YESTERDAY'S **TEMPERATURES**

DHAKA H 34.5 L 26.3

CHITTAGONG **H** 33.8 **L** 24.5 SYLHET

H 33.2 **L** 21.0

2nd Edition

RAJSHAHI H 37.7 L 22.5

KHULNA **H** 36.5 **L** 25.6

BARISAL **H** 34.6 **L** 25.3

RANGPUR **H** 32.1 **L** 19.6

H 33.7 L 24.8

degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Rajshahi and lowest 19.2 in Srimangal.



its 16th annual award presentation ceremony, at a seminar, "Future Bangladesh: Share Your Dream", organised by The Daily Star at The Daily Star Centre in the capital yesterday. Some 50 pupils reflected their thoughts and concerns on issues including agriculture, industry, urbanisation, education, culture, history, patriotism and parents' role. PHOTO: STAR

Opportunities will move youths to nation building

Top scorers in O and A Level exams tell The Baily Star seminar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Proper opportunities will inspire brilliant young minds to build the nation, top achievers in the O- and A-Level exams told a seminar in the capital yesterday. "There are many institutions in

Bangladesh that brilliant people can greatly improve and help build the country instead of going abroad," said Shafique Choudhury from Mastermind.

The Daily Star organised, "Future Bangladesh: Share Your Dream", at The Daily Star Centre where some 50 pupils reflected their thoughts and concerns on issues including agriculture, industry, urbanisation, education, culture, history, patriotism and parents' role.

They are among 1,760 honoured by The Daily Star at its 16th annual award presentation ceremony this year.

Brilliant people will surely serve the country if provided opportunities, said Nabil Fazle Rahman from Bangladesh International School & College, while political stability was crucial, for politics affects everyone no matter whether one gets involved or not.

Creating adequate research facilities is vital in pursuing studies in the fields of science and technology, said Nafhatul Jannat Huq Evana from Academia.

Focusing on the enormous economic disparity, she said while a handful was becoming extremely rich, the rest were starving. Sexual harassment of women must also be dealt with accord-

ingly, said Evana.

AB Bank Limited

engineering graduates, no matter how meritorious they may be, have very little opportunity in the country's job market which offers meagre pay. This will either prompt bright stu-

dents aspiring to study science and technology to go abroad or demoralise them, he said.

Pointing at repeated public exam question paper leaks in recent years, Kazi Nazifa Dilruba from Maple Leaf International School said moral integrity, not undue advantage, was what should matter to society. On urbanisation, Ahmed Zarif-ul-

Kabir from Mastermind said Dhaka city should be decentralised by providing education, healthcare and employment opportunities in other cities. Schools without playgrounds

should not be allowed to run as obesity among young city people is a big challenge, he said. "Mere buildings without parks and

playgrounds should not be the pattern of urbanisation; young people are often seen hazardously playing on the city streets," added Shafat Rahman from Sunnydale School.

Bushra Tasneen from Mastermind said mass media often exclude English medium students while celebrating public exam achievements of those under the national curriculum.

Mass media should not portray English medium education in a negative light, she said.

Terming the public university admis-Kahn Sajid Mahmood from sion process discriminatory, Arpita

Mastermind said presently science and Maheswari from ABC International School of Narayanganj said English medium students who undertake international exams should be evaluated equally.

Saidur Rahman, country manager of Edexcel Bangladesh, said top public universities should provide an option to accommodate those studying international curriculum so that the best can get access.

Parents should not insist children on being what they wanted them to be, said Tamanna Zaman from Mount Royal Academy of Narayanganj. "All individuals are different and we are special in our own way," she said.

Independent University, Bangladesh Vice-Chancellor Prof M Omar Rahman said these Bangladeshi youths were truly the global changemakers. Mahfuz Anam, editor and publisher

of The Daily Star, who moderated the seminar, said that one person's idea and dream bring about an enormous change towards nation building.

This happened with the innovative concepts of microcredit to fight poverty and non-formal education to eradicate illiteracy, both from Bangladesh, he said.

"So, let's not underestimate the power of an individual. One has to just have the aspiration to be good enough to bring changes to the society," he said.

Young Nation Builders' Club, an online forum enabling the best and brightest minds and future nation builders to stay connected, was also floated.

Fundamentalists rake in Tk 2,500cr yearly

Prof Abul Barakat tells seminar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The financial operations of fundamentalism see an approximate yearly net profit of Tk 2,500 crore, with banks, leasing and insurance companies generating about one third of the amount, economist Dr Abul Barakat said yesterday. Twenty-seven percent of the total profit comes from

banking, leasing and insurance companies, 18.8 percent from NGOs, 10.8 percent from trade, 10.4 from pharmaceuticals, diagnostic centres, and other health institutions, 9.2 from educational institutions, 8.5 percent from real estate businesses, 7.8 percent from media and IT industry, and 7.5 percent from the transport sector, the Dhaka University professor said, citing the 2014 figures from his study titled "Political Economy of Fundamentalism in Bangladesh". In his keynote speech, he also urged creation of more

tribunals to speed up the war crimes trial because, he said, it would take decades to finish the trial of, if ever, over 500 people facing allegations now. The seminar on "culture of injustice and communalism-

fundamentalism-extremism" was organised by Bangladesh Economic Association at the Institution of Engineers Bangladesh in the capital.

