

# MASCARENHAS CLAIMS SOUTH INDIA RALLY

**Chennai, June 30:** Team Champions' Dean Mascarenhas survived a late but spirited onslaught from three-time APRC winner Gaurav Gill to win the opening round of the Champions Yacht Club — FMSCI Indian National Rally Championship here on a nail-biting Sunday.

Going into the third and final leg with a 10-second overall lead and a handy 1.41 minutes over Gill, Mascarenhas (Shruptha Padival) saw his lead being steadily wiped out from both ends, due to an errant car and a possessed Gill.

But, Team Mahindra's Gill (Musa Sherif) suffered massive blow in the penultimate stage. — *Agencies*