



Ayo Edebiri accepts the Emmy Award for outstanding supporting actress in A Comedy Series for 'The Bear'.



Kieran Culkin bags Outstanding Lead Actor in A Drama Series for playing Roman Roy in 'Succession'.



Sarah Snook wins her first Emmy for lead actress in A Drama Series for playing Shiv in 'Succession'.



Jeremy Allen White accepts the Emmy Award for outstanding lead actor in A Comedy Series for 'The Bear'.



Quinta Brunson wins Best Leading Comedy Actress for 'Abbott Elementary'.

PHOTOS: COLLECTED

EMMY AWARDS 2024

'Succession', 'The Bear' and 'Beef' amongst winners

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DESK

Television's highly anticipated night, the 75th annual Primetime Emmys, has finally arrived. Following their success at the recently concluded Golden Globes, *Succession*, *The Bear*, and *Beef* continued their winning streak at the Emmy Awards. The ceremony, initially postponed until January, was impacted by the actors and writers' strike from the previous year.

Succession and *The Bear* won six prizes each in the drama and comedy categories respectively, while Netflix's road rage inspired series *Beef* dominated the Limited Series categories.

The Bear, *Succession*, *The White Lotus*, *The Last of Us*, *Ted Lasso*, and *Beef* were amongst the most nominated shows this year. The event unfolded at the Peacock Theatre at LA Live.

Sarah Snook, Kieran Culkin and Matthew Macfadyen all took home acting prizes for *Succession*, while the show also won Best Drama Series overall. Creator Jesse Armstrong said it was "a great sadness to end the show, but it was a great pleasure to do it."

The show was rewarded generously at the Emmys, winning Best Drama Series and prizes for writing and directing, while Snook and Culkin won Best Leading Drama Actress and Actor, for playing Shiv and Roman Roy, respectively.

"The bar was set so high, and that was what



Charlie Puth performs theme track of 'Friends' as the Emmy Awards remember those stars who have passed away.

spurred us on," Snook said of *Succession's* success.

Co-star Culkin paid tribute to Armstrong "for being a brilliant writer, showrunner and gentleman". He beat fellow *Succession* stars Brian Cox and Jeremy Strong, who had also been nominated in the Best Drama Actor category.

Ali Wong and Steven Yeun, two leading stars of *Beef*, were named Best Actress and Actor, respectively, in Limited Series category. Accepting the prize for Best Limited Series, creator Lee Sung Jin said, "I'm really grateful and humbled by everyone who watched the show and reached out about their own

HIGHLIGHTS

Succession and *The Bear* share the spotlight with six Emmys each

Better Call Saul records most losses in Emmy history despite 53 nominations

There have been reunions of the casts of *Grey's Anatomy*, *The Sopranos*, *Ally McBeal* and *Cheers*

Ceremony usually happens in September, but was delayed in wake of writers' and actors' strikes



Netflix's road rage-inspired series 'Beef' dominated the Limited Series categories.



Ali Wong and Steven Yeun were named Best Actress and Actor, respectively, in the Limited Series category for 'Beef'.

personal struggles, it's very life-affirming, so thank you."

Several winners - including Snook, Culkin, Edebiri, White, Yeun and Wong - picked up their prizes just a week after winning equivalent trophies at the Golden Globes.

Meanwhile, Quinta Brunson won the prize for best leading comedy actress for her role in the school-based series *Abbott Elementary*.

Sir Elton John won his first Emmy Award during the ceremony, finally giving him EGOT status. That means he has joined an exclusive club of performers who have won an Emmy, Grammy, Oscar and Tony award.

Jennifer Coolidge was named Best

Supporting Drama Actress for her role in privilege satire *The White Lotus*. Niecy Nash-Betts won Best Supporting Actress in Limited Series category for *Monster: The Jeffrey Dahmer Story*.

In a rather unfortunate tale of consistent near misses, *Better Call Saul* bid farewell after its six-season run without a single Emmy win. Despite accumulating a staggering 53 nominations over the years, the acclaimed legal drama left the 75th Emmy Awards empty handed, once again, leaving fans disheartened.