Health service a mess

(2016-20) would be enhanced with health and education being a priority. Dr Rashid-e-Mahbub, former president of Bangladesh

Medical Association, said poor people have little access to health, which forces them to go to the quacks. Grassroots health facilities like community clinics,

union health and family welfare centres and upazila health complexes need to be equipped with quality health professionals and logistics, he said. Brac Vice Chair Ahmed Chowdhury Mushtaque said that to achieve universal health coverage, the government could target

social health insurance schemes for segments like garment workers, members of microfinance organisations, government and NGO employees and the people below the poverty line. Dr Mukesh Chawla, adviser to the Health, Nutrition and Population Global Practice of The World Bank, Birdem

Hospital Director General Dr Nazmun Nahar, Gonoshasthya Kendra Trustee Dr Zafarullah Chowdhury and PPRC Executive Chairman Dr Hossain Zillur Rahman also spoke.

Mayoral campaigns shift FROM PAGE 3

Mahi B Chowdhury to run for mayorship in North.

ADARSHA DHAKA ANDOLON

Prof Emajuddin Ahmed-led Adarsha Dhaka Andolon, a pro-

BNP citizens' platform, will unveil the BNP-backed mayoral candidates' manifestos today or tomorrow, said sources. The platform is likely to put emphasis on keeping the

administration corruption-free, building modern communication and traffic systems, public toilets, and covering all open manholes, among others.



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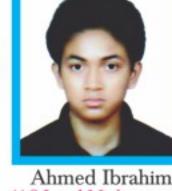


The Aga Khan School, Dhaka (An institution of the Aga Khan Education Service, Bangladesh)

Well Done, You Did It!

Our heartiest congratulations to the following students of The Aga Khan School, Dhaka for outstanding results in achieving 6 As or more in CIE IGCSE and 3 As or more in A Level Examinations in 2014. We are proud of the recognition award given by The Daily Star and CIE to these students for their remarkable achievements.

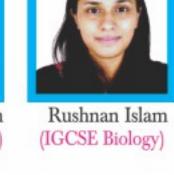






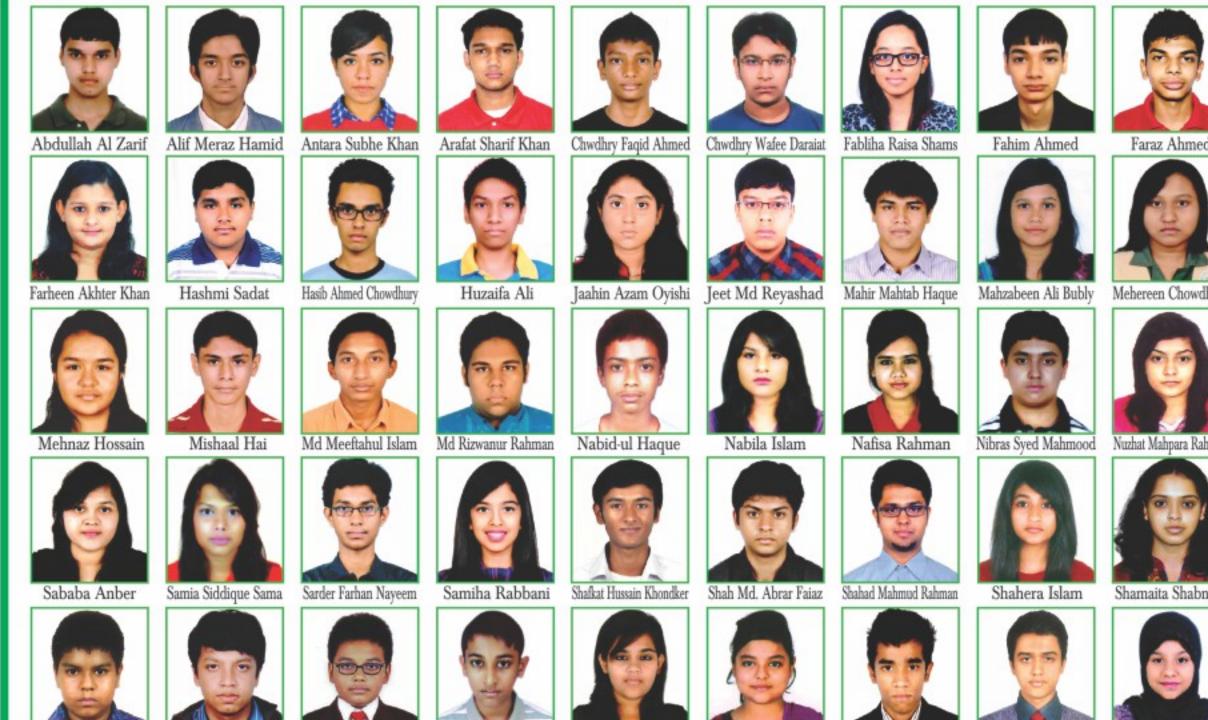








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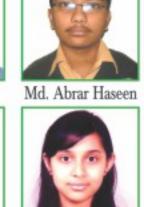


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