

## HCL INTER-SCHOOL TENNIS CHALLENGE CONCLUDES IN CHENNAI

- *Sruthi Pandithurian, from Velammal Matric School, Chennai and VM Sandeep from St. Michael's Academy, wins the U-14 Individual Championship for Girls and Boys respectively*
  - *St. Michael's Academy, wins the U-14 Team Championship*
- *Tentu Shrichandrakala from Sacred Heart Matriculation School, Chennai and Tharakesh Ashokar from SBOA School wins the U-12 Individual Championship for Girls and Boys respectively*
- *The winners of the U-14 Individual Championship will get an opportunity to go for a one-week, all-expense paid training program with an International Academy*
- *The winners of the U-12 Individual Championship will get an opportunity to go for a one-week, all-expense paid training program with MBTA in Kochi*

**Chennai, India – February 27, 2016 — HCL Inter School Tennis Challenge**, an initiative of HCL ended today on a high spirited note. The tournament was conducted with Mahesh Bhupathi Tennis Academies (MBTA), which is the knowledge partner of the event. This large-scale school-level tennis tournament, which kicked off on 22<sup>nd</sup> February, was being held at Sri Ramachandra University. **Ms. Rushmi Chakravarthi, Former India No. 1 player and winner of record 45 ITF Women's Circuit titles was the Chief Guest** for the finals and felicitated the winners.

Over 51 leading schools from across Chennai participated in this tournament and a total of 157 matches were conducted over a period of 6 days. The tournament was divided into two categories: U-14 Team & Individual Championship (For Girls & Boys) and U-12 Individual Championship (For Girls & Boys).

In the grand finale today, St. Michele's Academy defeated DAV Sr. Sec. School, 2-1, in the U-14 Team Championship. In the Individual Championships, great tennis was on display as VM Sandeep from St. Michael's Academy beat K. Anirudh from DAV Senior Secondary school to claim the Boys Championship title while Sruthi Pandithurian, from Velammal Matric School school put up a stellar performance to defeat Deepa Lakshmi Vanaraja from SBOA school to claim the Girls Championship title.

**Sundar Mahalingam, Chief Strategy Officer, HCL Corporation and Gaurav Natekar, CEO, Mahesh Bhupathi Tennis Academies** were both present to witness the final matches and give away awards to the participants of the HCL Inter-School Tennis Challenge.

Speaking on the occasion, **Sundar Mahalingam, Chief Strategy Officer, HCL Corporation** said, *"We are delighted with the enthusiastic response we received from the schools in Chennai for the HCL Inter School Tennis Challenge. It has been a pleasure to see such high quality tennis on display during the tournament. With such tournaments we want to provide young talented players an opportunity to compete with and test their skills in a competitive environment."*

**Gaurav Natekar, CEO, MBTA** said, *"It was truly heartening to see the response received by the HCL Inter-School Tennis Challenge. The formative years of tennis is the most important and with the Inter-School Tennis Challenge, HCL is providing a platform for children to*

*groom and nurture themselves to achieve their dream of playing for their country one day. I congratulate them for taking a lead in such initiatives.”*

The winners of the U-14 Individual Championship will get an opportunity to go for a one-week, all-expense paid training program with an International Academy. The winners of the U-12 Individual Championship will get an opportunity to go for a one-week, all-expense paid training program with MBTA in Kochi.

**Notes to the Editor:**

**About HCL**

Founded in 1976 as one of India's original IT garage start-ups, HCL is a pioneer of modern computing with many firsts to its credit, including the introduction of the 8-bit microprocessor-based computer in 1978 well before its global peers. Today, the HCL enterprise has a presence across varied sectors that include technology, healthcare and talent management solutions and comprises four companies - HCL Info systems, HCL Technologies, HCL Healthcare and HCL Talent Care. The enterprise generates annual revenues of over US \$7 billion with more than 105,000 employees from 100 nationalities operating across 31 countries, including over 500 points of presence in India.

For further information, visit [www.hcl.com](http://www.hcl.com).

**About MBTA**

It was in 2006 that Mahesh Bhupathi's vision became a reality. MBTA was founded by the 12-time Grand Slam winner with the objective of imparting professional, world-class training (both practical and theoretical) and highly specialized coaching to youngsters of all age-groups. Another objective of the MBTA was to increase the accessibility of tennis by ensuring that people across all socio-economic groups have the opportunity to experience the joy of tennis. Mr. Gaurav Natekar, former India No. 1, Arjuna Awardee and double Asian Games gold medalist is the CEO and the driving force behind MBTA.

MBTA is a pioneering effort to promote the game of tennis across different levels. By launching our 'School Tennis Program' in various schools across India, MBTA has established itself as a force that adopts a systematic and well-planned approach at every stage in the process of tennis coaching. It is customized to the capabilities and needs of each participant and leads to a comprehensive and highly effective graduation process.

The academy also provides consultancy services to various schools, colleges and corporate companies to structure, develop and implement a variety of tennis coaching programs based on their needs.

For more information, log on to: <http://www.mbtaworld.com/>

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