

## International FIDE Rapid Rating Chess Tournament set for February 23 in Kalyan



By Kunal Mhatre

**Kalyan:** The Rotary Club of Kalyan, in collaboration with the Aryan Institute of Chess Excellence, is set to host the 'International FIDE Rapid Rating Chess Tournament' on February 23. The tournament will kick off at 9.00 A.M. at the Bail Bazar Navrang Hall in Kalyan West. Key figures from the Rotary Club, including President Parag Kapse, Secretary Atmaram Ghanekar, Project Head Deepak Vaze, and Former Provincial Governor Milind Kulkarni, announced the event during a press conference.

Established in 1956, the Rotary Club of Kalyan is the first club in the Thane district and has a long-standing commitment to serving marginalized and needy communities through various initiatives. This year, the club is adding an international chess tournament to its roster of activities, guided by Milind Kulkarni.

The tournament is organized in partnership with the Aryan Institute of Chess Excellence, which has been hosting events like 'Khel Chedbalcha Grandmastersange' and various chess camps for over 22 years. This collaboration aims to provide local chess players from Kalyan and Dombivli with opportunities to compete at the international level, promote the game of chess, and showcase the social work of the Rotary Club.

The upcoming Rapid Chess tour-

nament will feature nine rounds played in a single day using the Swiss league format. Each player will have 10 minutes to complete their game, with an additional 5 seconds increment per move. The tournament has garnered significant interest, attracting players from across the country, including International Masters and Grand Masters.

Notable participants include IM Kushagra Mohan, Mohammad Nubairshah Sheikh, Gusain Himal, WIM Bhagyashree Sathe-Thipse, Mitrabha Guha, Diptayan Ghosh, and Saptarshi Rai Chaudhary. The event will also honor Arjuna Award winner Grand Master Praveen Thipse, who will be present at the inauguration and award ceremony.

In a special recognition, all physically handicapped players participating in the tournament will be felicitated. The competition has received approval and support from FIDE, AICF, MCA, TDCA, and KTBS. Winners will be awarded prizes and trophies totalling Rs. 2,51,110.

For more information and to register for the tournament, interested participants can contact the following numbers: 9029106570, 9321726972, and 8879885417. The Rotary Club of Kalyan and the Aryan Institute of Chess Excellence are working diligently to ensure a successful and memorable event.