

A salute to the leaders OFTOMORROW

Celebrating academic excellence at the 23rd The Daily Star HSBC O & A level Awards

The Daily Star and HSBC Bank have collaboratively honoured the high achievers in O and A Level examinations in a programme at Shaheed Suhrawardi Indoor Stadium, Mirpur, Dhaka, on February 24 with the motto, "Saluting the nation builders of tomorrow". HSBC was the title sponsor of the event titled "23rd The Daily Star HSBC O & A Level Awards". Pearson Edexcel and Cambridge were the academic partners of the event.

Students from both Edexcel and Cambridge curricula received certificates and awards for their outstanding results in the O and A Level examinations. This year, 2,563 students – which included 1,765 O Level and 656 A Level students, received awards for their achievements. Apart

"I did not imagine that I would receive an award from such a big platform. This will inspire me to do better in future," said SM Tashfiq Hossain, a student of Alfred International School and College.



from the awardees, their parents, families, teachers, friends, and special guests also attended the event.

The programme started with a rendition of the national anthem. Editor and Publisher of The Daily Star, Mahfuz Anam, welcomed the attendees shortly after the programme began. Anam, alongside prominent author Dr Muhammed Zafar Iqbal, later handed the awards and certificates to the awardees.

"Remember to serve your three mothers – your own, your tongue, and your land," Iqbal urged, quoting renowned



writer Dr Shahidullah.

Addressing the awardees, Anam said, "You've made us proud with your brilliance. Learn abroad, but return to serve your people."

Matt Cannell, deputy high commissioner and development director at the British High Commission in Dhaka; Mahbub-Ur Rahman, chief executive officer of HSBC Bangladesh; Abdullah Al Mamun, regional development manager for Pearson Edexcel Bangladesh and Nepal, and Shahin Reza, country manager, Bangladesh, of Cambridge Assessment International Education, also spoke at the programme.

A cultural programme, comprising dances performed by students during intervals, added to the festivities of the event.

"I did not imagine that I would receive an award from such a big platform. This will inspire me to do better in future," said SM Tashfiq Hossain, a student of Alfred International School and College.

Naziba Rahman, a student from Siddiqui's International School, said, "Receiving this award is a tremendous honour. It wouldn't have been possible without the unwavering support of my mother and dedicated teachers. This achievement will forever be cherished and serve as a constant source of inspiration in my life."

