



The man who wears many hats

Nasir Uddin Khan and the secrets of his versatility

PHOTOS: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

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ASHLEY SHOPTORSHI SAMADDAR

Starting from his stellar performances in “Mohanagar”, to reaching new heights with “Syndicate”, “Poran” and “Hawa”, Nasir Uddin Khan has aced his characters both on the silver screen and through web-series. Following his recent success, the actor sat down with The Daily Star on a gloomy autumn evening, to candidly discuss his journey, experiences, and much more.

Starting from “Mohanagar”, to finally gracing the silver screen with hits like “Poran” and “Hawa”, how has your journey been so far?

There is no denying “Mohanagar” introduced me to the masses. However, I had already finished shooting for “Poran” and “Hawa”, long before I bagged my role in Ashfaque Nipun’s “Mohanagar”. Coincidentally, “Hawa”, “Poran” and “Syndicate” were released during the same time. The journey so far has been pretty amazing, and I am glad that I was able to enamour audiences with my performances. You came into the limelight a long time after you began your acting career in theatre. Tell us about this transition from

the stage to the screen.

I began working in visual media around 2016. Prior to that, I was only working in theatre, and was mostly invested in my job. Later, when I decided to shift my focus on acting, I had no other option but to try to the best of my ability to shine in this line of work. Theatre will always have a special space in my heart, and I thoroughly enjoy working on the stage. Even though, in recent times, I have not been able to perform on the stage due to other commitments, I am still associated with theatre and am carrying out my responsibilities behind the scenes.

You have played a diverse range of characters and always manage to leave behind a personal trademark for the audience.

I always take the director’s brief and the scriptwriter’s words very seriously. I try and pick up subtexts of the production from the script while I always try to work in the direction pointed by the maker. They give me elements that help me make up the character in my mind. Afterwards, I try and present them my vision for the role. As I value their demands, they also respect my

needs.

The delivery of your dialogues is always fun and seem very natural. Could you tell us about your preparation methods?

Observation is the key to achieving this. If we observe the people around us, their interesting traits, body language and linguistic preferences are subconsciously imprinted in our minds. I try and store these little details in my mind, almost like my own treasure trove, and when the time is right, I use these intricate details to accentuate my performance.

You seldom differentiate between being the lead or playing a supporting role, while always making sure your presence in a role is evident. How do you go about achieving this?

As the audience sees me performing, they feel that I am the only one planning my performances. However, this is not true. My director’s input, the co-artist’s participation and the effort invested by the whole team makes this possible.

Himel Ashraf will direct ‘Maya’: Shakib Khan

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Superstar Shakib Khan’s production, “Maya”, received a government grant in the financial year of 2021-22. The film, which will star Puja Chery alongside the ‘King of Dhallywood’, will be directed by Himel Ashraf—who will also be directing another production featuring the actor, titled “Rajkumar”.

Recently, several news portals reported that the director had been dropped from the film “Maya”. These reports did not have any clear answers from the producer of the film regarding the issue. In conversation with The Daily Star, Shakib quelled all the speculation by saying, “Both ‘Maya’ and ‘Rajkumar’ will be directed by Himel Ashraf.”

Ranveer Singh, Kriti Sanon win top prize at Filmfare Awards 2022

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Bollywood actors, Ranveer Singh and Kriti Sanon, have won the top prizes at the 67th Filmfare Awards. They won the awards for ‘Best Actor’ and ‘Best Actress’, respectively. While Ranveer Singh won the award for his sports drama film “83”, Kriti Sanon claimed the Best Actress award for her performance in the film “Mimi”. Meanwhile, “Shershaah”, which stars Sidharth Malhotra and Kiara Advani, won the Best film award at the event. The film revolves around the life of Captain Vikram Batra, who fought till his last breath during the 1999 Kargil war. The 67th Filmfare Awards were held at the Jio World Centre to honour the best films, actors, directors and crew of 2021.



NEWS

Jhumon sued

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Jhumon’s wife Sweetie Das, however, said he did not share anything that might hurt someone’s religious sentiment and repeat the March 17 incident. Earlier, on March 16, Jhumon was arrested for sharing a Facebook post about Hefajat-e-Islam’s controversial leader Mamunul Haque. Reacting to the Facebook post, thousands of locals attacked Jhumon’s house at Naogaon village on March 17 and burnt 90 Hindu houses. After the incident, he was made accused in another DSA case. He came out of jail as a High Court bench granted him bail on September 28 last year. Asked about Jhumon’s latest detention, Abu Sufian, assistant superintendent (Deraei circle) of Sunamganj police, said, “Jhumon recently shared an image of the donation box of a local mosque and wrote six to seven lines of derogatory remarks. “He, however, deleted the post later. We detained him to avoid any untoward incident like the last year’s one.”

