



Shakil Khan



Ferdous Ahmed



Masum Parvez Rubel



Siddiquir Rahman Siddique

Actors who want to run for election in 2024

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ZAHID AKBAR

In anticipation of the upcoming 12th National Parliament election, a group of well-known actors from the entertainment industry is actively seeking nominations. This diverse lineup includes renowned figures such as Ferdous, Mahiya Mahi, Rubel, Shakil Khan, and Siddiquir Rahman. These celebrities have taken a step further by collecting nomination forms, indicating their intentions to seek endorsements from their preferred political party.

There are also speculations surrounding the potential participation of other actors like Riaz, Dipjol, and Rokeya Prachi, adding an air of excitement and anticipation to the unfolding political landscape. However, it's noteworthy that earlier rumours suggesting actress Apu Biswas's involvement in the election have been dispelled, as she clarified to The Daily Star that she will not be contesting.

Ferdous

Popular actor Ferdous Ahmed has declared his intention to purchase a nomination form from the Awami League, expressing his eagerness to contest in the upcoming national elections.

He told The Daily Star, "I bought the nomination form from the Awami League to contest from any seat in Dhaka. I won't specify the seat for now. Everything in Dhaka is familiar to me. Through the medium of entertainment, I have formed a strong bond with these people. I will try to bring them joy. I will be there for them in both happiness and sorrow. I have complete faith in the honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. I will work to maintain the continuity of her development agenda. My trust is in her, just as she has trust in me. Let's see what happens

next. I hope for the best."

Mahiya Mahi

Dhallywood film actress Mahiya Mahi has collected a nomination form from Awami League, signalling her interest in participating in the 12th National Parliament election from the Chapainawabganj-2 constituency.



Mahiya Mahi

PHOTOS: STAR AND COLLECTED

The actress shared, "I am one hundred percent sure that if the verification process is conducted impartially, I will be nominated by the party. Due to my interest in the grassroots level, I have purchased the nomination form. Now let's see what happens. If I get the nomination, my first task will be to ensure fair prices for agricultural products in my area, as it is primarily an agricultural region. I will work to create job opportunities for every woman in Chapainawabganj."

Rubel

Veteran actor Masum Parvez Rubel, known

for his contributions to the film industry, has submitted a nomination form to the Awami League for the Barishal-3 constituency. Rubel, has a background in political engagement since his student days.

"I have been involved in politics since my student life. I have been chanting the 'Joy Bangla' slogan on the political stage for a long time. Unlike other actors in the film industry, I did not enter politics suddenly. For a long time, we have been involved in politics in the Awami League. I hope I have been able to convey my message properly," shared the veteran actor.

Shakil Khan

Film actor Shakil Khan, originally from Rampal Mongla, is keen on participating in the election and has obtained the nomination from the Awami League. Despite not being actively involved in the film industry lately, Shakil Khan, with a background in business, expresses his love for the people and soil of Rampal-Mongla.

"I love the soil and people of Rampal-Mongla. If Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina gives me the nomination for this seat, I will work for the welfare of the people in this area. I hope to get party endorsements for this seat. I am not always present in my area, but I am always with the people of my area," he shared.

Siddiquir Rahman Siddique

Popular actor Siddiquir Rahman Siddique, known for his roles in dramas and film productions, has purchased nomination forms for the 17th Dhaka and Tangail-1 constituencies. Siddique, reflecting on his longstanding involvement in politics since his student life, aligns with the 'Joy Bangla' slogan and emphasises a gradual and consistent engagement with Awami League politics.

Karan Johar and Kartik Aaryan resolve issues, announce new movie



Kartik Aaryan and Karan Johar had a rough fallout when the former walked out of Karan's movie *Dostana 2* due to creative differences. However, it seems like the duo have buried the hatchet as Karan Johar has announced a new film with the actor.

Karan Johar took to his social media to announce the untitled film starring Kartik Aaryan and directed by Sandeep Modi during Kartik's birthday.

Badhan set to debut as police officer in 'Esha Murder'

Mission Extreme and *Dhaka Attack* famed director Sunny Sanwar has announced his latest project titled *Esha Murder* scheduled to commence filming in January, with a release planned for Eid ul-Fitr.

On Tuesday evening, Sunny Sanwar unveiled the name and logo of the movie during an announcement event at a restaurant in Banani.

"The story of this movie revolves around a murder incident that happened in Azimpur in 2009. I solved the case but it was a tough nut to crack. Although I have investigated many murders in my career, this incident particularly left an impression on me. I have prepared the script for over five years," the director said.

Badhan said, "I had asked Sunny *bhai*, why he only saw men as police officers. Can't a female officer conduct a murder investigation? Now that I am playing a police officer, I expect to earn new experiences."



NEWS

SC allows Ashiyan housing project

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following the Appellate Division judgement. "The next steps will be taken after receiving the full text of the verdict."

Following a review petition filed by Ashiyan City, the HC on August 16, 2016, scrapped its earlier 2014 judgement that had declared the housing project illegal.

The government and eight rights organisations, including Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association (Bela), Ain O Salish Kendra (ASK), Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST), filed two separate appeals with the Appellate Division challenging the 2016 HC verdict.

Yesterday, the Appellate Division delivered the verdict on the appeals.

Meanwhile, Bela in a press release said that the Department of Environment had earlier fined Tk 50 lakh to Ashiyan City project authorities for filling up waterbodies,

and following an appeal from Ashiyan City, the ministry of forest and environment ordered it to pay only Tk 5 lakh without giving a reason.

It added that neither Rajdhani Unnayan Kartipakkha, nor police or the land administration had taken any effective steps regarding the allegations against Ashiyan City of occupying private land.

