

Dean looks to remain on top in Rd 2

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

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ROUND 1 winner Dean Mascarenhas of Mangaluru will aim to consolidate his lead at the top of the leader-board, as the Rally of Coimbatore, Round 2 of the Champions Yacht Club FMSCI Indian National Rally Championship 2019, unfolds here over the weekend. The INRC 2 driver (with co-driver Shruptha Padival) will, however, need to be at his imperious best as he tackles a 65-strong field and slushy conditions out here. He will keep his eye firmly on INRC 3's Fabid Ahmer (co-driver Sanath.G) of Team Champions, who showed great skill and composure to take the second overall place in the Chennai round.

Dean will, however, be wary of his JK Tyre teammate Gaurav Gill, a three-time APRC champion. Gill and Musa Sherif spearhead Mahindra Adventure's campaign. Gaurav had shown remarkable recovery, after struggling with his car in the initial stages, to finish third. He comes into this round on the back of a thrilling win in the Dakshin Dare and will come out all guns blazing for his seventh INRC title.