

# NAWBA TAHIYA eases into the spotlight

**In an industry where young actors often crumble under the weight of early fame, Nawba Tahiya Hossain has managed to do something rare—grow naturally into the spotlight. Barely out of her teens, she has already carried dramas that racked up millions of views and made her OTT debut alongside big names. Her story begins at the premises of Bangladesh Shishu Academy, where a little girl once sat with other children on Thursdays, learning how to recite poems and speak with confidence.**

NAVEEN ISLAM TOREE

"I was asked to host a show out of nowhere, and I just went with it. Looking back, I think it was a sign."

That "sign" turned into appearances on BTV children's programmes, then hosting, then dramas. Tahiya insists none of it was planned. "It wasn't my dream—it was my mother's vision," she reflects. "She wanted me to never stutter in anything—not in words, not in life."

For a time, she was simply another familiar face in lighthearted romantic dramas. But then came *Chupi Chupi*, written and directed by Imraul Rafat. Opposite Niloy Alamgir, Tahiya played the comedic female lead. The drama exploded, crossing 19 million YouTube views and trending at number one for two weeks.

That opportunity solidified her position as more than just another fresh face—it proved she could carry a project, and it introduced her to a far wider audience.

Her first step into streaming came with *Punormilone*, directed by Mizanur Rahman Aryan, where she acted alongside Siam Ahmed and Tasnia Farin. It could have been easy to be lost in such a star-heavy ensemble, but her role stood out.

After that, she has ventured into her recent project, the web-film *Noya Note*, directed by Anonno Proteek Chowdhury, which added fresh momentum to her career.

If there's one thing audiences notice, it's her refusal to overdo a role. Even in the web-film, Tahiya plays her character with authenticity.

"If a rich girl falls for a middle-class boy, her accent shouldn't drip with money. It has to feel real," she said.

Unlike many child stars, Tahiya has never let her studies slip into the background. While talking about balancing her work and studies, she said, "I don't try to balance. When I study, I only study; when I work, I only work. Even if I get home at 7 am from a shoot, I'll still open my books before class."

That matter-of-fact approach has made her stand out as a Gen Z actress who values education as much as professionalism.

In the past two years, the actress has often been paired with Partho Sheikh in audience-favorite dramas including *Miththe Kabber Ful* and *Amar Thikana Tumi*.

Their on-screen chemistry has sparked an online ship-culture, but she is careful to keep perspective.

"We're very good colleagues. We keep it professional because the audience loves us—but we both have our own lives."

For now, she's in no rush to make the jump to the silver screen. "I don't think I'm going to do films in the next five years," she says firmly. "I want to flourish here first—then earn my poster on every wall."

Her list of dream directors includes Shihab Shaheen, Mostafa Sarwar Farooki, and Shalayet Mansoor Rana, whose *Closeup Kache Ashar Golpo* telefilms inspired her as a child.

From a girl reciting verses at Shishu Academy to a trending star of YouTube dramas and Chorki web films, Nawba Tahiya's rise has been natural. Guided by her mother's foresight, and admired for her honesty on-screen, she has become a Gen Z inspiration—one who doesn't chase fame but lets it come naturally.



PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

## OUT AND ABOUT IN DHAKA



**Jokes in Progress-Comedy Open Mic**  
Oct 4 | 8 pm onwards  
The Nest, 1/6, Noorjahan Road, Mohammadpur



**Cosmic Anime Monsoon 2025**  
Oct 4 | 10 am onwards  
Paragon Convention Hall, Dhanmondi



**'The Human Voice' by Jean Cocteau**  
Oct 9-11 | 7 pm onwards  
Alliance Française de Dhaka

## TV TALKIES

### DO YOU WANNA PARTNER

**Do You Wanna Partner**, now streaming on Amazon Prime, stars Tamannaah Bhatia and Diana Penty in a refreshing buddy comedy. The web series follows best friends Shikha (Tamannaah) and Anahita (Diana) as they take on the challenge of launching their own craft beer brand in an industry largely dominated by men. With its mix of humour, friendship, and a dash of social commentary, this series makes it a fun watch for weekends.



**WHAT'S PLAYING**  
**'Tomake Bhulte Shomoy Lagbe'**  
by Joy Shahriar

After six years, singer-songwriter Joy Shahriar returns with *'Tomake Bhulte Shomoy Lagbe'* (*I Will Take Time to Forget You*), the lead single from his upcoming album *Boka*. The track blends heartfelt vocals with intricate instrumentation, a sound that honours Bangladesh's rich musical storytelling tradition.

This marks Shahriar's fifth studio album. He's not just

the vocalist—he's the songwriter, composer, and creative force behind the project, collaborating with musicians like Tanim Hasan on bass, Mahaan Fahim on guitar, and Jalal Ahmed on flute.

As for the dedication? It's in the heart: Shahriar honours late poet Abul Hossain Khokon, weaving his verse into a deeply personal tribute.

## TRENDY STREAMS

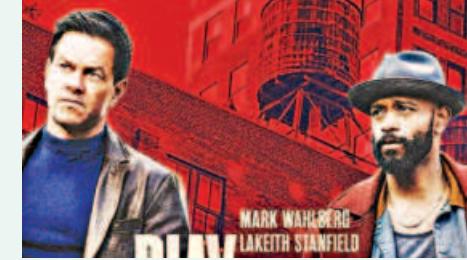
**Netflix**  
Steve



**Hulu**  
Chad Powers



**Prime Video**  
Play Dirty



**Chorki**  
Jaya Aar Sharmin



**Apple TV+**  
The Lost Bus



## STYLE STATEMENT

### Mehazabien Chowdhury

At the special screening of her film *Saba*, Mehazabien Chowdhury won the audience with a look that redefined elegance. Draped in a regal saree by Anzara, featuring intricate patterns and rich textures, she struck the perfect balance between heritage and modern sophistication. Paired with a sleek blouse and complemented by jewelry from Elor, with the ensemble exuded refined glamour. With flawless makeup by Zahid Khan Bridal Makeover and her graceful presence, Mehazabien carried the look with understated charm and timeless poise.

