I never asked for a high renumeration: Razz

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Last year was an amazing one for Dhallywood star Sariful Razz with two back-to-back hits, ***Poran*** and ***Hawa***. The audience had discovered a new Razz with the sports drama film ***Damal***, where he played the role of a captain of the Shadhin Bangla football team.

Despite his success in films, Razz had recently experienced some conflicts in his personal life. After quite the strait, now him and his wife, Pori Moni are now enjoying their time at home, with their son Rajyo.

In a candid conversation with The Daily Star, Razz shared his new year's resolutions, hopes, recent ventures, and more.

What is your New Year's resolution?
I want to be more focused on my work so that I can experiment with myself through different mediums to channel my characters better. At the end of the day, people just remember the good work.

Are you busy with any new films?
No, I'm not doing anything right now. I am planning to spend the whole month by myself, travel and roam around. I will read and listen to the stories and screenplays and then decide what to do next. That's why I took this vacation for myself. I will start working next month.

It has been reported that you are demanding high remuneration after two hit films.
I'm not sure where you have heard it from, however it wasn't from me. When I sign a film,I have to prepare for months, and eventually, I have to become that character. I have never asked for ahigh remuneration. Some people are deliberately spreading rumors about me. I always sign films that have good storylines and characters.

Earlier on, you and Pori Moni seemed to hit a rough patch, are things better now?
I don't like to talk about my personal issues other than work. We are in the same house with our son, Rajya. We are spending good times together.

What are your recent ventures?
Gias Uddin Selim directorial ***Kajol Rekha***, Niamul Mukta directorial ***Rokto Joba*** and government granted film, ***Deyaler Desh***, are awaiting their release.

PHOTOS: COLLECTED

'Pathaan' smashes 'KGF 2' records before release

At present, Bollywood is eagerly waiting for the release of Shah Rukh Khan starrer ***Pathaan***. With advance booking for ***Pathaan*** underway, fans cannot seem to contain their excitement.

The advance ticket sales of ***Pathaan*** has already broken records, previously held by "KGF-2" abroad. ***Pathaan*** has already earned a whopping Rs 1 crore 32 lakh in Germany while "'KGF 2" made Rs 1 million 20 lakh through ticket sales.

Pathaan is also doing great business in Australia, the US, and the United Arab Emirates. More than 3,500 advance tickets have been sold in Dubai. In other words, "Pathan" has already done business worth more than USD 50,000 within Dubai. Additionally, more than 3,000 advance tickets have been sold in Australia as well.

Sallha Khanam Nadia hospitalised

Last night, actress Sallha Khanam Nadia was admitted to the hospital.

The Daily Star reached out to Nadia over the phone to get an update on her current state. The actress shared that she has been suffering from gastro-liver issues, and after her health deteriorated, she had to visit the hospital upon her doctor's suggestion. "The pain was unbearable and the doctors have now decided to keep me under observation for three more days," shared the actress.

Apart from working in telefictions and OTT platforms, Nadia will be seen in the Tollywood film, ***Sunetra Sundaram***, directed by Shiv Ram Sharma.

NEWS

World's oldest runestone

FROM PAGE 12

sometime between year one and 250 AD, Oslo's Museum of Cultural History said on Tuesday.

Normally erected at gravesites, especially during the Viking era, runes are stones inscribed with runic letters, the oldest alphabet known in Scandinavia.

The discovery, which could date from the time of Jesus Christ, is "a dream for runologists", who study ancient runic alphabets, inscriptions and their history, the museum in Oslo said.

"We thought that the first ones in Norway and Sweden appeared in the years 300 or 400, but it turns out that some runestones could be even older than we previously believed", runologist Kristel Zilmer told Norwegian news agency NTB.

"It's a unique discovery", she said. The origin of runestones remains largely a mystery.

Re-transcribed into the Latin alphabet, the inscription on the Tyrifjorden rune forms the unknown word "idiberug", perhaps a reference to the person lying in the grave.

The runestone will go on display at the Museum of Cultural History in Oslo from January 21 to February 26.

One killed in 'gunfight'

FROM PAGE 12

treatment, the OC further said.

"Both of them were in special-coloured attire. They could be members of a terrorist insurgent group in Myanmar," Mohammad Ali said.

