# ARTS & ENTERTAINMEN

# The greatest joy of my entire career

Mir Sabbir wins National Film Award for 'Raat Jaga Phool'

"An artiste never works because he aims for a certain reward. They work to fill the souls of people through art."

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Recently, Mir Sabbir bagged the National Film Award in the 'Best Actor in a Lead Role' category for his performance in the government-granted film Raat Jaga Phool. The film also marked the actor's directorial debut, as he continues to impress audiences with his multitalented persona for two decades now.

The Daily Star caught up with the actor-director, to congratulate him on his achievement.

This is the first time you have achieved the National Film Award, that too with your own directorial film. How does it feel?

This recognition has given me the greatest joy of my entire career, so far. acting. For the time I am grateful to the jury board for being, I would like giving me such an honour. I am to focus on acting

> thankful to the entire team of Raat Jaga Phool, who have worked tirelessly for this film.

> > When you started out, did you in the last two imagine that you would someday receive with all the National the Film Award?

An artiste never works because he aims for a certain reward. They work to fill the souls of people through art. Since I did not

just act in the project, but also directed it, it is really hard for me to put into words just how much it means to me. All I can say is, I have made *Raat Jaga Phool* with a lot of care and love.

Do you feel that your responsibility as an artiste has increased now?

Frankly speaking, since the beginning of their love and my career, I have always been responsible

about my work. I have always been committed to art, and this will continue forever. Personally, I believe an artiste grows when one feels accountable for their work. So, yes, I expect to grow.

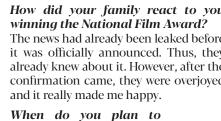
How did your family react to you winning the National Film Award? The news had already been leaked before it was officially announced. Thus, they already knew about it. However, after the confirmation came, they were overjoyed

make your next film? I do want to keep directing I have more passion for

What, in your opinion,

and support from

parents, from the audience, who have showered their love towards me since the beginning work would have achievement is appreciation.



films, let's see. Moreover,

your greatest achievement

decades? I am blessed

family and mostly of my career. My hard gone in vain, if the audience would not accept me. So, my greatest





### **Subhashree looks** unrecognisable in **OTT debut teaser**

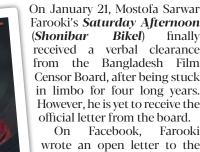
Tollywood actress Subhashree Ganguly, who had major success in Bengali commercial films, is now all set to make her OTT debut with the series, Indubala Bhater Hotel, directed by Debaloy

The teaser for the series was released yesterday and has already created a buzz on the internet, due to Subhashree's makeover as an old woman.

In order to portray the protagonist, Subhashree was required to undergo a drastic physical makeover. The first look of her as Indubala shocked all of her fans, as she looked unrecognisable as an eighty-year-old.

Based on Kallol Lahiri's novel *Indubala Bhater Hotel*, the series is expected to release on Hoichoi in March.

### Let's not embarrass Bangladesh: Farooki requests clearance letter



censor board, speaking about how he is still waiting for their official letter. In the post, he shared how

the world had already learned about the Censor Board's

decision to give Saturday Afternoon clearance. So, they should quickly send him the official letter, so he can release his film before



## **NEWS**

### 61 killed, 150 hurt

the debris, rising to 61 killed with "Those fighting against Pakistan will be more than 150 wounded.

As darkness fell, at least four men were still trapped in the wreckage, visible through cracks in the concrete.

"We have given them oxygen so that they don't have problems in breathing," said Bilal Ahmad Faizi, a spokesperson for the rescue organisation 1122.

The outlawed Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) claimed responsibility for the blast, reports Dawn online.

The police headquarters in Peshawar is in one of the most tightly controlled areas of the city, housing intelligence and counter-terrorism bureaus, and is next door to the regional secretariat.

Provinces around the country announced they were on high alert after the blast, with checkpoints ramped up and extra security forces deployed, while in the capital Islamabad snipers were deployed on

buildings and at city entrance points. "Terrorists want to create fear by targeting those who perform the duty of defending Pakistan," said Prime

Shyampur to press home their

10-point demand, including the

next national election under a nonpartisan government, the AL's "peace

rally" was to "counter" the BNP's

party, join the next polls that will take

place in line with the constitution.

