

ASPIRING SPORTS BUDDIES MAKE A GREAT IMPRINT AT UDAAN 2017

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Vasco: Over 190 differently-abled students from Disha School, Gujarati Seva Samaj, Keshav Seva Sadhana, New Dawn Ashadeep and a team of the Paralympic Association of Goa participated in the first ever Udaan 2017, a sports festival organised at BITS-Pilani campus, Zuarinagar, here.

There were sports events like badminton, judo, athletics, gully cricket, shotput, 100 metres and 50 metres races etc. Gomantak Times



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spoke to one of the winners, Mumtaz Mohan Zalmi, who won gold medal for 50m race and badminton. Mentally impaired Mumtaz from Bicholim is trained by coach Premanand Naik for the last five years.

She is currently studying vocational at Keshav Seva Sadhana School, Bicholim which is for special children. She learns to do several other things such as candle making, diyas, painting etc. "Apart from sports I love making candles and paintings," Mumtaz said.

Mumtaz lives with her parents and a brother and sister-in-law. She loves to play cricket, basketball, shotput but her favourite sport is badminton.



Mumtaz Mohan Zalmi receives a certificate after winning badminton competition at 'Udaan 2017', a sports festival organised by BITS-Pilani campus, Zuarinagar. Pics: Sidhi Bandekar



Sanjil Parab, gold medallist at the 5th national judo championship for blind and deaf in Delhi in 2017, seen in back row (R) standing next to coach R V Shintre (C).

"I am happy to be at BITS-Pilani. The campus is very big and I had a great time while playing and dancing in the campus. As the airport is close to the vicinity I saw planes so near to us which I never did before," Mumtaz said with joy.

She has won many certificates during inter-school competitions but she won two gold medals for badminton; one for inter-school

event at Sakhali in 2013 and for special Olympic competition which was organised at Campal, Panaji in 2014. "Despite being odd age she has great speed and mindboggling energy. She can play any sports but she needs to be explained the concept every time due to her intellectual problems," said Premanand Naik, coach of Keshav Seva Sadhana School.

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