

DECCAN HERALD



DESERVING Indian cricketer K L Rahul (centre) along with fellow Jain University awardees (from left) Kiran (athletics), Poorva Shetye, Rakshit Shetty, Shruthi Mahalingam and Meenakshi VKR (all swimmers), DH PHOTO

Jain Varsity honours its champs

BENGALURU, DHNS: India's latest batting sensation KL Rahul was honoured with a cheque of Rs 1.5 lakh at the annual Jain University felicitation at the Centre for Management Studies here on Saturday.

There were nine other athletes, who received cash rewards for their achievements in various sporting events, the most prominent being young golfer Aditi Ashok.

Aditi, who represented India at the recently concluded Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, was unable to attend the event due to her participation in the ongoing ISPS HANDA Ladies European Masters in Dusseldorf and will receive a remunera-

tion of Rs 1 lakh on her return.

Speaking at the awards, Rahul recalled his days at the university and credited his success to the freedom he was given. "I remember asking the sport director about how many classes I needed to attend and all he told me was to get back onto the cricket field and not worry about my attendance. It was this sort of support that gave me the freedom to concentrate on my game and succeed," said the 24 year-old.

Apart from the two international athletes, swimmers Poorva Kiran Shetye, Shruthi Mahalingam, Meenakshi VKR, Deeksha Ramesh and Rakshit Shetty were also recognised for

their achievements at the university level.

Kiran M, who won the silver medal in the 4X400M relay at the 17th Junior Asian Championship held in Vietnam, was handed a cheque for Rs 25,000. In addition to the individual awardees, the men's and women's cricket teams and women's badminton and basketball teams bagged cash prizes.

List of awardees: Individual (cricket): KL Rahul (Rs 1.5 lakh), golfer Aditi Ashok (Rs 1 lakh); **swimming:** Meenakshi VKR (1 lakh), Shruthi Mahalingam (Rs 30,000), Poorva Kiran Shetye (Rs 18,000), Deeksha Ramesh (Rs 16,000), Rakshit Shetty (Rs 20,000); **Athletics:** Arin VP (Rs 25,000), Kiran M (Rs 25,000).

Team awards: Men: Cricket (Rs 48,000), **Women:** Cricket (Rs 11,000), Badminton (Rs 45,000), Basketball (Rs 24,000).