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## Press Release

# Crossword contest: Kerala engineering student claims 1<sup>st</sup> position in Stage I

IITs, Delhi University corner the lion's share of top ranks

Patna

April 24, 2022

Joyal Biju of Government Engineering College, Thrissur, on Sunday topped the overall Leaderboard at the end of the 4<sup>th</sup> online round in Stage I of the inaugural National Inter-college Cryptic Crossword (NICE) 2022. He is followed by Arpita Goel of the School of Open Learning, Delhi University, and Kirti Tyagi of Maitreyi College, Delhi University, on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> spots, respectively.

The overall ranking takes into account the combined scores of the four online Sunday rounds held on April 3, 10, 17 and 24.

On the basis of the 4<sup>th</sup> round scores, Shashwat Sanjeev of Hansraj College, Delhi University, is at No. 1 at the national level. The 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> positions have been claimed by Harshul Sagar of IIT Delhi and Salman Khan of IIT Kharagpur, respectively.

Zone-wise, while Arpita also claims the 1<sup>st</sup> rank in North, Aaditri Vaibhav of IIT Kharagpur, Prateek Singh Rathore of St. Xavier's College, Jaipur, M Nikhesh Kumar of the Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru, and Murchana Mahanta Barman of the Scholars Institute of Management and Technology, Guwahati, take 1<sup>st</sup> ranks in East, West, South and Northeast, respectively.

While Prateek and Nikhesh have broken into the top ranks for the first time, the rest have been performing consistently well since the contest began on April 3.

With the completion of the online Stage I of the three-stage contest, being organised by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) and the University Grants Commission (UGC), it is time for the offline Stage II which will be followed by a Grand Finale in Stage III. Stage II will witness five Zonal Rounds for North, South, West, East and Northeast. Top rankers on the 4<sup>th</sup> and the overall Leaderboards will now form two-member teams for their respective institutes for the rounds.

Six top teams after Stage II will play the Grand Finale in the national capital.

With regards

(Sambuddha Biswas)

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