Speaking to The Daily Star, Rohingya leader Dil Mohammad also said, "The shooting incidents might have happened over establishing supremacy."

Rohingyas living in the area are now gripped by panic as firing continues on the Bangladesh-Myanmar border, he added.

Ghumdhum Union Parishad Chairman Jahangir Aziz said locals have been gunshots since morning. "We cannot say what is going on there but we are panicked."

Lt Col Md Saiful Islam Chowdhury, commander of BGB 34 Battalion, could not be reached over the phone for comments after repeated attempts.

Naikhongchhari Upazila Nirbahi Officer Romen Sharma, however, said the BGB or others did not have any jurisdiction to intervene as per the international rules as the firing incidents were taking place on zero line.

The BGB members are vigilant in the border area, he added.

Meanwhile, some unidentified criminals set some houses on fire at the camp around 4:00pm.

Many Rohingyas fled their houses after the fire and took shelter near Tambru Bazaar. The district administration was taking steps to send them back to the camp.

Culprits will be brought

FROM PAGE 12

Bandarban's Lama upazila yesterday evening.

"Indigenous people living in the hills are very peace-loving, and they believe in non-communal spirit. Those who attacked their houses will not be spared."

Thanking journalists for covering the incident, Kamal said actions will be taken against the culprits after an investigation. "In fact, the rights of the land owners will be upheld."

The NHRC chairman also said further investigation is needed in this regard. "The probe began after the first attack [in Lala's Sarai area] on April 26 last year. There was a lack of information... I was trying to gather information. Unfortunately, the incident took place on the night of January 1."

On April 26, about 400 acres of land of the Mro and Tripura communities was set on fire in Sarai area of Lama. As a result, crops on 350 acres of land was destroyed.

Lama upazila Awami League President Bathoainching Marma, also Gazaria Union Parishad chairman of Sarai, were present yesterday.

On behalf of the Sarai Land Protection Committee, its Member Secretary Rengain Karbari, also the village head, handed over a memorandum to the NHRC chairman.

On January 5, a four-member NHRC investigation team visited the village.

Bangladesh romp

FROM PAGE 12

did not carry on to a bigger innings, out for 17 but the young Tigresses never let the run-rate get ahead of them as Rabeya Khan and Misty Shaha took them across the ropes with 2.3 overs to spare.

Bangladesh will now wait for Group D's results to see whether they play South Africa or UAE in their first Super Six match on Saturday, January 21. Courtesy of topping their group, Bangladesh are almost certain of avoiding India in the Super Six stage.

UN chief slams

FROM PAGE 12

aware in the 1970s that their core product was baking our planet," Guterres said.

He was referring to a study published in the journal Science that said ExxonMobil had dismissed the findings of its own scientists on the role of fossil fuels in climate change.

"Just like the tobacco industry, they rode roughshod over their own science," Guterres said, referring to lawsuits that determined cigarette companies had hidden the dangers of their products.

"Some in Big Oil peddled the big lie. And like the tobacco industry, those responsible must be held to account," he said.

In 1998, US states won a landmark settlement against tobacco companies worth $246 billion aimed at recovering the costs of treating smokers from the harmful effects of cigarettes.

The study on ExxonMobil found that the firm's scientists had modelled and predicted global warming "with shocking accuracy", only for the company "to spend the next couple of decades denying that very climate science".

ExxonMobil is the target of a number of lawsuits in the United States.

Asked about the Science report, an ExxonMobil spokesman said last week that the issue had come up several times in recent years and in each case the company's answer was that "those who talk about how 'Exxon Knew' are wrong in their conclusions".

In his speech, Guterres urged the world to "end the addiction to fossil fuels" as he warned that the aspirational goal of limiting warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius (2.7 degrees Fahrenheit) from pre-industrial levels was "going up in smoke".

Nobel laureate Maria Ressa acquitted

FROM PAGE 12

in prison.

"Today, facts win. Truth wins," a teary-eyed and defiant Ressa told reporters outside the Manila courtroom after the ruling on four government charges that she and her online media company Rappler had dodged taxes in a 2015 bond sale to foreign investors.

It was her first court acquittal since former president Rodrigo Duterte's government began filing charges against her. Ressa had earlier termed the cases "politically motivated" and "a brazen abuse of power".

