

Giving it my all for ‘SHURONGO’

NISHO

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Afran Nisho, who has proven his acting prowess on the small screen and OTT platforms, is now stepping into the world of cinema. He is making his film debut with the film, *Shurongo*, directed by Raihan Rafi. Recently, the shooting of the film started in Sylhet. In a candid conversation with The Daily Star, Afran Nisho talked about his new film and more.



You are debuting on the big screen with ‘Shurongo.’ How are you feeling? This is the first time I am acting in a full-length feature film. The shooting set, location, and environment—everything feels different. However, I want to act, regardless of the medium. I am learning a lot from this team. Everyone on the team is giving their best. I am also trying to complete my duties with hard

work and honesty.

How was your shooting experience with Tama Mirza and director Raihan Rafi?

Tama is very friendly and dedicated to her job. She is very serious with her acting. Although it's my first collaboration with Tama, she is giving more priority to my character in the film, forgetting who I am in real life, which is a good thing.

Although Raihan Rafi is quite young, he has good experience in this field. He has proved himself through his works.

Tell us about the film ‘Shurongo.’

Through this film, we will try to connect the masses with our story. So far, it has been going well. However, if the technical side of the film goes well in post-production, then the film will be a smash hit. We will try to make the film enjoyable for the mass audiences. Every person has some pain in their heart, we will try to portray that on-screen.

Everyone wants to tell a different story. Will you, with ‘Shurongo’?

All that we can do is portray our characters with utmost dedication. Of course, as entertainers, we want to work on something that is different from others, but with this one, I feel like the simplicity of the storytelling will catch on.

What are your plans moving forward?

Right now, I am only thinking about *Shurongo*. I am thinking about my character in the film, and how I will do my shots. Raihan Rafi is a very flexible director. He receives my inputs very positively which is a good thing for me. I hope the collaboration will do wonders.



PHOTOS: COLLECTED



Ana De Armas, Chris Evans pair up in a new rom-com

Recently, the official poster for the Apple TV+ produced film *Ghosted* has been unveiled. The spy-comedy stars *Captain America* famed Chris Evans and Academy Award nominated actress Ana De Armas. The pair had previously worked together in Netflix's *Knives Out* and *The Gray Man*.

The official trailer for the movie casts Evans as the sweet Cole who spends a wonderful evening with a young woman and later realises that he has feelings for her.

The movie is set to premier on April 21 this year on Apple TV+.

Indian actor-director Satish Kaushik no more



Veteran Bollywood actor Satish Kaushik died of a heart attack early Thursday morning at the age of 66. His friend and colleague, Anupam Kher confirmed the news of his demise.

According to Anupam Kher, Kaushik complained of feeling uneasy while visiting a friend in Delhi.

“He felt uneasy and told the driver to take him to the hospital; on the way, he had a heart attack around 1 am,” Kher told PTL.

Kaushik was a director as well as a comedian. His most popular films as a director are *Tere Naam*, starring Salman Khan, and *Mujhe Kuch Kehna Hai*, starring Kareena Kapoor Khan and Tusshar Kapoor.

NEWS

N Korea fires ballistic missile ahead of US-South Korea drills

AFP, Seoul

North Korea fired a short-range ballistic missile yesterday, Seoul's military said, Pyongyang's latest show of force just days before South Korea and the United States kick off major joint military exercises.

Relations between the two Koreas are at one of their worst points in decades, with the nuclear-armed North conducting ever more

provocative banned weapons tests as Seoul moved to ramp up security cooperation with Washington in response.

Last year, Kim Jong Un's regime declared North Korea an “irreversible” nuclear power and vowed to exponentially increase weapons production, including tactical nuclear weapons, as the US looks to move more assets to the region to defend ally Seoul.

Woman gang-raped by supervisors

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On Wednesday night, eight people, including Jamal Majhi, Nijam Majhi, Kerani, and Dinaj broke into her shanti and gang-raped her and burnt her with cigarettes, she said in the complaint.

After she called 999 yesterday, a police team went to spot and rescued her husband around 6:00pm, said Mosleh Uddin, officer-in-charge of Lakshimpur Sadar Police Station.

Police are looking for the accused, he added.

Biman training chief

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dated February 13 this year, out of the 14 recruited, only four captains and a first officer passed all the tests to fly the plane.

Biman, however, has been flouting rule after rule and going to great lengths to protect the pilots who failed.

In September last year, nine out of 15 female cockpit crew members of Biman alleged that their bosses in training and scheduling departments discriminate against them and harass them so much so that it even jeopardises flight safety on at least

one occasion.

They said the work environment has become hostile due to intentional discrimination, harassment, regular verbal abuse, deprivation of promotions, and training opportunities.

This has caused female cockpit crew members to be under tremendous stress and some have even quit Biman, the nine said in their first group report -- Confidential Report on Female Cockpit Crew Harassment -- to Biman's chief of flight safety, other officials, and the Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh.

