

Silver Beauty shines with luck on its side

Change in ownership helps mid-day Trophy-winning horse attain glory at Mahalaxmi



Jagran Prakashan Ltd director Shailesh Gupta (extreme left), Silver Beauty owner S Shinde (holding the trophy), RWITC's media and marketing chief Vivek Jain, actors R Madhavan, Huma Qureshi, Aditya Roy Kapoor and RWITC's Champaklal Zaveri at the prize distribution of the **mid-day** Trophy 2016 at Mahalaxmi Racecourse yesterday. PICS/SHADAB KHAN

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SILVER Beauty, trained by Malesh Narredu, won the **mid-day** Trophy powered by Satra Group yesterday, but not before Narredu, who believes in luck as much as he believes in his own training skills, did some smart thinking in the last 48 hours leading up to the event. Silver Beauty's trainer Malesh, who had also won this trophy last year with Speed King, thus completed a back-to-back double, achieving a feat no trainer has managed to so far.

"I told you yesterday that I was hoping to win this race with Silver Beauty," Malesh told **mid-day** after the race,

What Malesh later narrated must go down as one of the most bizarre stories associated with the **mid-day** Trophy.

"Both, my son Yash and nephew Suraj, were fighting to ride Silver Beauty, but since Yash had won the **mid-day** Trophy last year, I convinced him to let Suraj ride." But just then, Malesh remembered that Suraj had not won a race for him for almost a year. "The last he won for me was on Be Safe in the 2015 Derby," said Malesh.

Malesh also realised even the owner of Silver Beauty, Sanjay Shinde, had not won a single race as owner despite

owning several horses over the years. "I thought 'what should I do to change my luck?'"

Malesh then told Sanjay Shinde to transfer Silver Beauty to his wife, Sheetal's name. But now, as new owner Sheetal needed to register her own racing colors, also called silks, and there was hardly any time. "Only God knows how I moved

heaven and earth to not only design Sheetal, but also to get them stitched on war-footing," explained Malesh. Sheetal told Malesh that her lucky colours were blue, red and white, so the trainer put together a simple diamond and hooped sleeves



Malesh Narredu



design. It eventually proved lucky as Silver Beauty stalked leader Star Scholar (Sandesh up) all the way before assuming command approaching the distance post, and stayed clear of the late charge by the S Zervan-astride Costa Smeralda to give Sanjay



Jockey Suraj Narredu guides Silver Beauty (left) to victory during the **mid-day** Trophy 2016 at Mahalaxmi yesterday.

Shinde, a social worker who runs a blood bank at Hadapsar in Pune, his first ever win, albeit in the name of his wife Sheetal, who herself was not present at the venue yesterday to savour her moment of glory.

Full story on www.mid-day.com