The 75th Emmy Awards marked the seventh consecutive nomination for *Better Call Saul* in the Outstanding Drama Series category. Despite being recognised across various categories, including Outstanding Lead Actor (Bob Odenkirk), Outstanding Supporting Actress (Rhea Seehorn), and nominations for Outstanding Writing and technical awards, the series faced tough competition from notable contenders like FX's *The Bear*, HBO's *Succession*, and Netflix's *Beef*.

The ceremony also saw Charlie Puth perform the theme tune to *Friends* as the Emmy Awards remembered those who have died in the industry, including Matthew Perry. But a rumoured tribute from Perry's five co-stars failed to materialise.

However, there were reunions of the casts of shows including *Grey's Anatomy*, *The Sopranos*, *Ally McBeal* and *Cheers* to celebrate the Emmys' 75th anniversary.

COUNTRYWIDE

Tobacco spoils land for paddy

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

Farmer Maqbul Hossain, who planted Aman paddy on eight bighas of land this year, got 48 maunds of paddy from five bighas land, used for tobacco in previous times, and 42 maunds from the remaining three bighas.

The 45-year-old from Sarpukur village in Aditmari upazila said he got nearly five maunds less production from each bigha of the land used for tobacco cultivation previously.

"Five bighas of my land have been losing its fertility as I have been farming tobacco on that for over a decade now due to lucrative offers from the tobacco companies," Maqbul said.

Though other crops are also grown in the tobacco land, yield is relatively less compared to the land used for various crop cultivation, he said, adding that tobacco farming requires a lot of fertiliser, which spoils the soil fertility, and plays a vital role in hindering production of other crops.

Narayan Chandra Barman, another farmer of the village, who has been cultivating tobacco on eight bighas land for the last 30 years or so, said he is not getting expected output of paddy and

other crops from the same land because the soil is losing its fertility due to tobacco farming.

Usually, farmers get 14 to 15 maunds of paddy from each bigha land, but the yield is nine to ten maunds in terms of the land used for tobacco farming.

"Although we understand the harmful effects, we are compelled to farm tobacco instead of other crops as the tobacco companies encourage us with different lucrative offers and buy it at a fixed price," he said.

Farmer Soleman Ali of Baninagar village in Kaliganj upazila said usually tobacco plants absorb a lot of nutrients, hampering the soil fertility, which hinders production of other crops including paddy.

According to Lalmonirhat Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE), tobacco is being cultivated on about 8,000 to 9,000 hectares of land every year, though farmers claimed that the total amount of land is much more than it claimed by the DAE. Contacted, Aditmari Upazila Agriculture Officer Omar Farooq said paddy production decreases up to four to five maunds from each bigha land as the soil loses its fertility due to tobacco farming.

Money key to ensuring it

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850mmcf/d gas a day. A single unit is now supplying around 500mmcf/d, according to Petrobangla.

"Local gas exploration will be our main priority. We are expecting to add 500mmcf/d gas from local sources by 2025," he said, adding that the bidding process for deep-sea gas exploration will be announced this year.

The government is devising a plan to supply uninterrupted electricity in the upcoming Ramadan and Boro season.

"But we need an uninterrupted energy supply first. We talked to the new finance minister. We will meet him next week to discuss the issue."

Nasrul hopes there would be adequate allocation for this purpose.

"We had to spend an additional \$13 billion for the increased gas and fuel prices in the international market. There are tensions in the Middle East now. The fuel price has started increasing again. We don't know what will be the situation. But we are getting prepared."

Dynamic fuel pricing - in which the prices in the local market move in the same direction as in the global market - will be implemented from April, he said.

About the \$5 billion deferred payment, Nasrul said: "We will try to clear the payment by this month. Especially, the payments of IPPs [independent power producers] will be paid."

Among the priority projects of the ministry will be completing the pipeline

installation work to supply jet fuel from Chattogram to the third terminal of Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in Dhaka and initiating the installation of gas pipeline work from Bhola to Barishal.

The Quick Enhancement of Electricity and Energy Supply (Special Provisions) Act will not be scrapped now, he said.

"This act is behind our success. For this act, we got electricity and energy within a short time. Many processes are followed to maintain transparency while giving work to anybody."