Gunpowder

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the Ahmadiyya community demanding cancellation of the three-day-long Jalsa Salana, an annual gathering of the members of the Ahmadiyya community.

The agitators set fire to many houses and four shops belonging to the members of the community. They also attacked a local police station, vehicles of law enforcers and a traffic police office.

Thirteen cases -- 11 with Panchagarh Police Station and two with Boda Police Station -- have been filed over the attacks, said police.

Two vendors

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Meanwhile, BPC is yet to open the letters of credit (LC) for six fuel cargos out of the 16 due in March and 14 cargos scheduled for April, according to officials involved with the proceedings.

“It's true that there is a dollar crisis in the banks. So, we are behind in the LC openings. But it's not true that we are not able to open LCs. We are opening those but we are moving slowly,” ABM Azad, chairman of BPC, told The Daily Star.

At least two suppliers of diesel, jet fuel, octane, furnace oil and marine oil have expressed reluctance to provide further cargo, according to officials.

Besides Vitol Asia and Unipet, BPC had selected the Emirates National Oil Company, BSP Zapin of Indonesia, PetroChina International and Indian Oil Corporation to import 4.50 lakh metric tonnes of fuel.

BPC imports 65 lakh metric tonnes of various types of fuel a year under different long-term contracts or by issuing tenders.

Nat'l grid gets power

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purchase agreement signed on November 5, 2017, with Adani Power, the Bangladesh Power Development Board will purchase at least 34 percent of the power generated by the plant over a 25-year period.

Three legal and energy experts at home and abroad who reviewed the contract at The Daily Star's request found it to be exceptionally expensive, overtly favouring Adani Power and ironclad.

Subsequently, several rights organisations, political parties and environmentalists demanded the cancellation of the deal.

Denmark opens undersea graveyard

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But unlike other projects that store CO2 emissions from nearby industrial sites, Greensand brings in the carbon from far away.

“It's a European success story of cross border cooperation,” Ursula von der Leyen, president of the European Commission, said in video message played at the ceremony.

First captured at the source, the CO2 is then liquefied -- in Belgium in Greensand's case -- then transported, currently by ship but potentially by

pipelines, and stored in reservoirs such as geological cavities or depleted oil and gas fields.

At Greensand, the carbon is transported in special containers to the Nini West platform, where it is injected into an existing reservoir 1.8 kilometres (1.1 miles) under the seabed.

Once the pilot phase is completed, the plan is to use the neighbouring Siri field as well.

Danish authorities, who have set a target of reaching carbon neutrality

as early as 2045, say this is “a much needed tool in our climate toolkit”.

Ineos CEO Brian Gilvary said at the opening that at full-scale, the project could meet 40 percent of Danish requirements to reach “net zero” and that it could account for 2.5 percent or up to three percent of European requirements.

The North Sea is particularly suitable for this type of project, as the region already has pipelines and potential storage sites after decades of oil and gas production.

Govt working to build Sheikh Mujib Film City

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29, yesterday the awards were formally handed out to the winners.

The event was hosted by eminent actor Ferdous and Dhallywood actress Nusraat Faria.

The opening ceremony featured a dance sequence paying tribute to Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, performed by Warda Rihab. A special highlight from the night was when Ilias Kanchan and Dolly Zahur received the Lifetime Achievement Award for their priceless contributions to the industry.

Matia Banu Shuku's production, “La! Moroger Jhuti” and Rezwan Shahriar Sumit's “Nonajoler Kabbo” jointly received the prize in the “Best Film” category.

The “Best Director” prize was taken home by Rezwan Shahriar Sumit, for his debut film “Nonajoler Kabbo”.

Adding to the list of awards that were shared, Siam Ahmed (Mridha

Bonam Mridha) and Mir Sabbir (Raafat Jaga Phool) jointly claimed the “Best Actor” award.

Similarly, the “Best Actress” award was jointly received by Azmeri Haque Badhan (Rehana Maryam Noor), and an overjoyed Tasnova Tamanna (Nonajoler Kabbo).

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in her closing speech, said, “My heartiest congratulation and best wishes to the recipients of the National Film Awards 2021. We arranged for this ceremony to take place in March, a month, which holds a lot of importance for us. Our Bangladeshi film industry was able to flourish under the guidance of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. He worked effectively to establish the Bangladesh Film Development Corporation, which led to the creation of movies like ‘Akash Ar Mati’, ‘Ei Desh Tomar Amar’, and many others.”

“After the Liberation War,

Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman donated a total of 105 acres of land in Gazipur, so that film fraternities would have a proper location where they could shoot their films. Continuing with his vision, now we are working to build Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Film City,” she continued.

“I'm grateful to everyone who created movies in the pandemic. Our cinema halls were very old and poorly facilitated. We have arranged a Tk 1,000 crore fund for cinema hall owners so that they can reconstruct their theatres. We have also advised many cinema hall owners to demolish their halls and turn them into cineplexes where families can watch and enjoy movies together. While the grants for our films might not have a big budget right now, we plan to make this sum even larger in our next budget,” concluded Hasina.