



...SINCE 1984

Newsletter

May | 2023

Meet Our **STELLAR WOMEN** in Architecture & Education



Nazli Hussain

Sadia Jafrin

The recent 'Stellar Women' recognition event held on May 27, 2023 gave us two new Stellar Women. This prestigious event, organized by bti in collaboration with The Daily Star, celebrated the exceptional accomplishments of women in architecture and education sectors who have made significant contributions to our nation with their impeccable work.





bti The Daily Star
**STELLAR
WOMEN**
Spark Your Inner Power

The Stellar Women initiative was created to honor women who have excelled in their respective domains, driving nation-building and progress in women empowerment. In a star-studded event held in bti Celebration Point, the winners in the 'Architecture' & 'Education' categories were announced. Previously, we recognized exceptional women in the 'Development' and 'Technology' sectors.

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In the category of 'Architecture,' Nazli Hussain received the award for her extraordinary work in promoting sustainable architectural practices throughout the country. Her firm, Praxis Architects, has been at the forefront of advocating for sustainable architecture and was the first architectural firm in the country to gain membership in the prestigious US Green Building Council.

In the 'Education' category, Sadia Jafrin was honored for her remarkable contributions in reforming the education sector through her Grow Your Reader Foundation. Sadia's efforts to improve access to quality education, teacher training facilities, physical and online libraries, audiobooks, and diverse curricula have had a profound impact on the lives of many children in our country. She is also a Teach for Bangladesh fellow, Acumen fellow, and Queen's Commonwealth Young Leader.

The event was graced by esteemed guests from bti and The Daily Star, including bti's Managing Director, F R Khan, Md. Tajdin Hassan, Chief Business Officer of The Daily Star, and renowned singer, journalist, and Hubert Humphrey fellow Elita Karim. We were also delighted to have journalists from various media organizations in attendance. All shortlisted candidates were able to present their portfolio for which they received certificates as well.

Expressing her gratitude, Nazli Hussain acknowledged the Stellar Women initiative and thanked bti and The Daily Star for the recognition. In her welcome speech, she shared, "My journey was challenging, but I pursued my passion with the belief that sustainable architecture would become essential in the future. I am glad that other women have been inspired to follow this path, and I hope they receive the same incredible support I did."

Sadia Jafrin, in her acceptance speech, expressed her appreciation for the Stellar Women initiative and its commitment to ensuring quality education for the new generation. She stated, "Children in our country are deprived of adequate education, and through our various initiatives, we aim to address this issue by enhancing reading skills, social-emotional learning, sustainable living, child food, and nutrition. Our intention is to fulfill the dreams of all parents who want the best for their children."



Reflecting on the event, Mr. F R Khan, Managing Director of bti, highlighted the company's belief in acknowledging and appreciating women who have shattered glass ceilings and overcome obstacles to create extraordinary impact in society. Stellar Women is a platform that shines a spotlight on these remarkable individuals and their inspiring stories, encouraging others to fearlessly pursue their dreams.

bti Happy Moments In May



Health Campaign with Praava Health
Organized Successfully

bti successfully organized a Health Campaign in collaboration with Praava Health on May 22, 2023. In this event, Dr. Humisha Ahmed, MBBS (DU), CCD (BIRDEM), DMU (BITMIR), Resident Physician of Praava Health engaged with bti employees throughout the day. The campaign featured complimentary health checkups, including vital assessments such as blood sugar levels and blood pressure measurements. More than 120 employees of bti participated in this campaign absolutely for free. We were overwhelmed by the tremendous response of bti employees, which led us to extend the campaign further for two more hours to accommodate more participants. We appreciate Dr. Humisha Ahmed for giving her valuable time from her busy schedule for bti employees. We also thank all the participants for making this event a successful one.

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PARK PANORAMA

building technology and ideas Ltd.—bti always aims to do something exceptional for our customers. This time, bti’s signature event 'Know Your Neighbors' was hosted at bti **Park Panorama in Gulshan**. The homeowners of **Park Panorama** met with their neighbors and engaged in delightful conversations while touring the residence. The event successfully initiated a blissful journey towards homeownership. Senior officials of bti were also present to engage with the new residents. All in all, the ‘Know Your Neighbors’ program has been a rewarding experience for the attendees.



What's New in SBUs?



bti Property Management

The Property Management team found a marvelous achievement this month, as they achieved 100% on their monthly sales target! The entire bti team is profoundly happy for this success and proud of this milestone. It proves once again that team bonding is everything for achieving success.

Square Feet Story

With multiple ongoing projects in the pipeline, it's a busy time of the year for SFS. Indeed, summer is a season when most people consider shifting to new homes or redoing their home interiors for a more comfortable lifestyle. Two notable interior projects in Lalmatia are set to be completed by next month. We recently worked on some interior projects in Park Panorama as well.



What's New In Real Estate

Honoring the Stellar Women

To honor young female entrepreneurs who are leading the country towards prosperity, building technology and ideas ltd. – bti, in collaboration with The Daily Star organized 'bti The Daily Star Stellar Women Awards' on May 27, 2023 at bti Celebration Point, Gulshan-2. The 'Stellar Women' initiative has been introduced to honor 12 women in 12 months in 12 different categories. In continuation of this spirit, Nazli Hussain in the "Architecture" category and Sadia Jafrin in the "Education" category have been presented with the awards. bti Managing Director FR Khan, CBO of The Daily Star Tajdin Hassan, and renowned singer-journalist Elita Karim and other officials from the two organizations were present in this event.

(Source: The Daily Star, 28/05/2023)

Per Capita Bedroom Space Shrinks in Bangladesh

Due to rising living costs and increasing income inequality, per capita bedroom floor space in Bangladesh has shrunk by 17.47% according to a survey report titled "Bangladesh Sample Vital Statistics 2021" published by the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS). Experts state that people are forced to live in smaller houses than before because their income has not increased in line with the increase in the cost of living. The report also informs that many people prefer subletting these days. In city corporation areas, 33.1% households are forced to share toilets. The report details, the highest 31% of households share toilets in Rangpur, followed by 27.6% in Rajshahi. In contrast, the rate of toilet sharing is the lowest in the Chattogram division at 9.8%.

(Source: The Business Standard, 01/05/2023)

Construction and Real Estate Sectors *in a fix*

Increased prices of some key construction materials, including mild steel (MS) rod, cement, stone and brick, are causing trouble for the country's construction and real-estate sectors, industry people said. A number of construction companies have already halted their operations. Many others are struggling to cope with the price volatility. The price spiral mainly resulted from hike in prices of raw materials in the international market, following the Russia-Ukraine war along with other local and international factors. Besides, increased import cost due to the dollar crisis in the country has added fuel to the fire. Sheikh Masadul Alam (Masud), Managing Director of Shahriar Steel Mills Ltd, told the FE that the steel manufacturers are adopting different coping mechanisms, as both demand and supply of the item have declined. Referring to the dry season when construction work gains momentum, he said: "We haven't witnessed the usual demand during this peak season." The sector's share in the economy was nearly nine per cent, and it generated direct employment for six million people three years ago. The sector might have been affected to some extent by this time. Another problem is the possibility of quality fall, as some contractors might use substandard materials to ensure their profit after offering lower bids to grab work orders.



(Source: The Financial Express, 09/05/2023)



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