SC chamber judge

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Attorney General AM Amin Uddin appeared for the state while writ petitioner’s lawyer Manzill Murshid opposed him during yesterday’s hearing. In a landmark verdict, the HC on August 25 scrapped section 41 (I) of the Government Service Act-2018, which mandated that law enforcers had to seek permission from the government to arrest public servants in any criminal case, and also declared the provision contradictory to the fundamental rights and the constitution. The section 41 (I) stated that law enforcers will have to take approval from the government authorities concerned for arresting public servants in connection with criminal cases before submitting charge sheet. Delivering the verdict on a writ petition, the HC observed that this section of the law had given protection to a particular section of people which is contradictory to articles 26, 27, and 31 of the constitution.

India ease into Super Four

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Hong Kong were limited to 152.5 in reply as India registered their second successive victory to join Afghanistan in the next round of the six-nation tournament. But it was Suryakumar’s batting blitz that stood out as the number four blasted his way to a 22-ball fifty and finished the innings with four sixes in the final over. Hong Kong had largely kept India in check before losing their way once Suryakumar started teeing off. The 33-year-old Kohli also got going to complete his 31st half century in his 101st T20 international. Skipper Rohit Sharma started cautiously before clubbing Hong Kong medium-pace bowler Haroon

Evidence (Amendment)

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Such questions can only be asked with the permission of the court. “There is a tendency of raising questions about a victim’s character through obnoxious questions – restriction has been imposed on it,” said Cabinet Secretary Anwarul Islam while briefing reporters after the cabinet gave the final nod to the draft of the act on July 25. Rights activists have welcomed the government’s move for amending the Evidence Act as the so-called “immoral” character of survivors of sexual violence can no longer be brought into question, digital evidence can be produced in courts and questions on the character of witnesses can be raised only with the permission of the court. Activists have long argued that defence lawyers attacking survivors with demeaning and obscene questions during cross-examinations

S Korea raises it to \$3 billion

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Korea is also one of the major foreign direct investors in Bangladesh, with the annual FDI in 2021-22 rising to \$1.4 billion from \$1.1 in 2019-20. There are some 150 Korean companies operating in Bangladesh. The Korean ambassador said some 4,000 Bangladeshi workers are expected to go to Korea for work by the end of this year, with 3,000 having already migrated there. Now a total of 10,000 Bangladeshis

Arshad for two sixes and a four in a 22-run third over. Seamer Ayush Shukla took down Rohit with a slow off-cutter. He made 21. KI. Rahul and Kohli kept the score ticking with singles and twos with occasional boundaries to put on 56 runs before Ghazanfar broke through with the wicket of Rahul (36). Left-arm quick Arshdeep Singh struck early for India with the wicket of Yasim Murtaza but Babar Hayat countered with some attacking shots. Skipper Nizakat Khan fell to a direct throw from Ravindra Jadeja, who then removed Hayat for 41 with his left-arm spin. Kinchit Shah (30) and Zeeshan Ali (26 not out) also played useful knocks to reduce the margin of defeat.

is a huge deterrent in the process of justice and that has only contributed to normalising sexual violence. Legal experts and rights activists said they had long been demanding the inclusion of digital evidence in the act. In the draft law, a provision has been kept for making a forensic examination of digital evidence. If the court deems it necessary or any party in the case doubts the authenticity of the evidence, a forensic examination can be conducted. If anyone tampers with the evidence, the person will be dealt with as per section 211 of the Penal Code or section 57 of the Digital Act. On March 14, the cabinet approved the draft in principle. At that time, Islam said the amendment had been brought to eliminate future legal complications over the trials held virtually during the pandemic.

work in South Korea and the amount of the remittance they send is significant. It was \$209 million in 2019-20. He said there are now three Korean Technical Training Centres in Bangladesh and work on setting up two more is going on. The Korean envoy said his country supports Bangladesh both in the areas of humanitarian assistance for the Rohingyas and at the international level for their sustainable repatriation. Korea provides \$4-5 million yearly to support Rohingyas and the host community.

