

Thought of my mother when I won the Lifetime Achievement honour

ROZINA

SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Celebrated veteran actress Rozina is a multiple-time National Film Award winner. This year, she is to receive the most prestigious 'Bangladesh National Film Award for Lifetime Achievement (2022)' for her outstanding contributions to Bengali cinema. In a recent conversation with The Daily Star, she talks about journeying from stage to the silver screen, her achievements and more.

You are to receive the most prestigious award, Bangladesh National Film Award for Lifetime Achievement (2022), how does that make you feel?

As an actor, there is no greater achievement than this and I am ecstatic to be considered worthy of this award. I am thankful to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, the jury board and all the people involved in the Bengali film industry but most of all I am thankful to my audiences. Without them it would not have been possible.

Whom did you think of first after learning about the award?

My mother. She was the one who was most apprehensive about my decision to build a career in cinema and later she became my biggest supporter. She wanted me to do well in my studies or singing but when I pursued my acting career, she became my biggest admirer.

How do you look back on your struggles in the industry?

My initial days were full of struggles. I was a simple girl, who had dreams of making it big

in films. I didn't have a god-father, or anyone to guide me in the industry. I come from the humble beginning of theatre and I did all sorts of small roles when I first started. However, I didn't lose hope and I was adamant about becoming a successful actress on my own and proving everyone wrong.

Have you ever been thrown out from a film?

There was an instance where I signed up for a film named *Mintu*

Amar Naam and later, the makers replaced me with another actress. That movie gave me my stage name 'Rozina'. The incident was really devastating for me, I cried a lot but my mother consoled me. She made me remember how resilient I can be and how far I can go with my strength as a human being. I remember her words to date and carry on with life with utmost gratitude.

How did you fight back from that difficult circumstance?

After getting replaced in the movie, I changed my outlook towards the film industry. I realised that if I don't respect myself enough no one would. So, I decided not to act in films where there are multiple actresses. Also, I chose not to go to directors' offices to request for roles, rather I told them to come to my house if they wanted to have any discussion about their films.

Rozina cheekily recalled an incident where she declined to go to popular director F Kabir Chowdhury's office for a film and how shocked he was seeing a new actress' pride.

What happened next? Did you get the movie?

A month after the incident, director F Kabir Chowdhury came to my Mohammadpur house and signed me up for a movie instantaneously. However, I could not believe it until the shooting started. We made a film named *Rajmahal* and the rest is history. The film did so well in the box office that I never had to look back again.

Taylor Swift's 'Eras Tour' to be screened at Star Cineplex

It's time for Taylor Swift's fans to rejoice as you will get to witness Taylor Swift's incredible journey, *The Eras Tour*, at Star Cineplex.

"It's time to join us for *The Eras Tour* at Star Cineplex, to witness Taylor Swift's incredible journey from Fearless beginnings to Red-hot moments and beyond! Don't blame us if you can't resist being enchanted," reads their post.

Star Cineplex has yet to announce the release date of *The Eras Tour*. Earlier, on their 19th anniversary, Star Cineplex announced their intention to showcase concerts by Taylor Swift and Ed Sheeran to their fans.

Sonar Bangla Circus to conclude nationwide tour today

The band Sonar Bangla Circus has carved a special place in the hearts of their audience with their debut album. Over the past few months, the band has embarked on a series of concerts under the title *Hyena Express Experience*. Now, the conclusion of this concert series is just around the corner.

Organised by Net City Education, this event will take place today at the Liberation War Museum Auditorium in the capital's Agargaon-. The concert series will conclude with the Dhaka performance, commencing at 5 pm today and running until 8 pm.

Gowtam K Shuvo, the band's manager, shared that prior to this, they successfully hosted two *Hyena Express Experience* concerts in Dhaka, with additional shows in Chattogram, Rajshahi, Mymensingh, Barishal, and Rangpur.

NEWS

Clause 11(2), a bane for DU autonomy?

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After the country's independence, two VCs were appointed directly -- the first VC was Prof Fazlul Halim Chowdhury, who was elected on February 2, 1976, according to DU documents.

He, however, resigned from his position protesting the army's entry into the campus during the Ershad rule in 1983.

