

City

Pune boy shines at Astronomy Olympiad

The Indian team has topped the medal tally at the fourth International Olympiad in Astronomy and Astrophysics which concluded on Monday in Beijing

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Pune's golden boy

This is not the first international recognition for Aniruddha Bapat. He has already represented India in an International Olympiad. In last year's IOAA which was held in Iran, Aniruddha was a part of the five member team from India and he was successful in fetching a silver medal. He had also

represented India in the Senior Group at the XIII International Astronomy Olympiad (IAO) at Trieste, Italy in October 2008 and won a bronze medal there too. In the 2007 IOAA, he won a gold medal in the junior group. He represented India as a 'Young Physics Ambassador' at the 'World Year of Physics (WYP) 2005' Symposium at Taipei, Taiwan in December 2005 and he was also the youngest participant at the 'International Summer School for Young Physicists' (ISSYP) at the Perimeter Institute of Theoretical Physics, Canada in Aug 2007

India made a mark at the fourth International Olympiad in Astronomy and Astrophysics (IOAA) held in Beijing, China, by topping the medal list. India was represented by a five-member team and to add to the pride of our city one of the team members is from Pune.

Aniruddha Bapat, a student of the Army Public school, Pune has secured a gold medal at the IOAA. India got three gold medals, two bronze medals and took the first spot in the medal tally. In all, 124 teams from 22 countries participated in the fourth IOAA. The participating countries included China, Russia, Iran, Brazil, Greece, Poland, Thailand etc.

Along with Aniruddha, Chirag Modi from Indore and Nitesh Kumar Singh from Mumbai have also won gold medals. The other members of this four-member team are Shantanu Agarwal from Patna and Kottur Satwik from Hyderabad. Both bagged a bronze medal each.

Dr Aniket Sule who led the Indian team to Beijing conveyed their success story from Beijing. "The Indian team will return

to Mumbai on September 22 from Hong Kong. We did well in all the rounds. The competition included a test on astronomical theory, data analysis and night sky observation," Dr Sule wrote in an email conversation with Pune Mirror.