

PGTI announces first team for IPL-style event

09 November 2011

Puravankara Projects Ltd. snaps up Bangalore team in the Louis Philippe Cup

Bengaluru: The Professional Golf Tour of India (PGTI) announced that Puravankara Projects Ltd. has undertaken the Bengaluru team of the inaugural eight city team event, the Louis Philippe Cup. The team will be called 'Puravankara Bengaluru', after Puravankara Projects Ltd - one of South India's leading real estate developers.



The Louis Philippe Cup will see teams from Bengaluru, Chennai, Mumbai, Kolkata, Lucknow, Delhi, Gurgaon and Chandigarh battle it out in March 2012 at Karnataka Golf Association, Bengaluru, for the top prize of Rs.36 lakhs. The new event, with its US\$250,000 purse will be the richest domestic event on the PGTI calendar. India's top stars like former Asian tour player of the year Jyoti Randhawa (Gurgaon), European tour regular Shiv Kapur (Delhi), two-time European tour winner S. S. P. Chowrasia (Kolkata), two-time Asian tour winner Gaganjeet Bhullar (Chandigarh), 2011 Asian tour winner Anirban Lahiri (Bengaluru), 2011 Singapore Classic winner Himmat Rai (Gurgaon) and current No. 1 in the Rolex-PGTI rankings, Chiragh Kumar (Delhi) have all confirmed their participation in the extravaganza.

The Puravankara Bengaluru team will comprise a three member professional team and a three member amateur team, while the professional team is likely to be represented by recent Asian tour winner Anirban Lahiri, Abhishek Jha and R. Murthy, the amateur team will be selected on the basis of the club qualifying rounds to be held in Eagleton Golf Village, Bangalore Golf Club and Karnataka Golf Association, scheduled to begin on 11th November, 2011.

The former Asian Games silver medalist for India, Bangalore's leading player and winner of the US\$300,000 Panasonic Open 2011 on the Asian Tour as well as two other titles on the PGTI tour this season, Anirban Lahiri stated, "I am delighted that Puravankara is the first to announce a team as I am excited to represent my home city and along with my team mates we hope to definitely progress to the knock out stage of the tournament and of course win the title. This tournament is going to be a game changer for Indian golf as we never play in the team format in pro golf - its always individual."

Added Mr. Padamjit Sandhu, Director, PGTI, "We are delighted that a reputed company like Puravankara, which is synonymous with the city of Bengaluru, has come forward to snap up the Bengaluru team. The promoter of the event, Rishi Narain Golf Management is close to finalising deals with a number of other city team sponsors and we will be making other announcements in the coming weeks."

Mr. Ashish Puravankara, Joint Managing Director, Puravankara Projects Ltd, said, "The Louis Philippe Cup is a tournament of many firsts in India and we are extremely delighted to

be a part of this event. With the tournament format and prize money amounting to US\$250,000, we are guaranteed to see some exciting and competitive golf from both our pros and amateurs. Golf has always been an integral sport amongst Bengalureans and now with this well thought-out format, we will be able to see our country's top amateurs compete against one another while playing alongside our leading pro golfers. With much excitement and support, we wish Puravankara Bengaluru all the best and hope to see them lift the winner's trophy in March."

Event promoter and former Asian Games gold medalist, Rishi Narain said, "Puravankara will benefit from the immense appeal this event will have for golf fans. The prospect of India's two young international stars Anirban Lahiri and Gaganjeet Bhullar playing head-to-head has never happened before in golf and will bring fresh following to the game. Imagine Jyoti Randhawa facing off with Shiv Kapur, both proven successes on the European PGA tour - the quality of play will be inspiring and fun for fans to watch."