Later, the then Pro-Vice Chancellor Prof AKM Siddiq took charge and convened the VC panel election within the next five months.

In that panel, Prof Siddiq, Prof Serajul Islam Chowdhury and Prof Shamsul Huq were elected as candidates.

The then President HM Ershad chose Prof Shamsul Huq, who was third on the list, as the VC.

But Prof Shamsul Huq was unable to complete his four-year tenure and resigned on January 12, 1986, as he felt helpless in having to follow Ershad's undue orders, sources said.

The same day, Ershad appointed Prof Abdul Mannan, who later convened the senate election and became the VC.

"This created a new tradition -- getting appointment from the government first and then elected in

the senate," said a professor emeritus, preferring anonymity.

Since 1976, the university got only three VCs from direct senate elections. They are Prof Fazlul Halim Chowdhury in 1976, Prof Shamsul Huq in 1983, and Prof AK Azad Chowdhury in 1996, according to the university's documents.

All the VCs were appointed first by the government. Of the eight VCs who were later elected by the senate, four were not able to complete their tenure as they resigned or were removed due to the change in government, documents showed.

They are Prof Shamsul Huq, Maniruzzaman Miah, Emajuddin Ahmed and Anwarullah Chowdhury.

In 2009, the Awami League-led government appointed Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique as a temporary VC. He held the post for four and a half years without being elected till the senate elected him later in 2013.

The outgoing VC, Prof Md Akhtaruzzaman, was appointed in September 2017 but was elected by the senate two years later.

Currently, the senate has 103 members out of 105 seats, which is a record in the university's history.

Former DU VC SMA Faiz said the

VCs, in most cases, held panel elections after their appointment.

"To me it is like partially bypassing the 1973 order and partially honouring it," he said, adding that the order should be followed properly unless there is an "impending necessity".

About why he is not convening panel elections with his tenure ending on November 3, Prof Akhtaruzzaman said the situation was not favourable to hold a senate session.

"This has been a tradition for quite a long time," he said, declining to elaborate any further.

A dean wishing anonymity said Prof Akhtaruzzaman did not convene the senate meeting as he feared he might not be elected again because of controversies during his tenure.

"He tried to get reappointed by the government, but failed to manage it."

Produce reports

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submission is correct, it will send a wrong signal to society, Barrister Raghib Rauf Chowdhury, a lawyer for Ashiyan City, told The Daily Star.

The top court then asked Additional Attorney General Sk Md Golam Morshed to inform the SC the process that was followed to approve all the housing projects in the area.

The original writ petition was filed with the High Court in 2012 by Bela and several other rights organisations challenging the legality of the project. The petitioners said, among other things, that Ashiyan City did not have the required permission from the deputy commissioner's office.

In January 2014, the High Court in a majority decision ruled that Rajuk's permission for the project was without lawful authority because the housing company did not have the approval from the DC.

Subsequently, Ashiyan City received the approval from the DC's office and sought a review of the High Court judgment. The review petition was granted in August 2016. The government, Bela and others separately challenged that order, saying that the review is not maintainable.

The Appellate Division held its second hearing of those petitions yesterday.

PM brushes aside possibility

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about it.

"I came under attacks time and again. Attempts have been made on my life both at home and abroad.... Attempts had been made to kill me by hiring killers when I went abroad. This was done by Khaleda Zia's son who stays in London and their terrorists."

Hasina, however, said she was not worried about it and that she would continue working for the welfare of the country till her last breath.

The leader of the House once again ruled out the possibility of any dialogue with the BNP. "Who asks for talks with those beasts [BNP]."

She said the country moved forward since 2009 because of the continuation

of democracy, but the BNP has become desperate to "destroy the progress".

The premier asked the people which Bangladesh they want. "Do they want the pile of destruction or a developed Bangladesh? Do they want to keep their improved living standard unaffected? If they want so, that's only possible if the Awami League stays in power."

Hasina said the nation again witnessed the BNP's mayhem on October 28 like it committed arsons in 2013, 2014 and 2015. They refrained from violence between 2015 and October 28 this year, she added.

