

The people did our promotions for us: Chanchal Chowdhury

'Hawa' in theatres today



PHOTO: TAKEN FROM FACEBOOK

SHARMIN JOYA

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Mejbaur Rahman Sumon's debut directorial film "Hawa", which stars Chanchal Chowdhury, hits theatres today. The two-time National Film Award-winning actor portrays the role of *Chan Majhi*, the leader of a group of fishermen—who are stuck on a fishing trawler for fifteen days.

Starting from its announcement, the film has been successful in grabbing people's attention. Even the first song from the film, "Shada Shada Kala Kala", took social media by storm, becoming an instant sensation all over the country. The Daily Star caught up with Chanchal to learn more about "Hawa" and his plans for watching the film.

The promotion campaign for "Hawa" has created a stir amongst the general people. What do you think made this campaign so successful?

A good promotional campaign is one of the key factors behind a film's success. For "Hawa", the majority of the promotions were done by the general people. The teaser, trailer and the songs released so far, seem to have genuinely captivated the audience. Especially

the song, "Shada Shada Kala Kala", composed and written by Hashim Mahmud, has been our trump card. Honestly speaking, I have not seen this kind of hype around a movie in the last two decades.

Advance tickets, for the next seven days of the film have already been sold out.

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'Shada Shada Kala Kala' immediately became a hit after the song's release. What, in your opinion, is the real magic behind the song's success?

Looking back, if we look back at hit tracks like "Nithua Pathare", "Bokul Phul", and "Bazi", we can see that all of them are inspired from Bengali folk songs. So, the real magic behind the song, in my opinion, is our own cultural heritage and ingenuity.

The team has been working on the movie since 2019. Now, in 2022, the movie is finally being released. Did you at any point, in the four years, feel disheartened that the movie's release took this long?

The release of the film was postponed multiple times. As I was very excited about this project, I was frustrated seeing the release being postponed. However, I think the wait has been worth it.

Why should people go to watch "Hawa"?

If the audience liked anything about "Hawa", be it the trailer or the song, they should definitely go and watch the movie. See, whether the film is good or bad, it should be decided by the people after they experience it for themselves. If they like it, they will recommend others to watch it. If they don't like it, they can provide us with constructive criticism. We cannot provide any guarantees on whether everyone will enjoy "Hawa", because art is objective and people have different tastes.

The film has garnered a lot of attention, even before its release. Did you, at any point, feel nervous about the film?

I do not take on any project until and unless I am confident about it. That is why I have only worked on seven films in my entire career. Even for my next film, I will wait until I am offered a script that has the same potential as that of "Hawa".



BTS the most nominated group at 2022 MTV Awards

K-pop juggernaut BTS, has become the most nominated group at the 2022 MTV Video Music Awards (MTV VMAs), receiving nominations from a total of four categories. Simultaneously, rappers like Jack Harlow, Kendrick Lamar and Lil Nas X topped the list of solo artists—earning seven nominations each.

Kumar Sanu in Bangladeshi song

Bollywood's veteran singer Kumar Sanu has once again lent his voice to a Bangladeshi song. Titled "Love Story", it has been penned by Bangladeshi lyricist Ripon Mahmud. The recording was done in Kolkata on July 25. The song, the music video for which will be shot in Ladakh, feature Dhaka-based model Sajjad Chowdhury and an actress from India.

100 differently abled individuals will watch "Din-The Day" tomorrow

Ananta Jalil will be watching his latest movie, "Din-The Day", alongside 100 wheelchair-bound cricketers and differently-abled people on July 30 at Blockbuster Cinemas.

The actor confirmed this news via a video message on his official Facebook page.

"The Dream for Disability Foundation wanted to watch 'Din-The Day' along with me and Barsha. We discussed this matter

with Jamuna Blockbuster Cinemas, and the authorities have decided to let them watch the film for free," said Ananta Jalil.