The tax court said prosecutors failed to prove "beyond reasonable doubt" that Ressa and Rappler had evaded income taxes.

In a separate interview with AFP following her acquittal, Ressa said the verdict was a "victory for journalists" in the Philippines and around the world.

"If you stand up to power, yes you get beaten up (for) four years and two months. But right will win," Ressa said.

"I think this is hope for anyone who has been unjustly accused."

The 59-year-old has been battling a series of cases that media advocates say were filed due to her vocal criticism of Duterte and his drug war, which claimed thousands of lives.

Ressa and Muratov were awarded the Nobel for their efforts to "safeguard freedom of expression".

Despite the ruling, Ressa still faces the threat of prison from the cyber libel case, while the future of Rappler, which she founded in 2012, remains uncertain.

Ressa told AFP she was more hopeful about the prospects in the remaining cases, although she had left her fate up to the courts.

"What we do know is that the world is watching and that we have a government that wants the world to watch. So I'm optimistic about it," Ressa said.

Rappler is challenging a Philippine Securities and Exchange Commission order to close for allegedly violating a ban on foreign ownership in media.

Under the constitution, investment in the media is reserved for Philippine citizens or entities controlled by citizens.

The case springs from a 2015 investment by the US-based Omidyar Network, established by eBay founder Pierre Omidyar.

Omidyar Network later transferred its Rappler investment to the site's local managers to stave off efforts by Duterte to shut it down.

The third outstanding case is also a tax-dodging charge against Ressa and Rappler.

Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos said in September he would not interfere in Ressa's cases, citing the separation of powers between the executive and judicial branches of government.

Trouble for Ressa and Rappler began in 2016, when Duterte came to power and launched a war against drug trafficking in which, according to official data, more than 6,200 people were killed in police anti-narcotics operations.

Rights groups estimate tens of thousands were killed.

Rappler was among the domestic and foreign media outlets that published shocking images of the killings and questioned the crackdown's legal basis.

Local broadcaster ABS-CBN -- also critical of Duterte -- lost its free-to-air licence, while Ressa and Rappler endured what press freedom advocates say was a grinding series of criminal charges, probes and online attacks.

Duterte's government said previously it had nothing to do with any of the cases against Ressa.

NRCC decision to withhold names

FROM PAGE 12

feedback from all the districts, we will decide what to do next," he added.

Manjur then said the project officials will be investigated and he will see whether any financial irregularities took place.

Project Director Enamul Haque said demarcation in line with the CS, RS (Revisional Survey) and BS (Bangladesh Survey), has not been done on any river of the country.

That's why it is difficult to label anyone as an encroacher in legal terms, he said, adding that the Water Act-2013 and Port Act-1908 were his only options.

"As per these laws, 10 metres from a river bank outside port areas and 50 metres from a river bank in the port areas are part of the river," he said.

However, these laws do not specifically say that structures that are in the areas that fall in the aforesaid criteria are illegal, he added.

Declaring any structure as illegal will only be possible when the rivers are demarcated through a survey by district administrations, he said.

"We did our part. The rest lies with the commission," he added.

Former NRCC chairman Muzibur Rahman Howlader said the study was wonderful. "Had there been goodwill in the commission, it would have considered the list as a baseline to conserve the rivers."

The list was prepared in cooperation with the Water Development Board, Space Research and Remote Sensing Organisation, and the Directorate of Survey, he said, adding that there was no way to dismiss the list.

"By binning the list, the commission is letting the influential encroachers off the hook. There are some encroachers [on the list] whose names we even can't dare to utter."

Rizwana said, "The chairman of a constitutional organisation [NRCC] can't act in a way that benefits the encroachers."

The reasons cited by the commission for not publishing the list are not credible, she said.

"The chairman could say the list is incomplete. If the CS was followed, the list of encroachers would be longer. But that does not mean this list is worthless. If there is a conflict between the CS and Water Act, the commission could have gone to a court, seeking remedy. But it chose to hide the list instead," she added.

This move will make those killing the rivers more ruthless, she said.

Sharif Jamil, general secretary of Bangladesh Poribesh Andolon, said withholding the names was a clear stand against the rules, laws and a High Court order that made NRCC the guardian of rivers. The commission should be tearing down the illegal structures instead of protecting the encroachers.