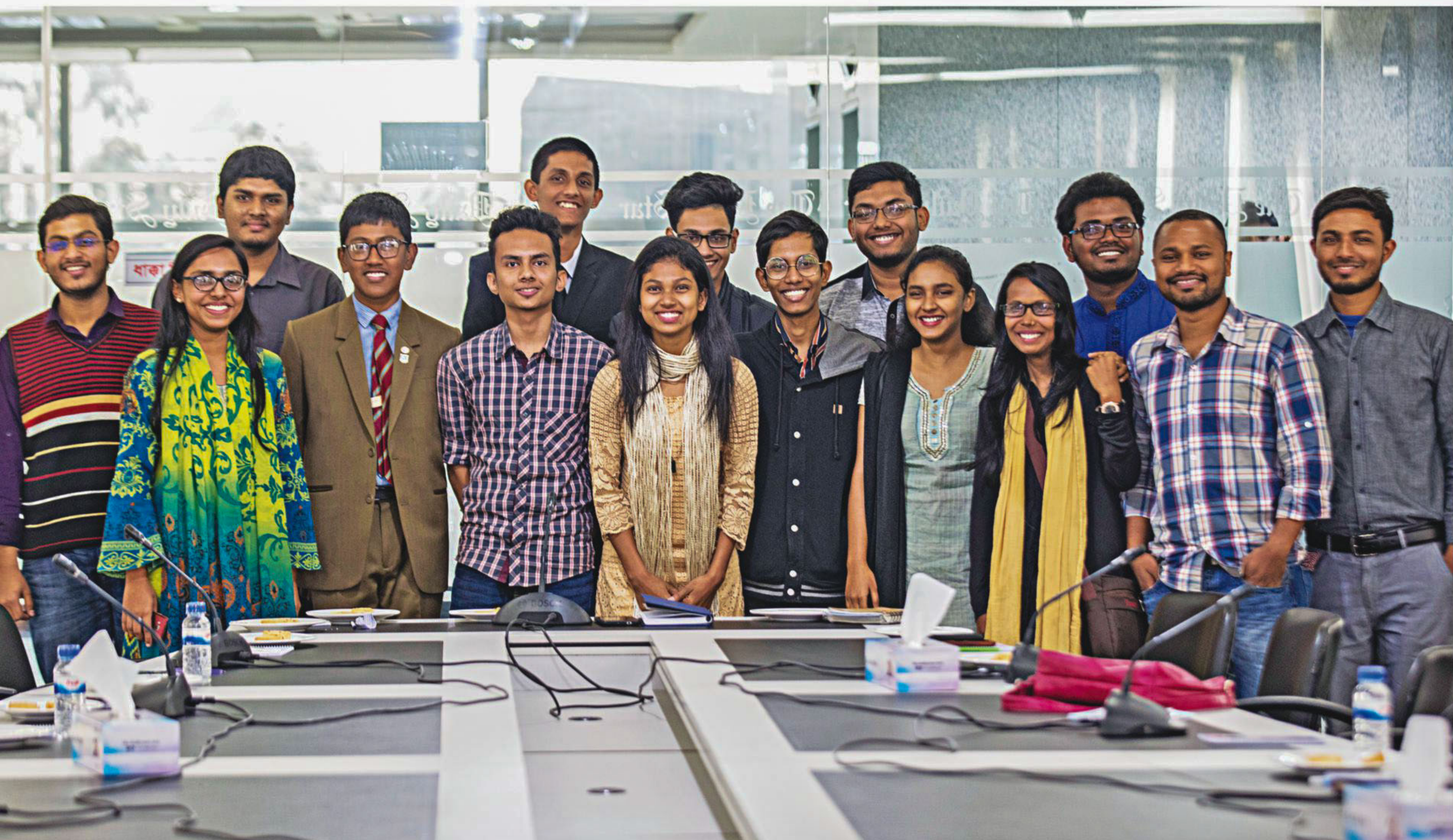


DOERS TODAY, NATION BUILDERS TOMORROW



DHAKA FRIDAY
FEBRUARY 16, 2018
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PHOTOS: RASHED SHUMON

A Peek into the Minds of the Future:

Ashoka Foundation brings forth Bangladesh's Youngest Changemakers

Ashoka Foundation is a global organisation that identifies and invests in young changemakers. A roundtable was organised at The Daily Star Centre, which gave the floor to 15 leading Bangladeshi changemakers under the age of 20 to showcase their work and ideas heading into the future. The session was headed by Elita Karim, the editor of Star Youth, and coordinated by Saurav Roy, the programme coordinator at Ashoka Foundation.

