

Cheery applause for top achievers in O and A level exams

We must appreciate schools that produce such students

THE Daily Star on Sunday honoured the nation's top achievers in O and A Level exams for their outstanding scores in different subjects on an international scale. They are the sons and daughters of the soil who through their brilliant results on the world stage have done us proud as well as bolstering our sense of belonging to the world. We felicitate them for their excellent achievements. We also congratulate their parents, teachers and schools for their collective efforts to guide them to reach such heights.

Having said that, we'd like to bring it to their attention that they are the luckiest of the lot who got this world class education in a country where quality of education is generally under a question mark. They should always bear in mind that this is a unique opportunity which will enable them to realize their full potential in a competitive world. Hence, it is only expected that they will make the best use of their talents not only by enriching their own careers but also by giving something back to the country they truly belong. They can never move ahead unless the nation makes progress as a whole.

As they will make their mark in the international arena what with their excellence in higher secondary level exams, they will undoubtedly uphold the image of the country. Their feat, however, should not make them feel complacent. It should rather draw them ever closer to the land of their birth.

If the nation's fundamental social indicators take a plunge, their individual successes will count much less than these would have had if these were turned into collective strength. While their wider access to the outside world should always be welcome, their spontaneous efforts to contribute substantially to the development of their own country cannot be overemphasized. It is this rootedness they should never be oblivious to.