

Foundation: Sh1.5bn set aside for science students this year

By Alex Malanga and Bernard Lugongo for the betterment of the nation.

Dar es Salaam. The Karimjee Jivanjee Foundation has set aside Sh1.5 billion to support education in Tanzania for 2016.

Speaking at a press event to send off the 2015 overall winners of the Young Scientists Tanzania (YST) to Dublin in Ireland, the foundation's manager, Ms Devotha Rubama, said the budget was targeting students who pursue science subjects.

The award winners are Edmund Luguku and John Method, both from Mzumbe Secondary School. They researched on a way to minimise the use of plastics bags to protect the environment.

"As an effort to join hands to government we aim at encouraging students to pursue science subjects and we have increased budget on education from Sh1 billion in 2015 to Sh1.5 billion," she noted.

Ms Rubama said the foundation was eager to encourage young Tanzanian students to develop various innovative skills through science

She said: "With innovative skills through science, we would stand a chance to generate experts to be used in various sectors including industry."

Since the foundation started, she said, it has offered undergraduate and postgraduate scholarships to many students and that, currently about 30 students are studying at local and overseas universities.

The executive director of YST, Dr Gozibert Kamugisha, said they eye to expand the YST exhibition to other East African countries to make the competition regional.

The foundation's chairman, Mr Hatim Karimjee, said: "We are much honoured to support the YST awards because we believe that science education can open opportunities for higher-level career development."

According to Mr Karimjee, from 2012 to date, the foundation has provided 15 scholarships to students in the categories of overall winners and winners in special school in need.



Toyota Tanzania executive chairman Mahmoed Karimjee (left) presents a gift to Mzumbe Secondary School student John M. who emerged the overall winner of 2015 Young Scientists Tanzania Awards, in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Looking on is Karimjee Jivanjee Foundation chairman Hatim Karimjee. PHOTO | EMMANUEL HERMAN