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PRESS RELEASE

3rd **Computer to chess players Award function** organized by Buddhibal Kreedha Trust was held in Poona Club, Pune on 10th December 2011 at 6pm.

The Function was presided by **Dr. Nitin Kareer, IAS, and Patron of Chess Players Association of India and Chief Guest for the Function was Dr. Sunil Patil, Director of Data care CoValuable Group.** Also present on the Dias were Shri Aniruddha Deshpande, Director City Corporation and president Stars Club, Mrs. Sonali Deshpande from Lashya Foundation, and Mr. Vijay Deshpande Secretary Maharashtra Chess Association.

Total 11 players namely IM Vikramaditya Kulkarni, IM Aditya Udeshi, IM Prasanna Rao (All Mumbai) IM & WGM Eesha Karavade, WGM Soumya Swaminathan, WGM Kruttika Nadig, Abhimanyu Puranik (All Pune) IM Swapnil Dhpade (amaravati), WIM Shalmali Ghagre (Nagar), Rucha Pujari (Kolhapur), Bhagyshree Patil (jalgaon) were awarded with the laptop Computers.

GM Abhijit Kunte in his welcome speech elaborated the scheme saying all the title holders With IM Title and 2400 elo points, and WIM title with Elo point 2200+ were eligible for the scheme, also all the National and Asian Champions, World championship medal winners from all the age-group championship are eligible for the scheme. Players who are finishing in top 6 in Men & Women National “A” also Asian, & World team Championship Medal Winner are also eligible for the scheme. **When started in the year 2007 this scheme was only for the players from Pune city. But by the repeated request from players, parents, Coaches this year we decided to include the whole Maharashtra.**

Abhijit praise the efforts made by Dr. Kareer to start this program for Chess Players. Abhijit Congratulated Dr. Sunil Patil Director Valuable group for sponsoring the Laptops. He also said that this effort will surely bring Pune from current no. 3 chess playing city to no.1 city in near future.

Shri Vijay Deshpande Congratulated Buddhibal kreedha Trust for making this program state level, and thanked Dr. Kareer for his continues support. Shri

Aniruddha Deshpande said such programs will encourage players to perform better in future and Pune will also try to host the Chess League in the year 2012.

Dr. Sunil Patil Director Valuable group who was the chief guest for the function said it was his pleasure to sponsor the computers to the young players from the the state. **This computers will definitely help the players to improve their performance at national and International level.**

Dr. Karawade, Dr. Ghagre father of Shalmali Ghagre Dhpade spoke on behalf of all the parents, said that this is a first time that players from Maharsashtra are being rewarded for their performance, he thanked Dr.Kareer, and Dr. Sunil Patil for their support to Chess in Maharashtra He also mentioned that if the support to the game continues like this, players will bring more laurels to the State and country. This awards have also put hope in the parents that if the child plays well, their might be a good support system for the players.

IM Swapnil Dhopade Speaking on behalf of all the players said the Laptop to Chess Players is like a weapon to the soldier, he assured the dignitaries that this laptop will surely help him to perform better in the future.

Dr. Kareer, in his presidential speech congratulated Dr. Sunil Patil for his sponsorship to the scheme, because of Dr. Patil it was very easy for him to get this scheme see the third edition. He appealed to Industry that most of the associations are facing financial crunch and Industry not only IT but any Industry which is doing well should come forward and support the sports. He was happy that he could fulfill his promise about the computers to the players. He mentioned that it is because of the bodies like Buddhibal Kreeda Trust that people like him, Dr. Sunil Patil, Anil Mhaske and Anand Deshpande are able to help the players, where the help is needed the most. We also have to think about players getting proper training, and international exposure and with the help of state government and private sponsors this two aspects should be taken care by state and national association. He concluded saying that he want players to get the awards from personalities like Dr. Sunil Patil, Mr. Anil Mhaske or Mr. Anand Deshpande as they have come to this stature after a hard work and innovative ideas, both of which is needed while playing Chess. And this personalities will surely motivate the players to do well in the future.

Mr. Prakash Kunte felicitated Dr. Nitin Kareer for his continuous support to the chess players. Dr. Sunil Patil Director Valuable group for the financial support for the scheme.

Poona Club Hosted the function.

The function was attended by personalities like Shri Anand Deshpande, Director Persistent systems, Mrs. Patil, Mrs. Kareer, Shri Faruk Shaikh Secretary CMCA Jalgaon, Shri Yashwant Bapat, VP CMCA, Nagar, Shri Sunder Iyer Secretary Lakshya Foundation, relatives of all the award winners leading players including WGM Swati Ghate, IM Prathmesh Mokhal, Kaushik Bhavne, Aditi Jori Mr. MD Bhagwat Nitin Shenvi, Sanjay Adhav, Nitin Kelkar etc, Coaches, WIM Mrunalinee Aurangabadkar, IM CS Gokhale, Jayant Gokhale, etc.

Prakash Kunte
Managing Trustee
Buddhibal Kreedha Trust



Photo – Dr. Kareer, Dr. Sunil Patil and other dignitaries with all the award winners