

B Before the opening ceremony, Education Minister, Misir Mardanov, deputy ministers, heads of Ministry' departments, co-chair of the Organizing Committee of Olympiad, dean of the Chemistry faculty of Moscow State University named after M.V. Lomonosov, Doctor of Science in Chemistry, Member of the Russian Academy of Natural Sciences, Valery Lunin, members of the Organizing Committee of Olympiad, pupils and other guests visited the Alley of Honours to lay a wreath at the tomb of Azerbaijan's national leader Heydar Aliyev, and they also put flowers at the grave of the prominent ophthalmologist, academician Zarifa Aliyeva.

E Education Minister, Misir Mardanov, members of the Organizing Committee of Olympiad and jury pupils from 14 countries, their leaders, and journalists took part in the opening ceremony of the Olympiad.

H Having warmly welcomed the guests and the 44th Pupils International Mendeleev Chemistry Olympiad participants, the Minister, Misir Mardanov, underlined that this science and intellect contest holding for the second time in Azerbaijan, and it makes Azerbaijani people very proud. He noted it is not accidental that the Olympiad is holding again in Baku, and in his opinion, it shows believe to the education and science potential of Azerbaijan, as well as its achievements in this field.

M Misir Mardanov stressed that this is the 44th Pupils International Mendeleev Chemistry Olympiad, which is improving this knowledge contest to be long-lived. Having noted the holding of the Olympiad continuously an outstanding event, the minister connected it with the main goal of the contest, which is consisted of the development of education, propagandising of science achievements, identifying talented pupils, and at last, making the friendship and collaboration between different people closer.

H He talked about a minor interest to the Olympiad in Azerbaijan and emphasized that it is the result of special care of President Ilham Aliyev. The minister considers that the development pace at every country measured by the level of science and education. He valued the development of science and education, and talented people as a valuable wealth and inexhaustible capital of every nation.

M Misir Mardanov gave information on the science and education development in Azerbaijan in the last years, and said the main idea of the realizing reforms is transferring the material values to the human potential with high intellect. During the last 12 years, has been built over 1600 school's building; more than 500 have been renovated and equipped with the modern equipments, said the Minister. Moreover, secondary schools have been provided by textbooks, as well as have been carried out the State program for informatization of education, renewing pre-school education, improvement of vocational education, development of the creative potential of the children and youth with special talent, education abroad and other fields.

E Education Minister paid special attention to the merits of the famous chemist and scientist, member of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Valery Lunin and its colleagues in the field of enhance the prestige of International Mendeleev Olympiad during the last 20 years. He underlined that Azerbaijani pupils have comprehensive opportunities to participate in the Olympiad, and 21 of them continued their education at the chemistry faculty of Moscow State University without any entrance examination. The minister stressed that this fact shows the V.V. Lunin's sincere care to Azerbaijan and Azeri people as well. He expressed to believe Olympiad to be a more popular and successful year after year.

F Furthermore, Misir Mardanov emphasized special role of the great chemist of Azerbaijan, correspondent member of the ANAS, Professor Vagif Abbasov in the organization of the Olympiad.

T The Minister said that he can see the future famous scientists, researches, and experts among the participants. Having noted the main demand to the expert in the globalization world is the endurance of the rivalry, Misir Mardanov stressed creating European Higher Education Area makes this demand more urgent.

N Noting the Olympiad programme consist of some events, such as sightseeing, organizing concerts, the Minister expressed to believe that pupils from different countries will have benefited from making new friends.

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At the end, Misir Mardanov congratulated everyone on the opening of the 44th Pupils International Mendeleev Chemistry Olympiad and wished to participants good luck.

Co-chair of the Organizing Committee of Olympiad, dean of the Chemistry faculty of Moscow State University named after M.V. Lomonosov, Doctor of Science in Chemistry, professor; Member of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Valery Lunin expressed satisfaction with holding Olympiad in Baku second times during the last 10 years, noting the capital have changed and developed a lot. The guest underlined the merits of President Ilham Aliyev, follower of the national leader Heydar Aliyev's policy, in the development and progress of the country.

Having noted the winners of Olympiad have entered the Chemistry faculty of universities out-of-competition, V. Lunin expressed gratitude with creating good conditions for Olympiad. He thanked Education Minister, Misir Mardanov, chairman of the jury, correspondent member of the ANAS, Professor Vagif Abbasov and professor of the MSU named after Lomonosov Valentin Nenaydenko for organizing the Olympiad, and wished to pupils' success.

Jury chairman of the 44th International Mendeleev Olympiad, correspondent member of the ANAS, Professor Vagif Abbasov wished to participants' victory, and get medals engraved with image of the great scientist D. Mendeleev, and thanked everyone, who help to organize and hold the Olympiad.

Co-chairman of the jury, professor of the MSU Valentin Naydenko expressed gratitude with having the opportunity to watch the knowledge contest, and believe to hold the Olympiad in a high level. The guest wished success to participants and hoped this knowledge contest will stay in their memory forever.