It’s time to identify

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whereas some ruling party men were also involved in this in exchange for money. He, however, declined to go into details regarding his claim and said if he could talk to the PM privately, he could have told her. Azad claimed that DGFI, NSI, DB and other intelligence agencies were not providing the right information to the prime minister most of the time. He advised her to collect information using her own mechanism. Claiming that the BNP and the Jamaat are still plotting, the lawmaker said a lot of money is coming from abroad. Law Minister Anisul Huq told the House that the government would form an enquiry commission to find out the conspirators of assassinating Bangabandhu by December. Both treasury bench MPs and most of the main opposition Jatiya Party lawmakers, who joined the discussion, blasted BNP founder and late president Ziaur Rahman for his role before and after the murder of Bangabandhu. BNP lawmakers refrained from taking part in the discussion, which took place on the proposal to express hatred towards the clique of murderers and conspirators who killed Bangabandhu and take oath under the leadership of his daughter Hasina to thwart all conspiracies.

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India to replace ‘colonial’ naval flag

AFP, New Delhi

India will unfurl a new naval flag that retires a British colonial symbol to mark the formal debut of the country’s first locally built aircraft carrier, Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s office said. The current ensign features a prominent cross of Saint George, the national flag of England and a legacy from India’s nine decades as a crown dependency, which ended with independence in 1947. Modi will reveal the new design Friday in southern Kerala state at the commissioning of the Vikrant, which his office touted as “a significant step” for military self-reliance.

Fuel price cut by Tk 5

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forward. No one knows whether the price of fuel will increase or decrease in the global market.” Besides, the fuel prices in Bangladesh are reasonable in the current context. “I asked for the fuel price everywhere I went and found our price is much less than the other countries. Even in Dubai, an oil hub, the diesel price was about Tk 114.” On Monday, the government trimmed the fuel prices by Tk 5 per litre in line with the 11.25 percentage point slash in the import duty of diesel by the National Board of Revenue. The price adjustment of 3.7 to 4.39 percent came 23 days after the government went for a record fuel price hike of 42.5 to 42.7 percent. When asked whether the record hike would have been necessary had the NBR slashed the import duty then, Chowdhury said: “The price of fuel is bound to come down if the NBR withdraws the duties and taxes. But from where will NBR get the revenue? How will the development works take place if there is no revenue?” Asked about the criticism of

Gorbachev, last Soviet leader

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The funeral of Gorbachev will take place in Moscow on Saturday. The ceremony will be held in the Moscow Hall of Columns, then Gorbachev will be buried at the prestigious Novodevichy cemetery, the Interfax news agency reported, citing Gorbachev’s daughter Irina. Gorbachev’s life was one of the most influential of his times, and his reforms as Soviet leader transformed his country and allowed Eastern Europe to free itself from Soviet rule. President Vladimir Putin, who called the Soviet collapse the greatest geopolitical catastrophe of the 20th century, has spent much of his more than 20-year rule reversing parts of Gorbachev’s legacy. In a letter of condolences published by the Kremlin, Putin said Gorbachev “was a politician and statesman who had a huge impact on the course of world history”. Other senior Russian officials also described Gorbachev as an important figure, but said little of his political accomplishments. But in the West, where Gorbachev was regarded fondly and affectionately referred to as Gorby, he was hailed as

the power plants’ capacity charges, Chowdhury said such payments exist everywhere in the world and are necessary to ensure electricity at peak hours and in the case of additional demand. He also said the country will not fall aoul of the US, Bangladesh’s single largest export destination, for buying discounted crude oil from sanctioned Russia. “The US has not imposed sanctions on food, fertilisers and fuel. I don’t think the US will have any objection if fuel is sourced from Russia or any other source.” However, it cannot be said that the ongoing energy problem will be solved if the Russian oil arrives as it is yet to be known what the price will be. “The ongoing fuel crisis is a global crisis.” He, however, dismissed the experts’ claims that the country has not done enough to explore the country’s gas reserves, which could have cushioned the country now. “It should not be said that we were not drilling enough as 34 new wells were drilled in the last five years and the production also increased.”

an iconic figure. US President Joe Biden credited Gorbachev with having “the imagination to see that a different future was possible and the courage to risk his entire career to achieve it. “The result was a safer world and greater freedom for millions of people,” he said. British Prime Minister Boris Johnson said Gorbachev’s “tireless commitment to opening up Soviet society remains an example to us all”, while UN chief Antonio Guterres called him “a one-of-a-kind statesman”. French President Emmanuel Macron praised Gorbachev as a “man of peace whose choices opened up a path of liberty for Russians,” and former German chancellor Angela Merkel said he demonstrated how “one single statesman can change the world for the better”. Gorbachev won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1990 for negotiating a historic nuclear arms pact with US leader Ronald Reagan, and his decision to withhold the Soviet army when the Berlin Wall fell a year earlier was seen as key to preserving Cold War peace.