The PM thanked opposition Jatiya Party and all MPs as the incumbent parliament is going to complete its

five-year term successfully.

She also said this parliament had been very successful and fruitful as it saw constructive criticism from opposition lawmakers and their active participation.

The House leader said opposition lawmakers got more time and scope for taking part in discussions and raising amendment proposals during the passage of laws.

Hasina compared the present Bangladesh with that of 16 years ago at the fag end of the BNP-Jamaat alliance rule.

During her speech, a video was screened in the House "on the violence by BNP" during its October 28 grand rally in the capital.

BNP goes for fresh 2-day blockade

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previous two days. The number of long-haul buses also increased on roads. Train services remained almost normal.

The BNP and its like-minded parties enforced the blockade from Tuesday protesting police action on their demonstrations and arrests of their activists. Jamaat-e-Islami also separately called a three-day nationwide blockade.

Yesterday, arsonists set three buses on fire in the capital's Azampur, Bakshibazar and Mohammadpur areas. Two trucks were torched and a number of vehicles vandalised in Narayanganj.

A bus was set ablaze and two more were vandalised in Chattogram. Unidentified attackers also torched a bus in Netrakona and a truck in Bogura.

According to Fire Service, arsonists torched at least 18 buses, nine trucks, a car, three motorcycles, two commercial showrooms and a police box from Tuesday till yesterday evening.

At least 14 cases have been filed with different police stations of Dhaka Metropolitan Police in connection with violence and sabotage activities over the last two days, according to DMP.

Police arrested 96 people in the capital on Wednesday.

In Narayanganj, police opened fire to disperse a group of BNP men in Rupganj's Nalpathar area around 6:00am yesterday when they blocked the Asian Highway (Dhaka bypass) by

setting fire to tyres. The BNP activists vandalised a few vehicles and torched two trucks, police said.

Police detained four men, including two injured with shotgun pellets, from the spot. The detainees identified themselves to police as former leaders of Chhatra Dal.

Police also arrested three others, including a former joint convener of Siddhirganj BNP, around 7:00am when a group of demonstrators blocked the Dhaka Chattogram highway in Siddhirganj by setting fire to tyres and vandalised vehicles.

In Bogura, police fired teargas canisters at BNP activists in Satmatha area yesterday. The BNP activists retaliated with brickbats and two crude bombs. They also vandalised five vehicles and torched a truck.

Rapid Action Battalion yesterday arrested 10 people from a hotel in the capital's Gulshan in connection with Tuesday's clash between law enforcers and BNP activists in Narayanganj's Araihaaz upazila. Three cops were injured in the clash.

A bus owner yesterday filed a case with Savar Police Station accusing 125 BNP leaders and activists, including former lawmaker from Dhaka-19 Dewan Salauddin Babu, of torching a bus in Savar on Wednesday.

Another case was filed against 24 named BNP leaders and activists and 200 unnamed people yesterday over torching a truck on Dhaka-Chattogram highway in Sitakunda upazila on Wednesday. Police detained 15 BNP activists in Sitakunda over the last two days in connection with the

case.

BNP LEADERS HELD IN CITY
BNP's media cell Convener Zahir Uddin Swapan and Dhaka North city BNP Member Secretary Aminul Haque were arrested in the capital yesterday.

Swapan was picked up by Detective Branch of DMP in the evening, said Harun Or Rashid, additional commissioner (DB) of DMP.

He, however, did not say under what charges the BNP leader was arrested.

BNP Senior Joint Secretary General Rizvi in a statement said Swapan was picked up from Gulshan.

Earlier in the day, the DB arrested Aminul and Sazzadul Miraz, member secretary of Dhaka North city Jubo Dal, in separate cases over violence.

Won't concede

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up an interview that the magazine took at the Gono Bhaban in September.

In the conversation with TIME, Hasina said she does not see "the need to concede to BNP demands for a caretaker today".

"Under the BNP, elections were held in Bangladesh several times and every time was fraudulent and manipulated," she told the magazine.

"Now they are demanding a caretaker. And now they demand for democracy. But when there was a military ruler in this country, and every night there was a curfew, and the people had no right to speak, no right to vote, and suffered a lot, they didn't want a caretaker government then."