



Chanchal Chowdhury in smiles at the event. PHOTOS: STAR



Chanchal Chowdhury receiving the award from his mentor, Mamunur Rashid. Also present were Minister of Commerce Tipu Munshi, MP, and Zahida Ispahani, Director at Ispahani Group.

‘My guru handed the OTT Award to me, the feeling is unparalleled’

Chanchal Chowdhury on winning Best Actor (Popular Choice) at Blender’s Choice-The Daily Star OTT & Digital Content Awards

“I am glad that quality projects are receiving appreciation, and that the new medium of entertainment is being welcomed with open arms,” said the actor of “Aynabaji” fame.

SHARMIN JOYA
National Film Award winner Chanchal Chowdhury bagged the Best Actor (Male) award at the Blender’s Choice-The Daily Star OTT & Digital Content Awards 2021. The actor earned the award for his stellar performance in the Syed Ahmed Shawki directorial web-series “Taqdeer”. The Hoichoi production was released in December, 2020. The actor was presented the award by eminent thespian Mamunur Rashid; the Minister of Commerce, Tipu Munshi, and Zahida Ispahani, director at Ispahani group. When receiving the award the actor looked visibly emotional. “I feel extremely honoured and overwhelmed that my guru, Mamunur Rashid, is handing

over the award to me,” shared the actor. “Being on the same nomination list with amazing actors like Fazlur Rahman Babu is also a great achievement for me.” Chanchal also shared his thoughts about bagging the award, and the world of opportunities that have been opened for those working in the new medium of entertainment, OTT. “I am glad that quality projects are receiving appreciation, and that the new medium of entertainment is being welcomed with open arms,” said the actor of “Aynabaji” fame.



The actor then congratulated his fellow winners, along with everyone who had been nominated for their hard work. Chanchal asserted that an artiste’s credibility should be judged on the basis of their work. If this trend continues, it will play a great role in changing the existing landscape in the industry. “It will take time to accept a new medium. There is also the issue that only a small number of artistes properly understand what OTT platforms bring to the table,” said the “Karagar” actor, adding, “Thus, everyone cannot pass fair judgement in the case

of OTTs. Hence, strict supervision is required when appointing as a jury member for awards being given to OTT content, to prevent any kind of bias.” He put an emphasis on the fact that OTT platforms in Bangladesh are standing out with the quality of productions being released in the recent times, not only locally but internationally as well. “This is a great opportunity to showcase our originality to the world, and I believe we are on the right track,” he shared. Chanchal Chowdhury is currently in the talks with Disney+ Hotstar for a project that is speculated to be directed by “Munna Bhai” famed director Rajkumar Hirani. The actor was also approached for one of India’s most critically acclaimed series “Pataal Lok 2”.

Polee Ahmed, wife of Anisur Rahman Milon, no more

Polee Ahmed, the wife of Anisur Rahman Milon— noted actor and Vice President of Actors’ Equity Bangladesh—passed away around 11:57 am, US time, yesterday. Polee breathed her last at Kern Medical in California, she was suffering from cancer for many years and was receiving treatment in the US. Anisur Rahman Milon announced the news of her demise through his official Facebook account.



Nora Fatehi denied permission to perform in Bangladesh

“Saki Saki” and “Dilbar” famed Nora Fatehi was scheduled to arrive in Dhaka in December to participate in a private award ceremony. However, the visit has been cancelled due to the denial of permission by the Ministry of Cultural Affairs. Due to the dollar crunch, the ministry is discouraging bringing foreign artists for performances in Bangladesh. If the permit is issued, she may come in January,



NEWS

Truss confirmed

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But Truss ignored her applauding rival as she marched up to the stage of the central London convention hall, calling it an “honour” to be elected after undergoing “one of the longest job interviews in history.” “I campaigned as a conservative, and I will govern as a conservative,” she said, touting Tory values of low taxes and personal responsibility. Truss vowed a “bold plan” to address tax cuts and the energy crisis, which she has indicated will be financed by much higher borrowing – even at the risk of stoking double-digit inflation. Truss, 47, will be the UK’s third woman to become prime minister following Theresa May and Margaret Thatcher. She will formally take office today, after Johnson tenders his resignation to Queen Elizabeth II. “I know she has the right plan to tackle the cost-of-living crisis, unite our party and continue the great work of uniting and levelling up our country,” Johnson tweeted. “Now is the time for all Conservatives to get behind her 100 percent.” The leadership contest began in July after Johnson announced his departure following a slew of scandals and resignations from his government, including Sunak’s.