COUNTRYWIDE

An indomitable farmer

SHYKH SERAJ

Farming means everything to Habibul Bahar Sujan. The successful young man wanted to be a farmer since his childhood. But success does not always come easily. People have to be skilled to be successful. Dear readers, today I will tell you the story of a resilient farmer, who wanted to understand the real economy behind the farming sector. That's why he is cultivating eggplant and planted banana trees. He started with 30 layer and 500 broiler chickens. Alongside building the farm, he continued his search for knowledge on farming, either from the newspapers or television. Whenever he hears about a large farm, he rushed there in search of knowledge and found solutions to his problems with the experts' advice. He wanted to do something new besides his poultry farm. He thought if chickens can be raised in cages, why not ducks. Later, he erected a bamboo loft on the pond and built a modern duck farm. He was also doing fish farming as he knows that if agriculture is not diversified, profits will decrease. I went to Sujan's farm at Betbari in Mymensingh Fulbaria upazila in June this year to find out how far Sujan has progressed. You probably

Sujan said. Walking along the pond, I saw papaya gardens on the banks of the pond and the yield is quite good. Sujan said he is doing fish farming in 19 small and big ponds. As he was not getting the desired profit from fish, he built the papaya garden and uses the profit money in his fish farming. I wanted to know why he is not getting the desired profit from fish farming. "High price of fish feed, compared to the fish prices in the market," he replied. "Moreover, Sucker fish is killing the other fishes in the pond," Sujan added.

resolved immediately, many small farmers will become destitute and unemployment will increase. The government should take prompt steps to protect the small and medium farmers. Amid the spread of coronavirus and Russia-Ukraine war, the price of raw materials also increased a lot as the import decreased. According to data obtained from Bangladesh Poultry Industries Central Council (BPICC), the price of soybean has increased by 88 percent in the last two years while prices of other raw



PHOTO: HRIDOYE MATI O MANUSH

Sujan at his poultry farm in Mymensingh's Fulbaria upazila.

Shykh Seraj is Bangladesh's pioneer development journalist. He received country's two highest civilian honours, Swadhinata Poroshkar and Ekushey Padak. At Channel 1, he is the founder director. He is also director and host of Channel 1's popular agro-documentary, Hridoye Mati O Manush.



have seen documentaries I made on him, based on his early farming career and progress. This time, I went to there to see what he has done so far and to learn about his thoughts on modern farming. When I reached Betbari, it was calm and quiet. "So, what's the size of your farm now," I asked Sujan. "Sixty acres," he replied. "Neither fish nor poultry is giving me the profit I used to get previously,"

He suspects that birds might have carried the sucker fish in his pond or there could be its fingerlings, mixed with other fishes he bought.

Sujan produces 800 to 850 tonnes of fish round the year and gets fair price only for tetra, shing and magur. He also has 25,000 to 30,000 chickens in his farm and of them 15,000 lay eggs. I wanted to know how many eggs he gets every day? About 13,000 eggs, he said. However, Sujan is not satisfied with the egg production. "I don't get its price compared to the cost of poultry feeds," he said. Then what is the solution to this problem? Sujan said the government does not have any monitoring of the animal feed market. The price is increased through syndicates. Usually, large farms produce their own feeds and gain more profits. But small and medium entrepreneurs are the worst sufferer. If the problem is not

materials increased by up to 123 percent. However, despite all these problems, Sujan is happy with his farm. "Agriculture is a combination of profit and loss and it should be versatile," he said. As if a loss in one project can be compensated by the other. He started a cattle farm to cope with the loss from ducks and chickens. Sujan just started his cattle farm with 10 to 12 cows and hopes there will be at least 150 cows in a short time. Dear readers, not only in the farming sector, there is a profit and loss factor in every productive business. So, every entrepreneur should enter the field with a clear view of market analysis, consumer demand and product marketing process. Success will come if you use the right judgment, the way Sujan is moving ahead. He always cross-checks the market management before investing. We all know, strategy is the key to success.

Tiger population rises globally

FROM PAGE 12 today and Bangladesh has also chalked out some programmes, including rallies, to mark the day.

"During the tourist season, people are sighting tigers in the Sundarbans, which was rare. This indicates that the tiger population is on the rise but the exact number can be found only after completing a survey," Abu Naser Mohsin Hossain, divisional forest officer of the Sundarbans West

Division, told The Daily Star yesterday. "Earlier, around 23 percent area of the Sundarbans was protected but now it has been expanded to 52 percent," he said.

