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Speaking at the opening of the ceremony Education Minister Misir Mardanov stressed its importance. Noting the event is held in the country for the first time, the Minister stressed its main goal is to give an opportunity to high school students to present their scientific achievements, and that 5 of them will be selected and sent to the International Science and Engineering Fair (Intel ISEF) that performed annually in the USA. He expressed his hope that Azeri students will perform successfully at this prestigious competition.

Noting the progress of each country depends on its scientific and educational development, the Minister stressed the existence of strong scientific potential in Azerbaijan. According to him, the care for the development of science and education, as well as for youth is a priority of the State policy and President Ilham Aliyev always pays a special attention to these issues. The Minister shared his views on the ISEF competition noting the number of participating countries in 2011 has reached 65.

Misir Mardanov said that the goal of reforms implemented in the education field of the country as well as curriculum applying at general education establishments is to nurture young people with a broad outlook on life. Moreover, wide opportunities were created for students to conduct research and use new information technologies. The Minister noted Small Academies operating at some secondary schools of the country are attracted students to research and directed them to new scientific researches.

The Minister gave information on the contest "Scientists of Tomorrow" noting students in grades 9-12 of secondary schools operated in Baku and Sumgayit have submitted to the contest their projects. He added that the contest is scientifically supported by Baku State University and Sumgayit State University and professors of these universities are paying a special attention to create scientific communication environment for future scientists, and an opportunity to use latest equipments at laboratories of universities and conduct joint researches with research supervisors.

According to the Minister 18 out of 47 projects submitted to the contest are prepared collectively and 29 of them individually. The projects of students will be assessed in mathematics, physics, chemistry, biology, medicine and health, ecology, engineering, computer sciences categories. The contest accepts projects, which are demonstrating new scientific idea, technical description of experiment and engineer's project, and were prepared through innovative computer software.

Next, the Minister of Youth and Sport Azad Rahimov, executive director of Madad organization Vusal Khanlarov, Intel CIS Corporate Affairs Manager Tatiana Nanaeva and others made a speech noting measures implemented in the country over the last years to ensure the full assimilation of knowledge of young people and identify their academic potential.

It should be noted that, an awarding ceremony of winners, who will be handed over cash prizes, diplomas and medals, will be held on February 24, and 5 students selected by the Jury, will be entitled to participate in the competition Intel ISEF that will be held in Pittsburgh, the USA, in May of 2012.