Otherwise, you will plunge into an

existential crisis," AL Joint General

Secretary Mahbubul Alam Hanif said

in the polls, AL presidium member

Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya

said, "If you want to come to power,

you will have to join the polls, you

cannot come to power in any other

way. Don't try to create anarchy

on the streets. Attempts to create

anarchy will be answered on the

Calling upon the BNP to take part

"To retain the existence of your

programme.

at the rally.

Join next nat'l election

Minister Shehbaz Sharif in a statement. officers-in-charge of Kaliakoir and

wiped out from the face of earth." Officers said the blast came from the second row of devotees.

Shahid Ali, a policeman who survived, said the explosion took place seconds after the imam started prayers. "I saw black smoke rising to the sky. I ran out to save my life," the 47-year-old told AFP.

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres condemned the "abhorrent" blast at the mosque.

United States Secretary of States Antony Blinken extended his condolences while describing it as a "horrific attack".

The drastic security breach came on the day United Arab Emirates (UAE) President Mohamed bin Zaved Al Nahyan had been due to visit Islamabad, although the trip was cancelled at the last minute due to bad weather.

Pakistan is also preparing to host an International Monetary Fund (IMF) delegation today as it works towards unlocking a vital bailout loan to prevent a looming default.

districts have been made respondents to the rule.

The HC bench of Justice KM Kamrul Kader and Justice Mohammad Ali issued the rule following a writ petition filed by Supreme Court lawyer Kayser Kamal, also the BNP's law affairs secretary,

seeking necessary directives. The lawyer submitted the petition on January 24, saying that the government arbitrarily handcuffed and fettered Azam and Selim to physically and mentality harass and torture them and to make people panicked, which is illegal and contradictory to the constitution.

The country's constitution has prohibited any inhumane and degrading behaviour towards any person, he said in the petition.

Azam, president of Boali union BNP in Gazipur's Kaliakoir upazila, is behind bars in a case filed under the Explosive Substances Act. Chhatra Dal Assistant General Secretary Selim is in jail in an arson case.

### Complete Roman

FROM PAGE 12

"A complete residential village was discovered, with two pigeon towers found for the first time," Waziri announced in a video posted on Twitter last week. These towers served as nests to in

which to raise carrier pigeons, Waziri explained. The birds would then be used to transport messages to other parts of the Roman Empire. The excavations, which began in

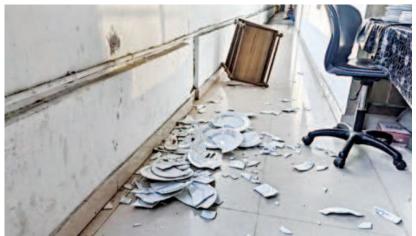
September, also uncovered a hoard of tools, pots and bronze and copper Roman coins. The uncovered city was found in Luxor, a modern-day city that sits on

Thebes, the famous ancient Egyptian Luxor is home to the world-famous Valley of the Kings and Valley of the Oueens and was designated a Unesco

the banks of the Nile and is the site of

World Heritage Site in 1979. Waziri praised the discovery as Although Quader, road transport a rare find in an already "excellent" season. Luxor has long been a site rich with archaeological finds, and the latest discovery of this ancient city follows the uncovering of a number of tombs in January alone.

### Explain in four weeks 'BCL men' vandalise office



FROM PAGE 12 student front, led by Moynul Hasan,

vice-president of its university unit, carried out the vandalism.

Campus sources said former BCL leader Raihan Ahmed applied for a teacher post at the marine science department. But the university authorities appointed another candidate after a syndicate meeting.

Moynul claimed that Raihan won a gold medal for his excellent academic results but still the university authorities did not appoint him. On the contrary, the authorities shuttle train services.

appointed several candidates who are involved in anti-government campaigns.

We have started a protest against the appointment of anti-government activists. We will continue it until their appointments are cancelled," he added

Despite several attempts, this correspondent could not reach the VC over the phone for comments.