Bangladesh has taken steps to conduct a tiger census in the Sundarbans and reduce human-tiger conflict but the survey is yet to start due to fund shortages, said officials concerned.

Due to this, Bangladesh

is likely to be without updated information about tigers in its territory when it joins the second tiger summit on September 5 at Russia's Vladivostok.

There is a possibility of the summit being held virtually or in another country, said officials of the department of forest.

At the summit, countries would submit reports to the Global Tiger Recovery Programme. There, the countries, government bodies, NGOs, and experts

are to determine the next phase of the Global Tiger Recovery Plan.

Last month, experts and officials from Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, and India held a meeting to prepare a draft of the national tiger recovery programme for each of the countries.

Bangladesh has already updated its National Tiger Recovery Programme (NTRP), effective from 2022 to 2034, with a target to double the tiger population in the Sundarbans.

Chinese foreign minister

FROM PAGE 12 requested them [China] to change the date of his visit," Momen told The Daily Star at the foreign ministry yesterday.

The minister will be visiting New York from July 30 to August 3 to attend an event on non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and then Cambodia to attend the ASEAN Regional Forum meeting on August 5-6. He is expected to return home

on August 6 evening. Momen said the Chinese foreign minister is likely to sign a few memorandums of understanding (MoUs). He, however, did not elaborate on those.

Officials said the Chinese foreign ministry proposed August 5-6 for Wang Yi's visit. As Momen will be away from home, Dhaka proposed fixing August 7-8 for the Chinese minister's tour.

Wang Yi will be visiting Bangladesh as part of his regional tour to a few ASEAN countries, including Cambodia and Mongolia.

A foreign ministry official said Bangladesh and China have a framework of Strategic Partnership of Cooperation and the Chinese minister's visit could help strengthen it.

A number of pending issues between the two countries are likely to

be addressed during the Chinese minister's tour of Bangladesh. Those include renewal of some MoUs regarding disaster preparedness, cultural cooperation and handover of the 8th Bangladesh-China Friendship Bridge over the Kocha river in Pirojpur to the Bangladesh authorities. The 2.96-km bridge has been constructed with majority funds from Chinese grant.

Amit Habib, editor of Desh Rupantor Even basic

FROM PAGE 12 Amit Habib left behind a host of relatives and admirers to mourn his death.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina expressed deep condolence at the demise of Amit Habib. In a condolence message, she prayed for the salvation of the departed soul.

Born in Jhenidah's Moheshpur upazila on 23 October, 1963, Amit Habib joined Khabar Group of Publications as a reporter and sub-editor in 1987. He then joined weekly Purbabhash as a sub-editor.

Amit's distinguished career in daily newspapers

started in 1991 when he joined Bangla daily Ajker Kagoj as a senior sub-editor, before switching to Bhorer Kagoj the following year.

At the popular newspaper, he was promoted to joint news editor within a very short time before eventually becoming the news editor. In 2003, he joined the daily Jaijaidin as chief news editor, leading the way for the newspaper to hit the market in 2006.

In 2007, Amit moved to Beijing to work with the China Radio International as an expert. But he left the lucrative job and returned to Bangladesh to work for

local newspapers.

He joined the Daily Samakal in 2008 and in the following year, became the executive editor of the daily Kaler Kantho and later worked there till 2013 as an advisory editor.

In 2018, he joined the Desh Rupantor as its editor. Amit's namaz-e-janaza will be held in front of the Desh Rupantor office at 10:00am today, Pavel Haider Chowdhury said. Another namaz-e-janaza will be held at the Jatiya Press Club around 11:30am, he added.

Amit will be buried at the family graveyard at his village home in Jhenidah.

FROM PAGE 12 Dhaka south, for instance, had 24 percent and 66 percent of posts for doctors and nurses vacant.

The study recommended amending the existing system and putting the health ministry in charge of finance and operations of the centres. It recommended relegating local government officials to a supporting role.

Abdul Hamid said, "No healthcare staffers from the health ministry should be engaged here. Rather, doctors and nurses and other staffers would be appointed on contract basis."