster of Habiganj Government High School, said academic progress is being disrupted due to teacher shortage. The vacuum has been created due to the non-filling of posts when a teacher is transferred.

Mohammad Ruhullah, district education officer (acting) of Habiganj, said "We have repeatedly informed the concerned department. They are taking the initiative to fill the vacancies. However, it is being delayed due to the pandemic situation. This problem will be addressed quickly."