Truss reserved a portion of her short speech to praising Johnson’s record, including on Brexit and the Covid pandemic, and said he was “admired from Kyiv to Carlisle”. That won applause from the Tory faithful present. The right-wing ideologue, however, faces a tough task in winning over public opinion. Labour leader Keir Starmer sent his own congratulations to Truss. “But after 12 years of the Tories all we have to show for it is low wages, high prices, and a Tory cost-of-living crisis,” he tweeted. “Only Labour can deliver the fresh start our country needs.” A YouGov poll in late August found 52 percent thought Truss would make a “poor” or “terrible” prime minister. Truss is also viewed with mistrust among some of Britain’s allies, after taking a hard line against the European Union over post-Brexit trading rules for Northern Ireland. “I look forward to a constructive relationship, in full respect of our agreements,” European Commission president Ursula von der Leyen said, flagging climate change and Ukraine as areas for cooperation. Ireland’s government also gave Truss a wary welcome, but the scale of the challenges ahead saw the Smarkets betting exchange give her a 25 percent chance of failing to last through 2023.

SSC exams to begin at 11am

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October 18. Earlier, they were scheduled to begin on June 19 but were deferred due to the flood situation across the country, especially in the Sylhet division. The exams will be held for two hours instead of three this year. The students will have one hour and 40 minutes for the theoretical written part and 20 minutes for the MCQs. Meanwhile, coaching centres across the country will remain closed from September 12 to October 2, reports UNB quoting the minister. This year, 20,21,868 students are expected to take the exams, 2,21,386 less from last year. A total of 15,99,711 candidates will sit for the SSC exams under nine general education boards, while 2,68,495 will appear for Dakhil exams under Madrasa Education Board and 1,53,662 will take the vocational exams under Bangladesh Technical

Education Board. Around 3,790 centres have been prepared around the country for the SSC exams. **Mamata’s** **FROM PAGE 2** From September 14, 2019, Joy and Lekhak, who were senior vice-presidents of that committee, were made its acting president and acting general secretary after Shovon and Rabbani were removed from their posts for their controversial activities. On January 4 next year, Hasina gave the duo the full responsibility of Chhatra League at a programme marking its 72nd founding anniversary. According to the BCL constitution, the tenure of the central executive committee is two years, meaning the present committee expired on July 30, 2020. Asked about the next council, AL Presidium Member Abdur Rahman, who is also tasked with monitoring the BCL, said, “The next council will be held as per the directive of Awami League General Secretary Obaidul Quader.” On May 10, Quader, during a meeting with different AL associate bodies, asked the BCL leadership to hold the council soon, party sources say.

Expanding way beyond rule

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He, however, evaded a direct answer to a question of whether the move was a violation of their organisation charter. The number has been increased like in previous committees, said Rony, adding that they did so to “evaluate” those who have been working for the organisation for a long time. Meanwhile, BCL leaders also announced committees of different units without holding any councils, which is contradictory to the organisation’s constitution. They declared 13 committees of different units which include district, upazila and university from July 6 to July 31. In the last council, Sheikh Hasina as AL president was vested with the authority to pick the top BCL leadership. She named Rezwanul Haque Chowdhury Shovon and Golam Rabbani as president and general secretary on July 31, 2018.

