

---

Welcoming the participants of the meeting, Mikayil Jabbarov, the Minister of Education, said that special attention is paid to issues like the health protection of learners, the development of their talent and creative skills in improving the quality of education and achieving successful results in this area in the "National Strategy for the Development of Education in the Republic of Azerbaijan", defining the main strategic directions in the establishment of modern educational system in the country. According to the minister, the use of educational technologies focusing on physically healthy growth of children and young people, the development of their creativity, the creation of a favorable environment for the effective organization of leisure time, the protection of their physical and psychological health during the study period in out-of-school educational institutions is very important from this point of view.

Speaking about the success of out-of-school educational institutions operating under the Ministry of Education, the Minister noted that the graduates of sports and chess schools won 1604 medals in national competitions, 390 medals (116 gold, 118 silver and 156 bronze) in international competitions and 1994 medals in general last year.

Attracting attention the massive sporting events, organized by the Ministry of Education within the framework of the agitation campaign, conducted on the eve of the first European Games in our country, Mikayil Jabbarov mentioned that these competitions were held in order to promote 14 kinds of sports, included in the program of the first European Games, among schoolchildren, to direct pupils to a healthy lifestyle and to increase the role of physical education and sports in the patriotic upbringing of the pupils. It is no coincidence that 24 of athletes, who will represent our country at the First European Games, are the graduates of children and youth sports schools operating under the Ministry of Education and the coach-teachers working in these schools. They will compete in 7 sports (athletics, acrobatic gymnastics, badminton, fencing, sambo, freestyle wrestling, table tennis).

Stressing that the Olympic movement formed in the years of independence, the Minister of Education noted that the state policy, contributing to the development of sports, of national leader Heydar Aliyev is successfully continued by President Ilham Aliyev and the scope of the Olympic movement is expanding. The Minister wished success to the athletes who will take part in the first European Games, from sports schools operating under the Ministry of Education and said that decent performance is to obtain better results than previous.

The athletes and coaches, who will take part in the first European Games, expressed their gratitude for meeting and attention they received and said that the factor of native walls would encourage them to represent our country worthily at the upcoming sporting events.

In the end, Mikayil Jabbarov, the Minister of Education, presented wristwatch to athletes and coaches, who will take part in the first European Games, from sports schools operating under the Ministry of Education, and he was photographed with them.