Senior lawyers Fida M Kamal, Prabir Neogi, Syeda Rizwana Hasan and Minhazul Haque Chowdhury appeared for the rights organisations, Additional Attorney General SK Md Morshed argued for the government while senior lawyers Md Qumrul Haque Siddique and Ahsanul Karim, accompanied by Raghib Rauf Chowdhury and Redwan Ahmed Runjib, placed arguments for Ashiyan City Development Ltd before the Appellate Division during hearing of the appeals.

N Korea says spy satellite launch successful

AFP, Seoul

North Korea said yesterday it had succeeded in putting a military spy satellite into orbit, with state media claiming leader Kim Jong Un was already reviewing images of US military bases in Guam sent by Pyongyang's new eye in the sky.

Washington, Seoul and Tokyo have slammed the sanctions-busting launch, Pyongyang's third attempt this year to put a satellite into orbit, and the first since Kim met President Vladimir Putin at a Russian cosmodrome in September.

After failed attempts in May and August, the official Korean Central News Agency reported that a rocket had blasted off late Tuesday and "accurately put the reconnaissance satellite 'Malligyong-1' on its orbit".

Images in state media showed Kim watching the launch, then smiling and waving, surrounded by white-uniformed scientists and engineers celebrating the satellite's purported success.

'King's parties' rounded up for polls

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on the opposition bench in the next Jatiya Sangsad, as Jatiya Party's role as the main opposition in the last two parliaments was criticised, political analysts said.

BNP's Senior Joint Secretary General Ruhul Kabir Rizvi Ahmed yesterday alleged that the government was putting pressure on their leaders to join the so-called king's parties (created or sponsored by strong actors to further their cause).

Badiul Alam Majumdar, secretary of Shushashoner Jonno Nagorik, told The Daily Star, "We all know the people behind such initiatives. This is a sign that rigging might take place in the upcoming election."

When the BNP and allies were on the streets demanding the resignation of the government and polls under a non-partisan administration, several little-known political parties, most of which were led by ex-BNP leaders, got EC registration.

Trinamool BNP, formed by former BNP leader Nazmul Huda in 2017, got registration in February. Huda died a few days after the party got registration.

In September, former BNP leaders Shamsheer Mobin Chowdhury and Taimur Alam Khandaker were elected chairperson and secretary general of the party.

Trinamool BNP said it will field candidates in all 300 constituencies.

The BNM and the BSP were registered in July. The BNM was formed by some former BNP leaders, while the BSP is an ally of several Islamist parties with ties to the AL.

"It's part of the [government's] conspiracy to split the BNP," a BNP standing committee member told this newspaper in July.

The BNM on Monday took in four former BNP lawmakers. One of them,

Shah Mohammad Abu Zafar, a former MP of Faridpur-1, was made its acting chairman.

The BSP in September formed the Liberal Islamic Alliance (LIA) comprising Bangladesh Islami Oikya Jote, Ashikine Awlia Oikya Parishad Bangladesh, Bangladesh Janodal, Krishak Sramik Party and National Awami Party (NAP Vashani).

Talking to The Daily Star on November 16, BSP and LIA Chairman Sayeed Saifuddin Ahmed said the alliance would take part in the election.

KALYAN PARTY FORMS ALLIANCE Kalyan Party and Muslim League, which alongside the BNP have been on the streets over the last 11 months demanding polls under a neutral government, yesterday said they have formed a new electoral alliance -- Jukto Front -- with Bangladesh Jatiya Party (Mukit), and the alliance would field 100 candidates.

Kalyan Party in 2012 was a component of the BNP-led alliance.

Asked why they suddenly made such decisions, Kalyan Party Chairman Major General (ret'd) Syed Muhammad Ibrahim told The Daily Star, "We still believe that the best results could be obtained under a caretaker government."

"...Due to the limitations imposed by the government, we have two options. One is to shut down all political activities and the other is to take part in the polls under these circumstances. We have chosen the latter."

He said the government has assured that the polls will be free and fair.

Ibrahim said the current anti-government movement on the streets ran out of steam due to the obstacles that surfaced after October 28.

Asked if the Jukto Front was going to be a king's party, Ibrahim said, "We

don't have to be a king's party. There is no king [in our alliance]."

He said there was no pressure to take part in the polls.

The 12-party alliance, of which Kalyan Party and Muslim League are partners, yesterday termed Ibrahim "a betrayer" and expelled both parties from the alliance.

Bangladesh accounts

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falling off a ship. The worker of Bashundhara Toggi Green Shipbreaking Yard was working on a ship called Fortune that was previously owned by the Indonesian company KYK Lines. He was declared dead after being taken to Chattogram Medical College Hospital.

On August 26, Rashed, 25, died when he fell into the sea from a ship, and was washed away during high tide. He was dismantling a ship beached at the Simni shipbreaking yard, said the report.

On August 20, Md Nuruddin was cutting a plate of the ship FV Sheng, when he fell. The worker of Arefin Enterprise survived with leg injuries.

The report also criticised the Bangladesh Ship Breakers and Recyclers Association for putting pressure on the government to recategorise the shipbreaking industry from "red" to "orange".

Downgrading the category would mean the industry will no longer require to obtain environmental impact assessments, and the association claims that the one to two months required for obtaining an environmental clearance hampers the breaking, said the report.

IRI, NDI

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violence during the election cycle and provide constructive recommendations to reduce violence in future elections. Following the conclusion of the electoral process NDI and IRI will produce a technical assessment report on electoral violence.

NDI and IRI are nonpartisan, nongovernmental organizations that support and strengthen democratic institutions and practices worldwide. The Institutes have collectively observed more than 200 elections in more than 50 countries over the last 30 years.



This handout photograph taken and released by Ukrainian Emergency Service yesterday shows rescuers clearing debris at a residential building following a Russian shelling in Selydove, Donetsk region.

PHOTO: AFP