BITS student wins gold medal in National Graduate Physics Exam

■ RAMANDEEP KAUR | NT KURIOCITY

For the first time in Goa, a student of BITS Pilani, K K Birla Goa Campus won a gold medal for the National Graduate Physics Examination (NGPE) that was conducted by the Central IAPT (Indian Association of Physics Teachers). Exam had two parts; it was held in January 2017 and June 2017 respectively.

Kishore Gopalkrishnan who is from Tiruchirappalli, Tamil Nadu and is currently in his fourth year at BITS-Pilani, Goa campus, won the medal last June. He is pursuing an Integrated MSc in Physics, and a BE in Mechanical Engineering. "I chose physics because I found it interesting and mechanical engineering, because I was a bit interested in fluids," adds Kishore.

When asked how he feels about having won a gold medal in National Graduate Physics Exam and about his parents' response, he says: "I didn't feel particularly excited but my parents were happy."

And if you are wondering how Kishore prepared for the exam, you will be surprised to know that he didn't do any preparation specifically for it. He adds: "It mostly involved things that had been covered in my courses, so the time I spent going over my coursework was helpful." His hobbies include reading, although he doesn't have much time to pursue it nowadays.

Talking about his future plans, Kishore concludes: "I will probably try for a PhD. I still haven't decided which subfield in physics I will work on, since I still haven't been able to rule out any, and at this stage I have had only limited exposure to most of them."

This year Kishore was felicitated at the 18th Annual Convention of the IAPT Goa Regional Council at Padre Conceicao College of Engineering, Verna for winning the gold medal.

About NGPE Exam

The NGPE Exam is held all over India and in several centres of Goa, usually during the third Sunday in January every year. Students studying BSc (Physics) or MSc (Integrated) (in either the first, second or third year) may register for this exam by the third week of November of the previous year. The registration fee is ₹100/- per student.