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Shriyanka wins Lakshya Cup, combined men's & women's shooting competition

Former Worlds medallist wins by big margin; Yukthi finishes second after shoot-off

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Consistency is what shooters aim for, Shriyanka adds, without perpetually glancing at the cards. (File)

For the first time since 2016 when Meghana Sajjanar won shooting's unique combined men's and women's Lakshya Cup Invitational, there was a woman champion at Navi Mumbai's Karnala shooting range.

Some of the best names – from both genders – in 10m air rifle were in contention on Christmas Day, including men's world champion Rudranksh Patil. Finally, it was Orissa's Shriyanka Sadangi who took gold – dominating from start to finish – with national champ Yukthi Rajendra second after an all-girls final shoot-off. Vedit Jain picked bronze.

Air rifle ace Anjali Bhagwat and pistol shooter Heena Sindhu have previously won the Champion of Champions, the most elite ISSF version of a combined event. But the Lakshya Cup might be the only available platform for such a combined event in India, shot in the Olympic format – 60 elimination shots before knockout duel finals. Shriyanka, 27, who has a medal in 50m 3 Positions at the Worlds, thought it was swell to win, but not a biggie in leaving all the men in her wake.



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