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Press Release

Tech students shine in 3rd online round of inter-college crossword contest

**Patna
April 17, 2022**

Aaditri Vaibhav of IIT Kharagpur on Sunday was the National topper at the end of the third online round in Stage I of the National Inter- college Crossword Expedition (NICE) 2022. Shashwat Sanjeev of Hansraj College, Delhi University, stood 2nd and K Gouri of Sri Ramakrishna Engineering College, Coimbatore, stood 3rd. Shashwat was the National topper in the previous round.

This three-stage contest is being organised for the first time jointly by UGC and AICTE as part of the celebrations of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. The objective is to showcase India's rich learning heritage by leveraging the beautiful mindgame of crosswords.

Among regional toppers are Harshul Sagar of IIT Delhi for North; Joyal Biju of Government Engineering College, Thrissur, for South; Harshvardhan Tripathi of Acropolis, Indore, for West; Salman Khan of IIT Kharagpur for East; and Murchana Mahanta Barman of Scholars Institute of Management and Technology, Guwahati, for Northeast.

While Harshul had stood 3rd at the National level in the previous round, Joyal and Murchana had topped their respective zones. Joyal was 3rd at the National level in the first round.

The first stage is open to all students from colleges and higher education institutes to play individually. It involves solving crossword clues online for four successive Sundays which started April 3, 2022. After the fourth Sunday online round on April 24, 2022, a cumulative Leaderboard will decide the top two participants from each institute who will form the institutions' teams for the two subsequent offline stages – five zonal finals and a national Grand Finale.

The contest is being conducted by the Patna-based Extra-C, a civil society initiative for promoting knowledge-based co-curricular activities. The online rounds are being hosted on its official website www.crypticsingh.com.

With regards

Amitabh Ranjan

**(Amitabh Ranjan)
COO
Extra-C**

REGD. OFFICE: B-55, BUDDHA COLONY, PATNA-800001, INDIA
Tel: +91 9102996469 | E-mail: extracindia@gmail.com | Web: www.crypticsingh.com