



PHOTOS: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

Sizzling SUMON

ASHLEY SHOPTORSHI SAMADDAR

Starting his career in the ramp, A B M Sumon soon rose to fame with appearances in films like “Dhaka Attack” and “Rudro: The Gangster”. After a break, he was cast as much-loved character Masud Rana, from Qazi Anwar Hussain’s action spy thriller novel series of the same name. The film “MR-9”, which will be based on “Masud Rana: Dhongsho Pahar”, is directed by Asif Akbar.

We caught up with Sumon between his flights from Dhaka to USA, to know his experience of playing the iconic character of Masud Rana and his upcoming film “MR-9”.

You were handpicked by Qazi Anwar Husain himself to portray Masud Rana. How did you prepare?

I was an avid reader of the “Masud Rana” series, and always wanted to play him on screen. I had even requested some people to inform me about auditions, if any filmmaker ever decides on bringing back this character on the silver screen.

When I got to know that the legendary Qazi Anwar Husain, an entirely new journey started for me.

Though the production was delayed due to the coronavirus pandemic, I was constantly preparing myself to play Masud Rana in a way that would please not only the theatre visitors but also the ones who have been Masud Rana fans for years.

Many international stars have been cast in this production. How was the experience?

I had the privilege of working with Hollywood and Bollywood stars like Michael Jai White (The Dark Knight), Matt Passmore (Jigsaw), Frank Grillo (Captain America), Sakshi Pradhan (Poison), Niko Foster (Army Of One), Omi Vaidya (3 Idiots), Oleg Prudius (Wolf Warrior 2), Jackie Siegel (The Queen of Versailles).

They were all very humble and down-to-earth, especially Omi. We had a blast and hope that the audience enjoys our effort.

Any notable story from the set?

There was a scene where WWE famed professional wrestler Oleg Aleksandrovich Prudius, better known by his ring name Vladimir Kozlov, was supposed to lift me on his shoulder and throw me against a wall. It felt like I was on a ride when he lifted me and started spinning me, before he tossed me against the wall.

What other ventures are you looking forward to?

We are almost done with the Dipankar Dipon directorial cyber-thriller “Antarjal”. I will be sharing the screen with Bidya Sinha Mim, Siam Ahmed, and Sumerah Binte Kamal in this government initiated project. My film, “Girgiti”, directed by Chondon Chowdhury, is also awaiting release.



STYLE STATEMENT

Barsha

Bong beauty Barsha looked ravishingly sensuous in her shimmering silver low cut blouse. Her white and pink-hued sari, paired with metal choker piece, gave off a subtle, yet elegant appearance -- which made her look breathtaking.

TRENDY TALKIES

HOICHOI X= Prem	AMAZON PRIME Chloe
CHORKI Aaj Robiber	HBO MAX Westworld
NETFLIX Resident Evil	BIOSCOPE Tin Shoroter Golpo

PURNIMA on her new life

Popular actress Dilara Hanif Purnima has tied the knot with Ashfaqur Rahman Robin, a senior official in the marketing department of a multinational company. The couple got married on May 27 in an intimate ceremony, amidst their close family and relatives. Purnima confirmed the news to The Daily Star and also revealed how the couple meet.

“We met each other through work and soon became friends. After 3 years of friendship, our relationship soon blossomed into love,” said the actress.

Purnima also added, “I have always found friendship, trust, and respect in Robin. From there, the relationship between the two of us became stronger. We are happy that our marriage ceremony has been completed with the blessings of our family members.”

Purnima got married to Ahmed Jamal Fahad on November 4, 2007. The couple got divorced 3 years ago. They share a daughter, who was born in 2014.



The trifecta emerges victorious

Multiple hall owners have stated that the Eid releases have doubled the revenues compared to last Eid. The theatres have earned at least 20 percent more than that of last Eid’s collection. Evening and night shows of “Poran” and “Din: The Day” has been mostly houseful, according to sources.



QUOTE OF THE WEEK



“I dig deeper than gold and I’ve always preferred diamonds!”

SUSHMITA SEN
in response to ‘gold digger’ comments after her relationship with Lalit Modi became public.

TV TALKIES
Severance: A commentary on dystopian corporate work-culture

“Severance” takes place in a world where a company named ‘Lumon Industries’ offers a high-tech medical procedure that allows employees to sever their personal and professional lives in two. As a result, as soon as they enter their office premises, they forget everything about their personal lives. The company likes to tell employees that the procedure is



simply in place to prevent company secrets from leaking. However, what’s truly being hidden is something much darker. The Apple TV+ series is created by Dan Erickson, with Ben Stiller taking on the role of director. The show’s cast includes Adam Scott, John Turturro, Patricia Arquette and Britt Lower, among others.



What’s Playing?

E Hawa – Meghdol
Meghdol have provided yet another songwriting masterclass, through “E Hawa”. This is for the upcoming film “Hawa”, directed by one of the band’s vocalists, Mejbaur Rahman Sumon.