

Athletes from Vedanta Jharsuguda's Martial Arts Training Centre emerge as national champions

PRD BUREAU

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VEDANTA Aluminium, India's largest producer of aluminium, celebrates the remarkable performance of young athletes from its Vedanta Martial Arts Training Centre at the National Karate Championships 2025, organized by the National Karate Federation in New Delhi. Competing against some of the country's finest martial artists, the contingent from Jharsuguda returned with an impressive haul of medals across multiple categories.

The athletes, trained under

Vedanta Jharsuguda's community sports initiatives, displayed remarkable skill, discipline and perseverance. Reddy Kamlesh Pradhas clinched gold in Kumite in the Under-6 category. In the Under-17 category, Mukhtiar Narek bagged silver in Kata and bronze in Kumite, while Om Kumar Gupta excelled in the Under-19 category with gold in Kata and bronze in Kumite. Arshat Thakur added to the tally with silver in Kata and bronze in Kumite in the Above-19 category.

The Vedanta Martial Arts Training Centre, established as part of Vedanta Jharsuguda's commitment to holistic community development, provides structured training in karate and other martial arts for children and youth from nearby communities. With certified trainers, regular coaching sessions and opportunities to compete at district, state and national levels, the programme nurtures physical fitness, mental resilience and self-confidence, while cultivating a strong



sporting ecosystem in the region.

Speaking on this success story, C. Chandra, CEO,

Vedanta Jharsuguda said, "At Vedanta Jharsuguda, we are strongly committed to achieving sustainable community

development in our areas of operations, and promoting grassroots sports is an important facet of this endeavour. The awards won by these remarkable young athletes at the national level fill us with immense pride, demonstrating that with the right support, training and determination, success is certain."

Sharing his experience Om Kumar Gupta, gold medalist in Kata in the Under-19 category said, "Winning at the national level has been a dream come true. The training

and support I have received at the Vedanta Martial Arts Training Centre has really transformed my life. This platform has given me added confidence, and I am grateful to Vedanta for making this journey possible."

Through initiatives spanning education, health, livelihood, infra and sports, Vedanta Aluminium continues to empower communities across Jharsuguda. In FY25, its social impact programmes positively impacted nearly 3.5 lakh lives across 61 villages in Jharsuguda, reaffirming the company's commitment to fostering stronger, healthier and more resilient communities.