

PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU  
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VISHWANATHAN AWARD GETS RAJIV GANDHI KHEL RATNA AWARD

New Delhi, Sravana 27, 1914  
August 18, 1992

The young Chess grandmaster **Shri** Vishwanathan Anand gets the first Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna award for the year 1991-92. The award carries a cash amount of Rs. 1.00 lakh. Anand was unanimously chosen for the award by a Committee consisting of Shri Ashwani Kumar, Shri Ramanathan Krishnan, Shri Prakash Padukone, Shri M.A.K. Pataudi and Shri Prasun Banerjee.

The Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna award has been instituted from 1991-92 to encourage sports excellence in the country. The award is to be given annually for the most outstanding and spectacular performance in the year in the disciplines of Chess, Billiards and Snooker and Olympics, Asian Games and Commonwealth Games.

During 1991-92, Vishwanathan Anand won the highest ever rated Chess tournament held at Reggio Emilia, Italy.

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