

When students tackled brain-wracking questions

Staff Reporter

KOCHI: Do you ever happen to come in touch with ghosts through social networking sites? Well, some of you may have inadvertently; with social ghosts, that is.

The Kochi regional finals of the IT Wiz quiz, which did not give away any easy points to its contestants, organised by the Tata Consultancy Services here on Wednesday fittingly had the question on social ghosts as tie-breaker to decide its runner-up. As it hap-

pened, Joel Jacob and Bony M. Jose of Giripeedom Bethany Central School, Kottayam, knew everything about social ghosts - profiles in social networking sites which remain active in the public domain even after their creators had died - and bagged the runner-up's trophy by a whisker over the team of Joe Mathai and Aditya Pulachery from Vidya School.

Earlier, in an intense competition spread over five rounds, Bobby Sabu and Tomson George, students of St.

Joseph's Higher Secondary School, Paingottoor, Ernakulam district, emerged winners of the competition.

The winners will now represent the State in the national finals to be held in Chennai in December.

As Giri Subramaniam, the famed quiz master, put it, the winners put up a matured performance, shunning bravado and flamboyance while some of the remaining five finalists were reckless, attracting negative marks in their futile quest to get to the top.

Noel Johns and Ambareesh, students from Loyola School, Thiruvananthapuram, were victims taking such risks once too often. The round @TCS, based entirely on TCS, was the one in which teams bagged points invoking a comment from the quiz master about the depth of knowledge about the IT major among the participants from the city.

Jaic Jacob Philip and Vignesh G, of Pallikoodam School, Kottayam, went down valiantly on two occasions in

the grid computing round.

Earlier, the preliminary round witnessed over 1,000 students split into more than 500 teams from across the State vying for a place in the final six. Ajay Kumar, Principal IT Secretary to the State government, gave away the prizes to the top two teams. Siddhartha Bhattacharya, CEO of Infopark; Santhosh Kurup, head of TCS Kochi; and Thomas Simon, vice-president, human resources, TCS; gave away the other prizes.