

RISE HIGH BANGLADESH

The export idea contest "Rise High Bangladesh", jointly organised by The Daily Star and Crown Cement, has successfully completed its second season with the gala event held on December 2, 2017.



Winners (front row) of the Rise High Bangladesh competition with the chief guest, members of the jury panel and other dignitaries at the award giving ceremony.

Extensive campus activation programmes and campaigns in different media platforms generated an overwhelmingly positive response from students, and over 200 teams from various universities across the country participated in the contest. The competition proved to be a useful platform for youngsters eager to showcase their creativity to take Bangladesh forward in the global export market.

Three finalists were shortlisted for the final round based on both jury board's score and online votes. Finalists pitched their innovative ideas before the AHM Mustafa Kamal, MP, Honorable Minister, Ministry of Planning,

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, H.E. Ms. Marcia Stephens Bloom Bernicat, U.S. Ambassador to Bangladesh and an expert panel of jurors, comprised of some of the most prominent business leaders and practitioners in the country. The esteemed jury adjudged Team Sept of Baelor, the team representing the University of Dhaka, the champion for its project proposal on Chitosan, an organic polymer derived from the shell of shrimps.

They won a trip to Malaysia as their reward. Team Third Dimension from Bangladesh University of Professionals (BUP) and Team Green Bees from Rajshahi University secured the second and third position, respectively.

The Rise High Bangladesh initiative also honoured the founders of the world's leading content marketing and syndication platform NewsCred - Iraj Islam, Shafqat Islam, and Asif Rahman - for their outstanding contribution to carve out a place for Bangladesh on the global stage.



WINNERS



CHAMPION

CHITOSAN

Team Sept of Baelor from University of Dhaka
Idea: An organic polymer derived from the shell of shrimps.



1ST RUNNER-UP

GREEN INSECT

Team Third Dimension from Bangladesh University of Professionals (BUP)
Idea: Developing a source of natural protein from black soldier fly insects.



2ND RUNNER-UP

PINEAPPLE LEAF FIBER (PALF)

Team Green Bees from Rajshahi University
Idea: Production of fine quality yarn from pineapple leaf fiber.



AMAZING BANGLADESHIS



From left, Asif Rahman, Shafqat Islam and Iraj Islam, the co-founders of the world's leading content marketing and syndication platform NewsCred.



Leonika Hannan and Imran M Yousuf receive "Amazing Bangladeshis" crests on behalf of the NewsCred founders.

JURY PANEL



Judges of the competition, from left, Bitopi Das Chowdhury, Country Head of Corporate Affairs, Standard Chartered Bangladesh; Professor Imran Rahman, Special Advisor to the Board of Trustees & Dean, School of Business, University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh and Syed Nasim Manzur, former President of MCCI, Dhaka and Managing Director of Apex Footwear Ltd., at the gala event.



When you have a dream, you will succeed. The dreams never die. Now, you need an idea, as many people are waiting to invest in your ideas to make them successful.

AHM MUSTAFA KAMAL, MP
Honourable Minister
Ministry of Planning



Empower women and the youth and they will find innovative solutions to our global challenges. Inspiring entrepreneurship is the best way to empower a person.

MARCIA STEPHENS BLOOM BERNICAT
U.S. Ambassador
to Bangladesh



Our topmost priority should be development of skilled human resources. A separate ministry should be formed to facilitate this advancement. We need to inspire the youth to explore innovative ideas and create more platforms to transform these ideas into reality.

MOHAMMED JAHANGIR ALAM
Chairman
Crown Cement



Bangladesh is now a global example of finding innovative solutions to development challenges. We need to inspire our youth to devote their creative energy and entrepreneurial skills for propelling this fabulous growth journey.

MAHFUZ ANAM
Editor & Publisher
The Daily Star