

press release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Standard Chartered Prothom Alo Programming Contest kicks off for the second year



Dhaka, 6 August 2019 – Standard Chartered Bangladesh and Prothom Alo has recently announced the launch of Standard Chartered Prothom Alo Inter School and College Programming Contest (ISCPC) 2019. This will be the second year of the initiative, with the first being held in 2018. The Standard Chartered Prothom Alo ISCPC is a Computer Programming competition that aims to provide a national platform for the youth, particularly for school and college students, of Bangladesh, helping them become problem-solvers capable of applying their skills to real life problems.

This year, Standard Chartered and Prothom Alo will be organizing a series of school activations and district-level computer programming workshops, culminating in two major regional contests, with the winners participating in the final contest in Dhaka

as well as an online qualification round for the rest of the country. The winning teams from the final contest will have the opportunity to participate in a three-day long programming boot-camp, where they will connect with leading ICT practitioners from around the world.

Speaking on the occasion, Naser Ezaz Bijoy, Chief Executive Officer, Standard Chartered Bangladesh said, “It was inspiring to see talented youth from across the country and from a wide range of socio-economic backgrounds, showcasing their coding skills and competing on level footing last year. There was even a team that had learned coding without access to computers – we are delighted to note that we will be able support five schools with a donation of three laptops each. Their achievements last year just goes to show the immense potential of our youth, which is what I hope this initiative will continue to nurture.”

The Editor of Prothom Alo Mr Matiur Rahman mentioned that Prothom Alo always tries to help the youth for developing their skills required for the 21st century. “Coding skill is a necessary element for today and this contest and workshops will help our young kids to be at par with the world,” he said.

In 2018, the initiative reached rural, semi-rural and urban communities through a series of activations and contests, giving talented youths an opportunity to showcase their coding skills. The initiative included:

- Programming workshops at 60 schools around Bangladesh, reaching around 15,000 students
- Eight district level workshops, reaching around 3000 students from rural and semi-rural communities
- One online practise programming contest, with 1157 participants
- Two preliminary programming contests with 437 teams
- Final contest, with 122 teams participating
- Three-day coding bootcamp with 50 top participants

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