System loss and corruption will come down when all activities can be completed online.

"A smart programme can help reduce graft," he added.

Cargo ship hit by missile

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Houthi rebels from a boat in the Arabian Sea, the first such operation since the start of Houthi attacks against commercial ships last year.

The parts, which were seized in a Navy SEAL operation Thursday in international waters near the coast of Somalia, consisted of both "Iranian-made ballistic missile and cruise missile components," US Central Command said in a statement on X.

The statement revealed that two SEALs already reported as lost at sea were involved in the mission, with "an exhaustive search" still underway, according to US Central Command chief Michael Kurilla.

On Sunday, US forces shot down a Houthi cruise missile targeting an American destroyer, and on Monday a US-owned cargo

ship in the Gulf of Oman was hit by another rebel missile.

The incidents followed Friday's US and UK strikes on scores of sites in rebel-held Yemen in retaliation for the Red Sea attacks which have disrupted shipping in the vital waterway.

The Houthis have been targeting what they deemed Israeli-linked vessels but after Friday's strikes, they declared US and British interests "legitimate targets".

Qatar's prime minister said yesterday liquefied natural gas shipments would be affected by tensions in the Red Sea, and warned that strikes on Yemen risk aggravating the crisis.

"LNG is... as any other merchant shipments. They will be affected by that," Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani told

the World Economic Forum in Davos, referring to the exchanges with the Huthis.

"There are alternative routes, those alternative routes are not more efficient, they're less efficient than the current route," he added.

Rather than use the key route between Asia and European markets, which normally carries about 12 percent of global maritime trade, some shipping companies are now taking a major detour around southern Africa.

Bloomberg reported on Monday that at least five LNG vessels operated by Qatar had stopped en route to the Red Sea.

"(Military intervention) will not bring an end for this, will not contain it. So the contrary, I think will create... a further escalation," Sheikh Mohammed said, referring to the tensions in the Red Sea.

Shishu Hospital

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Only those whose physical conditions are very complex are admitted to the hospital, he said, adding that the number may decrease by February.

Around the world, pneumonia remains among the top five infectious diseases that cause fatalities in children under five, accounting for 14 percent of 0.7 million deaths from infectious diseases, icddr,b data showed.

According to the icddr,b, approximately 2.3 children die every hour from

pneumonia in the country. At least 24,000 die every year.

Doctors suggested taking up a balanced diet enriched with vitamin D, wearing masks and comfortable warm clothes and regular exercising to help prevent contracting cold related diseases.

Children should be given special attention during winter so that they do not suffer from pneumonia and cold related disease, said Iflat Ara Shamsad, child specialist and head of paediatrics at Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

BNP leader Quayum

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"transnational persecution of political opponents" by the Bangladesh government.

"We suspect the Bangladesh government has nullified my father's passport to portray him as someone living in Malaysia without proper documentation."

Fearing that Malaysian authorities would deport Quayum, Ananta said, "I request that his deportation to Bangladesh be cancelled and that he be released as soon as possible."

A lawyer has been appointed to challenge Quayum's arrest, he informed.

Meanwhile, a foreign ministry official, wishing to remain unnamed, confirmed Quayum's arrest but did not provide further details about the matter.

He also said he did not have any knowledge about Quayum's passport ever being nullified.

to a WhatsApp message that was marked as read.

On October 27, 2015, Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal told The Daily Star that Quayum was the "Boro Bhai" behind the murder of Cesare Tavella.

Quayum, a former ward councillor in Badda and a joint convener of Dhaka city unit BNP left the country on April 28, 2015. Since then, he has been staying either in Malaysia or in Dubai. He also often visited London.

During that time, Quayum had said the Bangladesh government wanted to frame him for the murder of Cesare Tavella.

Ananta said, "Immediately after the Tavella murder, ISIS claimed responsibility. In the middle of 2016, the Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) also found ties between the militant group 'neo JMB' and the killing."

"However, the Detective Branch of police ignored the claim made by ISIS and the statement made by Rab and continued the court proceedings against Quayum and his brother."



Farmers take away ripe Aman paddy from a land, used for tobacco farming previously, in Lalmonirhat's Aditmari upazila.

PHOTO: STAR