It is thanks to our peers that presentation programs are held continuously in our university and for us the pressure we face at the intra-level prepared us for this."

The winners were quick to thank BATB as well, muttering profuse gratitude for providing them an "unforgettable experience, with more to hopefully come in the future."

The management guild of DU had seemed delighted at their coronation into second place, but the members were nowhere to be found for an interview and we can only congratulate them for their outstanding achievement. The third place finishers NSU were however present to share their views and the look on their faces was the pre-requisite for the expected answer of "disappointing" that issued from their lips.

"We did not present as well as we could have. There was a great deal of scope for improvement," was how they summarised their efforts. Not good enough in the final reckoning but a third place ought to provide them with enough to lick their wounds over.

For IUB, BRAC and EWU though, it was a tough judgement. While the latter were left fuming after their defeat blaming technical glitches in the process for not being able to leave an enduring mark on the judges, the others accepted defeat more graciously.

For the all-female bar one group of IUB, their creative news-skit roleplay during the presentation still fell short of the mark. Interviewed right after their turn at presenting, they also felt that their efforts had been a tad underwhelming and were not completely satisfactory.

Not completely satisfied were BRAC as well, but it was about something else entirely as their challenge, stiff to begin with, petered out towards the end.

The losers on the day resembled the dark sky outside and most would pass for the murky clouds that dotted the skyline in an atypical winter weather display for Dhaka in January.

The judges however proved far more revealing, with QM Shahed pleased to announce that they were contributing towards "national interests with competitions like this." The head of HR, revelled in what he said was "a very rewarding experience, although the content may not always have been as prolific as the presentations themselves."

He also expressed a desire to take the competition beyond national borders in the very near future with an international competition mooted pitting the winners of Bangladesh against the best of the rest of South Asia.

Samia Zaman, perhaps the most well-known judge in the panel, said that the event to her had been a "pleasant surprise."

"You expect to be bored during these presentation competitions. I did! But it sure turned out differently," she joked, adding that she felt delighted to be a part of the whole event.

