



Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2023

HONOURING **TWO** STELLAR WOMEN

SAKINA KHANAM

Agriculture



Sports

SALMA AKTER

September '23 started with a bang with the announcement of our Stellar Women in 'Agriculture' and 'Sports' categories. The event was hosted by bti in partnership with The Daily Star on September 2, 2023, at bti Celebration Point, Gulshan-2. In an evening of festivity and merriment, it was a great joy to see women empowering one another and fostering new relationships.

The Stellar Women initiative is designed to honor women who have played a significant role in nation-building across diverse fields. The initiative recognizes 12 women in distinct categories, with past honorees from 'Development,' 'Technology,' 'Architecture,' 'Education,' 'Corporate,' & 'Cultural' sectors.

Salma Akhter Mone, Bangladesh's first international level elite assistant referee was recognized in the 'Sports' category. Mst. Sakina Khanam, the driving force behind the climate change-resistant rice strain BINA line-25, received the award in the 'Agriculture' category.



Key figures from bti and The Daily Star, including Mehrin Mubdi Chowdhury, Editor of Star Lifestyle, Imran Kadir, Head of Marketing at The Daily Star, bti CEO Nalaka Hettiarachchi, and Aysha Siddiqua, Executive Director of Communication & Brand Management at bti, were present, along with representatives from various media organizations.



Salma Akhter Mone, the first Bangladeshi female referee officiating international matches beyond South Asia, expressed her gratitude during the event. She has officiated men's matches for FIFA and is now under the tutelage of AFC. She thanked bti and The Daily Star

for recognizing her dedication and hard work and encouraged women to dream big, irrespective of societal expectations.



On the other hand, Mst. Sakina Khanam PhD., Chief Scientific Officer in the Plant Genetics Division of Bangladesh

Institute of Nuclear Agriculture (BINA) was given the honour for her groundbreaking work in developing a climate-resilient rice strain, also thanked bti and The Daily Star for acknowledging her commitment. She urged women to believe in their qualifications, stay focused on their goals, and prove themselves, emphasizing the importance of concentration.



On 5 September 2023 bti launched 'Yess,' a community tailored for professionals, marking an innovative foray into co-living. This groundbreaking venture seeks to transform the shared living experience for professionals. The inauguration took place in Yess headquarter in Uttara, adjacent to Jashimuddin circle, with Nalaka Hettiarachchi, the CEO of bti, officiating the event.

The ceremony witnessed the presence of bti's Managing Director, FR Khan, alongside other distinguished officials from the company. FR Khan expressed that 'Yess' is poised to revolutionize the perception and reality of shared accommodations. Current hostels are not in great shape, with poor services and no upgrade in furnishing. Single professionals often face difficulties in finding rented apartments, as most homeowners are inclined to lease out apartments to married couples and families. Yess by bti is a great answer to these woes.

Yess introduces a novel concept in co-living, providing professionals with a secure, affordable, and



community-centric living environment. Notable features of Yess include fully furnished A/C rooms, top-tier security measures, tailored meal plans, a prime location, motorcycle parking facilities, and a well-equipped gymnasium. Additionally, Yess plans to organize career guidance workshops and training sessions facilitated by senior professionals from bti, offering valuable insights to help individuals stay competitive in their careers.

With a capacity to house approximately 120 individuals simultaneously, Yess strives to create a closely-knit community of like-minded professionals, fostering shared interests and aspirations. Through its combination of comfort, convenience, security, and community engagement, Yess aspires to establish new benchmarks in the realm of co-living.

yess^o
by bti



WHAT'S NEW IN SBUS

Our customers have been pouring in rave reviews for our services. We are proud to see our agents being praised for their performances winning hearts.

No wonder September has been a month of celebration for us as our teams broke previous records of revenue this month. We heartily thank our leaders & mentors who encouraged us to do our best.



September has been a particularly busy month for the interior designers as we have seen a jump in interior sales. We undertook 27 new interior projects this month, out of which 26 are residential projects while 1 is an office interior design project in Gulshan 2.



WHAT'S NEW IN REAL ESTATE

HOW WILL DIGITAL LAND SURVEY WORK?

The Bangladeshi government is set to launch a digital survey for land management, aiming to enhance efficiency and reduce harassment for citizens. Land Minister Saifuzzaman Chowdhury announced that if the digital survey proves effective, older surveys will be canceled.

The initiative, which began with a 5-year Digital Survey project costing Tk 1,300 crore, utilizes technologies such as Global Navigation Satellite System,

4th Generation Survey Drone, Ground Control Station, GPS, ETS, Data Recorder, and Plotter for accurate surveys. The use of drones will capture a comprehensive view of the land, and satellite imaging will determine location and size, facilitating the creation of a digital land zoning map.

The pilot program is already underway in Patuakhali & Barguna, with plans to expand nationwide if successful. The project aims to provide citizens with coordinated land maps and records, ensuring transparency in land ownership and size.

LEGALIZING UNAPPROVED HIGH-RISE BUILDINGS: A STEP BACK?

In a meeting on September 21, Mosharraf Hossain, chairman of the parliamentary standing committee on the Ministry of Housing and Public Works, suggested that RAJUK should legalize unlawfully constructed high-rise buildings by imposing fines per square foot, provided the foundation is structurally sound. This recommendation was prompted by Rajuk's inadequate handling of building owners who illegally increased the heights of their structures without proper oversight.

A 2019 survey conducted by Rajuk on high-rise buildings (11 stories and above) in the capital revealed that out of 1,818 buildings investigated, 475 had no approval. Of these, 44 were constructed by government agencies. Rajuk initiated efforts to demolish illegal high-rise buildings but faced challenges in enforcing rules and regulations. Experts argue that the proposed financial penalties may not be sufficient, emphasizing the need for a comprehensive policy to address deviated or unapproved high-rise structures, as suggested in the approved Detailed Area Plan (DAP).





YEARS OF
EXCELLENCE