



PHOTOS: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

## STAND UP DHAKA Bangladesh's first vertical panoramic exhibition

**"Stand Up Dhaka" is Bangladesh's first-ever vertical panoramic exhibition. It showcases the living chaos experienced by city dwellers.**

RAKSHANDA RAHMAN MISHA

Bashir Ahmed Sujan's solo panoramic photography exhibition "Darao Dhaka" (Stand Up Dhaka) began on May 13 at La Gallerie, Alliance Française de Dhaka, Dhanmondi. A book of the same name was also launched at the event.

Khondoker Mostafizur Rahman, Director General, Bangladesh National Museum graced the inaugural ceremony as the chief guest. Eminent photographer Nasir Ali Mamun was also present at the event as the special guest. Francois Grosjean, Director, Alliance Française de Dhaka, and architect Nurur Rahman Khan attended the event as the guests of honour.

"Stand Up Dhaka" is Bangladesh's first-ever vertical panoramic exhibition. It showcases the living chaos experienced by city dwellers.

The images have been presented in such a way that it resembles the cityscapes of one of the biggest and busiest metropolises in the world, Dhaka.

Photographer Bashir Ahmed Sujan has been working on this project for almost 15 years now. "I have worked with a Hasselblad XPan, a manual



panoramic film camera, to capture the diversities of city life through my lens,' said the photographer who processes his photographs manually and even converts them into digital formats himself. "It is not easy working to capture a vertical panoramic shot as the framing needs to be set perfectly."

This exhibition has been organised by Duniyadari Archive and curated by Amirul Rajiv and Naim Ul Hasan. Rajiv emphasised on how various photos shot at different times coincides with each other in paired

frames.

"The photos are presented in multiple series of diptychs and triptychs (an artwork made up of 2-3 panels)," shares the curator. "The shadows on the walls represent the landscape of buildings and monuments in Dhaka. Each picture highlights the similarities and contrasts while creating an unconscious yet a spontaneous sense of harmony."

The exhibition is open till May 21 from 3 pm to 9 pm, except Sundays.

## Bangladeshi artistes honoured in India

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

The 19th installment of the Tele Cine Awards was conferred on Saturday at Kolkata's Nazrul Mancha. Bangladeshi celebrities Momtaz Begom, Azmeri Haque Badhon, Mir Sabbir, Deepanwita Martin, Masud Hasan Ujjal, and Anika Tasnim, among many were honoured with the award.

Eminent Bangladeshi artistes Runa Laila and Alamgir were honoured with the Lifetime Achievement award in the ceremony.

Last year, noted actor and the Member of Parliament, Akbar Hossain Pathan Farooque won the Lifetime Achievement award at the Tele Cine Awards. Bangladeshi artistes SI Tutul, Chanchal Chowdhury, and Zakia Bari Mamo were also conferred with awards at the event.



## Make as many people smile as you can: SRK to Suhana

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Shah Rukh Khan's daughter Suhana Khan made headlines recently with "The Archies" teaser, with good wishes pouring in from all over the internet. Shah Rukh Khan shared his teaser, leaving some advice for her.

"Remember @suhanakhan2 you are never going to be perfect... but being yourself is the closest to that," he wrote on Instagram.

Shah Rukh, one of the most popular film stars of the world, further said, "Be kind and giving as an actor...the brickbats and applause is not yours to keep...the part of you that gets left behind on screen will always belong to you."

This led to a wholesome conversation on Instagram. "I miss being with you. Take a day off from work come and give me a hug and go back," wrote SRK, to which Suhana replied, "@iamsrk miss you more, no days off I'm a working actor now, just kidding on my way!!"



Bashir Ahmed Sujan

## COUNTRYWIDE

### Farm labourers plagued by seasonal job crisis

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

A large number of farm labourers in five upazilas under Lalmonirhat and Kurigram districts are passing a hard time amid a seasonal job crisis that will continue until the start of Boro paddy harvest in the last week of this month.

