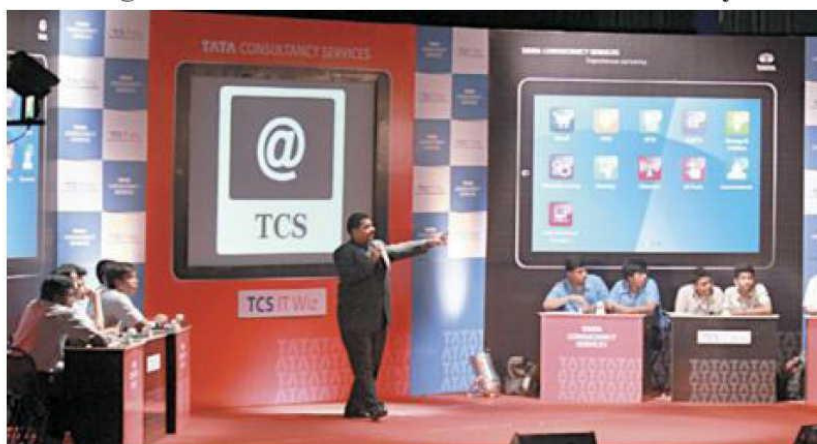


Being slow and steady won them the race

Having coveted the title for four years, two students of SRDFVV School in Chromepet won the closely fought regional finals of the TCS IT Wiz on Tuesday



Quizmaster 'Pickbrain' Giri Balasubramaniam with the contestants | ALBIN MATHEW

It was not just a battle of wit, but was also an emotional roller coaster ride. The TCS IT Wiz 2012 quiz was a story of the underdogs. Navin Sridhar and Saiprasath J from SRDFVV School, Chromepet, who have watched the quiz for the last three years from the sidelines, who didn't make it to the finals last year and have been motivated to prepare ever since, came, played a game of clever strategy to walk away with the trophy in the regional finals, that took place at the Music Academy on Tuesday.

With a total of five rounds – Angry Nerds, GTA, @TCS, Max Pain and Total Combat – Navin and Saiprasath loaded up on points early in the game, putting a grand total of 55 on the score board by the end of the third round. The boys from BVM, who need no introduction in the quizzing circuit, were in no

mood to come in second. As the duo from SRDFVV didn't risk hitting the buzzer even once in the final two rounds, banking on just their saved up points, BVM's buzzer kept turning red and the boys were on a roll, as they



Winners Navin Sridhar and Saiprasath J

inched closer to the 55 point total.

By this time, it did look like Navin and Saiprasath were breaking a sweat, but the BVM team went home as runners up of the quiz. In what was a nail-biting finish, the final question of the quiz – what does .ws stand for?

(It's the Internet country code top-level domain (ccTLD) for Samoa. It's an abbreviation for Western Samoa) – all the teams on stage were stumped and the question went unanswered. It definitely was an ironic ending to a quiz that saw some of the most intelligent and quick answers from the teams, but it also did mean that it sealed the win for Navin and Saiprasath.

The boys from SRDFVV took home Galaxy Notes, while the runners up from BVM settled for a Galaxy Tab each.

With the regional rounds being held at 14 cities across the country, the national finals will be held in Chennai in December. Winning teams from the 14 cities and a winner from the United Arab Emirates (UAE) will compete for the national champion title.

—Express Features