2 journos

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BMDA Employees Union, swooped on the reporters. They beat Rubel with a blunt weapon, tried to strangle Bulbul and drove him out of the compound, and damaged the television camera. Rubel was admitted to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital with a cut lip and bleeding ear, hospital sources said. Around 3:30pm, BMDA Chairman Akter Jahan, who was also late for work, announced the suspension of two – storekeeper Jiban Ahmed and driver Abdus Sobur – for taking part in the attack. She said a probe team was asked to identify the other attackers and submit a report in three days. The protest was withdrawn after the announcement. Meanwhile, Bulbul filed a case with Rajpara Police Station against 17 BMDA staffers, including Executive Director Abdur Rashid, in this regard.

Wounded India take

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to acknowledge the Lankans’ tactics as a ‘better way to win T20 games’ on social media. India, on the other hand, started the tournament on the right note as they successfully chased 148 to edge past their arch-rivals Pakistan with two balls and five wickets to spare. However, Rohit Sharma and Co received their own medicine as Pakistan pulled off their highest T20I chase against India to hand the defending champions an identical margin of defeat on Sunday. With both sides desperate to not leave their fate of final berth to the outcome of their last games, tonight’s Asia Cup match is well poised to be another nerve-wracking fixture.

Twisted tower

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ballerina,” said Aedas in the press release. “The podium roof extends a coherent statement of sliding twist from top to bottom, echoing with the geometry of the tower and maintaining a consistent architectural style.” Twisted high-rises have grown in popularity over the last decade thanks to advances in construction, engineering and architectural computer programs.

EC can’t force any party

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“People aren’t ready for EVM yet ... If we see that EVMs are error-free, then of course we want EVMs,” she told reporters. A delegation of Jatiya Party (Manju) held talks with the EC earlier in the day and proposed using EVMs at 10-15 percent polling stations of the 300 in each of the 300 parliamentary constituencies. After the dialogue, Jatiya Party (Manju) General Secretary Sheikh Shahidul Islam said, “If EVMs are used in 150 seats, and ballots in others, then there will be two types of elections. It will be discriminatory. The person who uses EVM will get one kind of treatment, and the person who does not will get another

kind.” He said they also urged the EC not to bring massive changes when demarcating parliamentary constituencies. Shahidul said they want the next election to be participatory, but his party thinks that the election can be acceptable even if 2-3 parties do not join the election. Giving an example, he said, “NAP did not participate in the 1970 elections.” NAP and Jatiya Party did not join the talks with EC between July 17 and July 31, due to different reasons. With this, the EC has sat with 30 registered political parties. Nine political parties did not take part in the talks.

It’s to protect some corrupt

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In the full text of the verdict, the HC said, “There has been nothing in section 41(l) of the Ain as to what consequence will follow if prior permission is not given by the government or the appointing authority against the delinquent government servant and in such a situation, the criminal case filed against any government servant will stay in limbo and on that score, Section 41(l) is an incomplete one.” Apart from government servants, a host of professional bodies and private employees are performing their respective jobs and if they demand the same privilege as the government servants, anarchy would be created in the administration of criminal justice, and the constitution, the supreme law of the country, does not approve such discrimination, it added. “However, what argument has been canvassed in this regard by the government is absolutely based on hypothesis far from any legal basis,” the HC judges said. They also observed, “Further, Section 3 of Sarkari Charkri Ain-2018 provides overriding effect of the Ain, meaning the provision of the Ain will prevail over other laws of the country which will have a knock-on effect on various investigating agencies, including the Anti-Corruption Commission, involved in

investigating criminal cases if offence is committed by the government servants. “Because when such agencies or the Anti-Corruption Commission will proceed with investigating criminal cases against government servants, they might need to arrest the accused for the purpose of interrogating him/her, but they will have to wait for the permission of the government or the appointing authority of the said official when there has been no such provision for other accused involving same offence.”

3 cops sent to jail

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confined by the locals. The three were later arrested upon Ety’s filing of a case on Sunday. They were produced before a court, which sent them to jail, said the police official. The three policemen were attached to the Rajarbagh Police Lines barracks as reserve and welfare force constables of the Dhaka Metropolitan Police after suspension. On the day of the latest incident, they came out of the barrack without permission, police said. Faruk Hossain, deputy commissioner (media) of DMP, told The Daily Star that the three will be sacked from their jobs if they are found guilty by a court.