Every year there is no farm job in the region during the Bangla months of Chaitra and Baishakh (April-May), and so, most of the labourers are going to different areas including the capital Dhaka in search of a job, locals said.

"I along with 50 other farm labourers in the village preparing to go to other areas in search of a job as there is no work here this time," said farm labourer Haider Ali, 55, of Gorokmandol in Phulbari upazila of Kurigram.

"After working for two weeks elsewhere, we will return to the village as paddy harvest would start in our area by then," he said.

"We will harvest paddy in Bogura, Sherpur, Tangail and other areas as harvesting has already started there," said Mafizul Islam of Shimulbari village in Kurigram's Phulbari upazila.

"On average, we can earn Tk 700 each by harvesting paddy daylong," he said.

"Although we through the labour markets of



PHOTO: STAR

the town, most of the time we don't find work. Many are compelled to sell labour lower than usual wages," Akkas Ali of Kulaghat village in Lalmonirhat Sadar upazila said.

Farmer Ataur Rahman in Kurigram's Rajarhat said farm workers are now temporarily jobless as Boro harvest is yet to start. "Some workers selling their labour in advance," he said.

Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE) officials said there are around two lakh farm workers in Lalmonirhat and Kurigram.

Lalmonirhat DAE Deputy Director Shamim Ashraf said there has been a delay in Boro harvest as the crop was planted late.

From the mid of Bangla month— Chaitra to Baishakh— there are hardly any available jobs in the farmlands, he said.



The paved road constructed by Ghatail municipality in Tangail through the playground of Ratanpur Government Primary School is a flagrant violation of the ban imposed by the district administration.

PHOTO: STAR

ROAD THROUGH SCHOOL PLAYGROUND

## Banned yet reconstructed in dead of night

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

The construction of a paved road through the playground of Ratanpur Government Primary School, which was banned by the district administration, has been reconstructed on the night of May 2.

Finger has been pointed to Ghatail municipality authorities for stealthily doing the work in the dead of night before Eid-ul-Fitr. However, the road was decreed to be demolished after its first construction in July last year.

Immediately after its construction, protests were lodged from different quarters, including the teachers and students of the institution, for constructing the road through the middle of the playground of the school. Then the upazila primary education

officer made a written request to the upazila nirbahi officer (UNO) on July 29 last year to stop the construction of the road.

The UNO then informed the matter to the deputy commissioner and wrote a letter to the then mayor Shahiduzzaman Khan to stop the work.

However, the road was built along the middle of the ground of the school ignoring all. In this situation, Shariful Islam, the then additional deputy commissioner (Education and ICT) in Tangail, in a letter to the mayor on October 25, directed to remove the road within seven working days.

The then-mayor of Ghatail municipality, however, disobeyed that instruction. Later, the administration demolished the road on November 14.

This time as well the road has been constructed in the same place on the night before Eid. The permission from the school authorities has not also been taken this time.

Nazrul Islam, the headmaster of the school, said the matter has been informed to the upazila primary education officer and the chairman of the education committee.

Upazila Primary Education Officer Masudur Rahman said the work on the road was completed hurriedly on the eve of Eid. The matter was already informed to the UNO and upazila assistant commissioner (land) in Ghatail.

Asked if they have any permission from the municipal authority to rebuild the road, Ghatail Municipality Executive Engineer Mizanur Rahman said that

they do not have any documents in this regard.

"I did not know anything about the matter," he claimed.

Newly-elected Municipal Mayor Abdur Rashid Miah also claimed that he came to know the matter after the completion of the construction work. No one from the administration and municipality knows about the road reconstruction work, then how the work could have been completed.

In response to such a question, contractor Kazi Nasim said, the municipality has been informed about it.

Asked about the matter, UNO Munia Chowdhury said, the matter has been informed to the deputy commissioner.

"Of course, the road will be removed," she added.