SADI MOHAMMAD SHAHNEWAZ

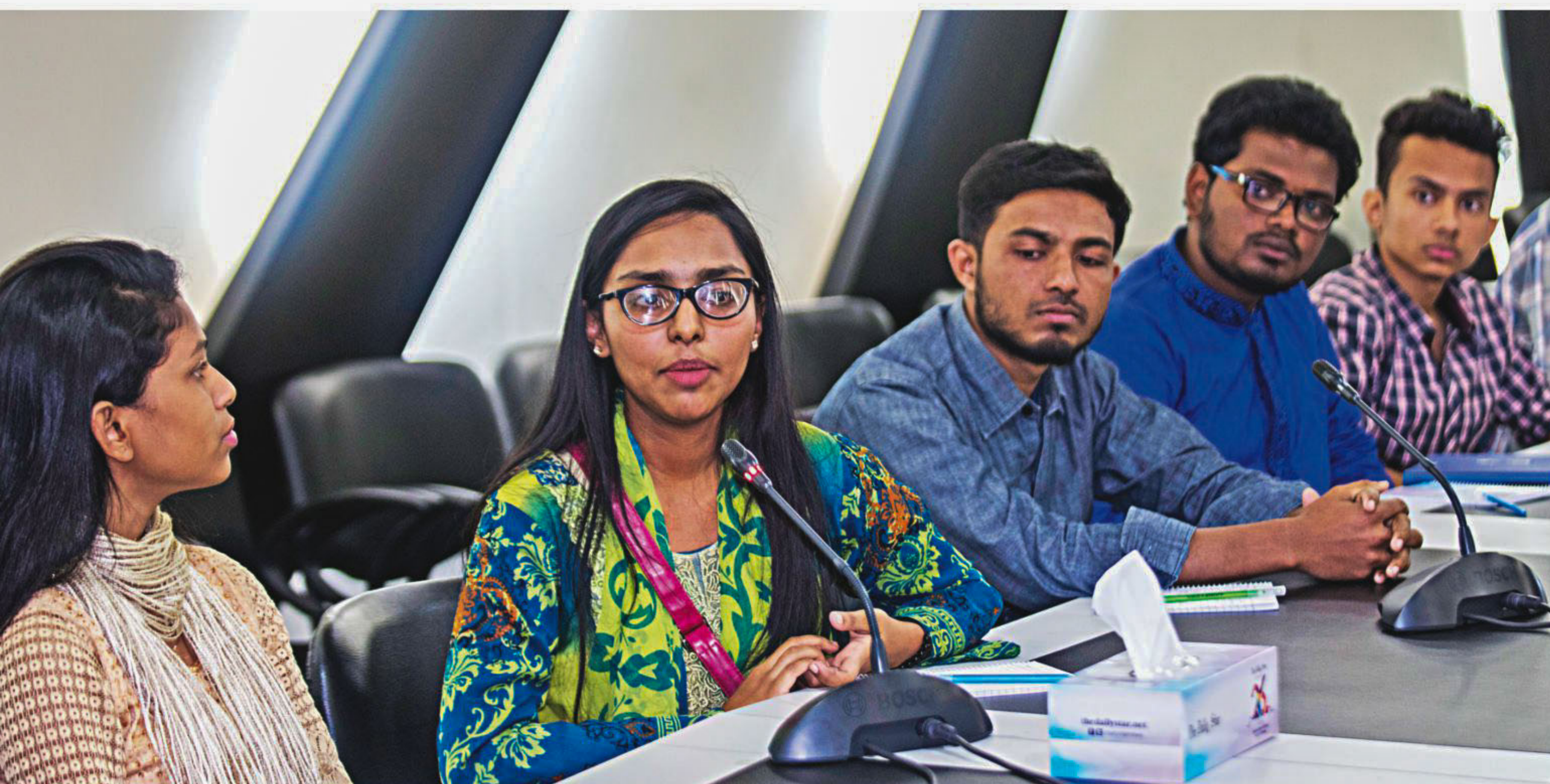
15 young changemakers, from all over Bangladesh, feeding off enthusiasm and passion to do something better for

the society: that was the essence of the roundtable held jointly by The Daily Star and Ashoka Foundation. Each attendee of the roundtable had many astounding accomplishments. Tanzeel

Rashid, hailing from Chittagong, won many accolades including the prestigious Joy Bangla Youth Award. "When I founded Ogrograhi Foundation and started helping people,

I was often harassed and even beaten by my own classmates. However, I kept on doing my own thing and as fate would have it, some of the very same people who had doubted me hold

executive positions in my organisation now," says Tanzeel. This spirit resonated throughout the roundtable, as others talked about their impressive fieldwork. The Street Children's Theatre



"I had to run away from home to avoid my own marriage at an early age, so I vowed at one point that I will work to stop as many child marriages as I can."

founded by Tahua Labib Tura looks to give underprivileged children a chance at performing, while at the same time piquing their interests at cultural and educational activities whereas the likes of Moni Begum and Meghla Akhter are working day and night to stop child marriages across the country. "I had to run away from home to avoid my own marriage at an early age, so I vowed at one point that I will work to stop as many child marriages as I can. For that, I had to risk my security and well-being on many occasions."

Moni Begum and Meghla Akhter are working day and night to stop child marriages across the country.

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