

STOCK MASTER OF THE CAMPUS

Here's how a student of IIT Bhubaneswar won the top prize of ₹50K from a virtual trading contest



● Soumika M Das

In this digital era, variety is the spice of education. Opportunities are limitless. A student of IIT Bhubaneswar, K Manikanta Verma, was smart enough to spot a rare opportunity that fetched him the first prize worth ₹50,000 in a national-level stock trading contest. Interestingly, it was a virtual trading and investment contest, StockMind, organized by one of the leading private banks in the country, ICICI.

2,61,809 students participated in the sixth edition of StockMind contest

₹50,000 cash prize was given to the winner with two tickets for holidaying in Thailand

7th edition of the contest will be held in 2019

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The bank had provided 15 lakh of virtual money to the students from across the country. They were given tenure of seven trading days to have the highest portfolio value. They had to trade with top 100 stocks in the National Stock Exchange. It was all virtual, though.

Manikanta, who is a student of first year computer science, was ahead of 2,61,809 students from 697 management, science and technolo-

gy colleges in the country. The contest had several levels. The national-level was conducted last year in March.

Ask Manikanta and he tells you how important it is to control your emotions while investing money in the stock market. "I have been observing the stock market since the past two years. I realized that we don't have to be smarter than the rest. But, we have to be more disciplined than others," he says.

So, how a computer science student could do well in the world of commerce? "It doesn't matter what you are studying in college. In the world of stocks, you need to analyze the situation carefully. Throughout the contest, I kept analyzing the technical aspects of the investments rather than focusing on the fundamental analysis. I knew that the time is less and I have to earn maximum profit," he adds.

StockMind is an annual contest, where students are imparted short-term trainings that can help them pursue careers in equity market.

