

Publication: The New Indian Express
Edition: Bengaluru
Date: June 14, 2015

Perera Leads Ahmedabad to Philippe Title

Express News Service

Bengaluru: Sri Lanka's Mithun Perera led from the front to shoot a five-under 67 at the Karnataka Golf Association to ensure that his team Navratna Ahmedabad defended its Louis Philippe Cup golf title on Saturday.

This is Navratna Ahmedabad's third Louis Philippe Cup title in four years. Giving Perera full support was teammate Anura Rohana who made a crucial 10-footer birdie on the 18th when the team needed it and returned with one-under 71.

The third player, Shankar Das, winner of 2014 PGTI Rolex rankings, who gave hope to his team by shooting three-under on the first day, ended the final round with

three-over 75. Navratna Ahmedabad's three-day total was 13-under 419 and tied with TAKE Chennai, but Ahmedabad's final day score of 35-under 68 gave them victory and a winning bonus of ₹36 lakh as the 10th match the scores of the best two players were taken into consideration for the team total.

TAKE Chennai who went into the final round with a five-shot cushion had a disappointing day as all three

(from left) Navratna Ahmedabad players Mithun Perera, Anura Rohana and Shankar Das with the trophy

players were unable to shoot low numbers.

Local lad Khalin Joshi who kept TAKE Chennai's hopes alive until this morning, carded a two-under 70 while

both his teammates S Chikkarangappa and SSP Chowrasia shot one-over 73. Khalin Joshi collected a cheque of ₹7 lakh as he became the individual stroke play winner with 101 holes total of 12 under par, while Om Prakash Chouhan of Dev-Elora Pune was runner-up at 5-under 101. The tourney with a prize purse of ₹1.2 crore

Mithun Perera, who also led Navratna Ahmedabad to

gave me a sign on 11th hole that he is not doing too well, I started firing birdies in the back nine. I made a birdie on 8th, 10th, 11th, 14th, 17th and 18th. My final hole did wonders when I hit a driver and a good second shot and took sometime to read the line carefully and sunk a 15-footer for birdie."

Team standings (Final round): Navratna Ahmedabad 13-under 419 (Mithun Perera 67, Anura Rohana 71, Shankar Das 75); **TAKE Chennai**

13-under 419 (Khalin Joshi 70, S Chikkarangappa 73, SSP Chowrasia 73); **Dev-Elora Pune 11-under-421** (Siddikur 78, Om Prakash Chouhan 69, Sanjay Kumar 68); **Zion Hills Bengaluru 10-under 422** (Rahil Gangjee 69, C Muniyappa 71, Abhijit Chadha 74).

