

AICTE Hosts Grand Finale of NICE 2024 in Collaboration with IIT Chennai, IIM Mumbai, and Extra-C

IIT Delhi Triumphs at the Grand Finale of NICE-2024

New Delhi, September 4, 2024:

The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), in collaboration with IIT Chennai, IIM Mumbai, and Extra-C, hosted the Grand Finale of the National Inter-College Crossword Expedition (NICE) - 2024. Harshul and Arush Utkarsh from IIT Delhi emerged as the champions, clinching the coveted NICE-2024 trophy. The first runner-up was V.K. Sai Gayathri from BITS Pilani Hyderabad Campus, while Abhinav and Sahaana from SASTRA University, Thanjavur, secured the second runner-up position.

The distinguished guests presented the awards to the winners, with Shri K. Sanjay Murthy (IAS), Secretary of Higher Education, Ministry of Education, leading the honors. He commended the participants for their enthusiasm and encouraged them to continue engaging in such intellectually stimulating activities. Shri Murthy personally awarded the trophy to the victorious team from IIT Delhi, acknowledging their exceptional performance. Dignitaries also released the calendar for NICE- 2025.

The event was further graced by the presence of several notable dignitaries, including Shri S. Krishnan, Secretary of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY); Shri Vivek Kumar Singh, Chairman of RERA Bihar; Dr. Abhay Jere, Vice Chairman of AICTE; and Shri Raj Narayan from Extra-C, all of whom contributed to the ceremony's success.

AICTE Chairman, Prof. T.G. Sitharam, emphasized the broader educational objectives of the event, stating, "This initiative goes beyond honing students' mental agility and soft skills. It serves as a platform to disseminate knowledge about India's cultural heritage through innovative and engaging educational methods."

Shri S. Krishnan echoed these sentiments, noting, "Crosswords are more than just a leisure activity; they are a powerful mental exercise that fosters lateral thinking, recall abilities, and a nuanced understanding of complex concepts. These skills are particularly valuable for students in technical education, as they prepare to take on leadership roles in the future."

The success of NICE-2024 underscores the importance of incorporating innovative educational tools in the curriculum, paving the way for a more holistic approach to learning and development.

The National Inter-College Crossword Expedition (NICE) is more than just a competition; it is an initiative designed to enhance the cognitive and soft skills of students in higher education. By leveraging the educational benefits of crosswords, this collaborative effort aims to promote mental agility, critical thinking, and a deeper understanding of India's rich heritage and traditional wisdom.