Sohidul Islam, assistant proctor of the university, told The Daily Star that they were trying to resume the

### Conduct probe

We want to know what has happened." Asif's wife Meherunnesa tolo this newspaper yesterday that her husband went missing hours after he left their Ashuganj home on Friday afternoon.

Voters consider Asif, a former upazila chairman, to be the main rival of another independent runner Abdus Sattar Bhuiyan, an expelled BNP leader, who locals say has the ruling Awami League's blessings.

The by-polls will be held tomorrow. "I am scared. My husband has not returned home for the last four days, Meherunnesa said.

Deputy Commissioner Shahgir Alam told reporters that Asif was in hiding and he was not detained by law enforcers. The matter is being

investigated. Meanwhile, Shamiul Liton, an independent runner from Chapainawabganj-3 alleged that 12 of his campaign offices were vandalised and three others were set on fire on Sunday night.

He said in a complaint to the returning officer yesterday that supporters of AL candidate Abdul Wadud did this, an allegation the latter refuted.

Returning Officer AKM Galiv Khan said this was an isolated incident.

"Necessary action will be taken after

### People voted for AL as it worked for them

Hasina said her government took Bangladesh forward as per its plans and the country attained the status of a developing country in 2021. "It has been possible only because democracy continues and elected public representatives have been in power since 2009."

"I hope that you all notice the change in Bangladesh in the last 14 years [2009-2023] and it has only been possible as the Awami League is in power."

Hasina said her government has already developed the country as "Digital Bangladesh" and now its target is to transform it into a "Smart Bangladesh" by 2041 where everything, including governance, economy, education and health sectors, would be smart. "Inshallah, we'll be able to do so."

international Noting that organisations predicted that the global economic downturn might worsen this year, the PM said the

government has focused on raising infrastructural development and food production, and that it already asked all not to leave a single inch of land uncultivated to protect the country from the blow of the economic recession.

She also asked all to practice austerity in using electricity, water and other resources during the global crisis induced by the Covid-19 pandemic, the Russia-Ukraine war and economic sanctions and counter-sanctions.

The projects opened yesterday include six of the Public Works Department, three of the National Housing Authority and two of

The six projects of Public Works Department are 20-storey Judges' Quarters (90 flats) at Azimpur in the capital; nine 10-storey housing buildings (324 flats) for government officials and employees at Mirpur-6; renovation of Bangladesh Supreme Bar Library Bhaban, Court Annex Bhaban and auditorium; works, spoke at the event.

overall beautification of Ramna Park; and 13-storey housing buildings (288 flats) for government officials and employees at Tejgaon; and nine 10-storey housing buildings (324 flats) for government officials and employees in Noakhali Sadar upazila. Three projects of the National

Authority are 1,040 residential flats (Swapnanagar-1) for middle-income people at Mirpur-9; 14-storey housing building (100 flats) at Mirpur-15; and site and services residential plots in Sunamganj.

Two Rajuk projects are Purbachal water supply project phase-I, Progati High School Bhaban, and Palkhan High School and Purbachal Adarsha College Bhaban in Purbachal new city project.

Mosharraf Hossain, chairman of the parliamentary standing committee on housing and public works ministry, and Shorif Ahmed, state minister for housing and public

Activists of AL and its associated bodies took position in different parts of Jatrabari since morning as the BNP started marching from the

Harunur Rashid Munna, took position in front of Jatrabari Park, while another group was seen near the Dhalpur community centre. Activists of Jubo League, Swechchhasebak League, Krishak League and Chhatra League were on

A group of AL men, led by former

general secretary of Jatrabari AL

Konapara bus stand areas. Also, the Jubo League Dhaka city (south) unit staged another rally near Victoria Park.

the streets in Shanir Akhra bus stand,

Demra Staff Quarter, Sarulia and

The AL will hold counter programmes today as well since the BNP will march from Gabtoli bus stand area to Mirpur-10 roundabout as part of its four-day demonstration.

The ruling party's Dhaka city (north) unit will organise a rally in Tejgaon area.

and bridges minister, claimed that their programmes are not to counter the BNP's march, the AL held programmes that coincided with the past five events of the BNP.