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Mikayil Jabbarov, Minister of Education, Akif Alizadeh, President of the National Academy of Sciences of Azerbaijan Republic, heads of higher education institutions, well-known scientists of the republic, PhD students and young researchers attended the opening ceremony of the conference, organized with the support of the Ministry of Education.

The conference, dedicated to the 70th anniversary of the National Academy of Sciences of Azerbaijan Republic, will last two days. 414 theses were submitted from 20 higher education institutions and the National Academy of Sciences of Azerbaijan Republic during the conference. Well-known scientists will manage 15 sections, established in order to listen to the lectures of PhD students and young researchers and discuss them.

Adalat Muradov, Rector of Azerbaijan State Economic University, opened the Conference with welcome speech and greeted the participants of the event. The Rector underlined the importance of expansion of ties between higher education institutions and scientific research institutions.

In his speech, Mikayil Jabbarov, Minister of Education, talked about the attention and care, provided by national leader Heydar Aliyev for the development of education and science, as well as for talented children and young people in Azerbaijan. "This policy is today being successfully continued by President Ilham Aliyev," he added. The minister also noted that the role of science and education was increasing rapidly in an era of unrivaled global competition.

Mikayil Jabbarov stressed the importance of the use of all resources for the development of young researchers. The Minister underlined that much useful work had been done in this direction and mentioned that 50 percent of the country's scientists worked at 27 higher education institutions and scientific research institutions belonging to the Ministry of Education. "Science can't exist without education, education can't exist without science. It's time to transition from philosophy of traditional maximum scientific knowledge to optimal knowledge. We should be looking for methods of teaching the practical scientific knowledge".

Referring to the small number of young teachers, currently working in the education system, the Minister said that one of the tasks ahead is to increase the number of teachers and to improve the quality.

He also mentioned that the special program would be prepared in order to increase the number and the role of young scientists and researchers in higher education institutions. This program should determine medium-term and long-term goals for the state educational institutions. According to the Minister, involvement of young specialists in science and appointment of them to certain positions at universities should be implemented more systematically.

According to his speech, engaging young scientists, who have completed their researches abroad, in the teaching process in higher education institutions is important and necessary.

At the end of his speech, the Minister expressed his gratitude to more than 10 thousand students-volunteers, contributed to the excellent organization of the First European Games in our country and said that these students-volunteers bore a great responsibility for the successful presentation of this remarkable event.

Akif Alizadeh, President of the National Academy of Sciences of Azerbaijan Republic, emphasized the importance of reforms in the field of science. He also noted that cooperation between educational institutions and scientific research centers would be expanded. Saying Azerbaijan has a strong scientific potential, Akif Alizadeh noted that this potential will be strengthened by young people in the coming years: "Very strong and young scientific elite should be established in Azerbaijan. The scientific elite will manage the science in Azerbaijan in the next decades".

Then they listened to speeches from PhD students, who will participate in the work of conference. The event was continued in the sections.