

## Racer Ashwin Sundar, wife die in road mishap



Chennai: Former national racing champion Ashwin Sundar and his wife Niveditha died in a mishap at MRC Nagar here today. The car in which the two were traveling caught fire after it hit a roadside tree. Sundar and his wife were charred to death inside the vehicle, police sources said.

The burning of the car was streamed live on Facebook which instantly went viral on social media. Police officials claimed that the racer's over speeding was the reason behind the crash.

Sources reveal that the racer was driving the car at a highspeed and he lost control after hitting a speed-breaker around 1.30 am.

Before it caught fire, the car swirled for a long time, reveal reports.

The BMW Z3 car is equipped with adequate safety features which was designed to open up six air bags in case car crashed against the median or speed breaker. It is suspected that the car must have developed snag in fuel tank or air conditioner.

Onlookers immediately alerted the local police, who pressed two fire engines attached to Teynampet and Mylapore stations to douse the fire.

The police broke-open the car using a sharp instrument and found the duo were staying close with their legs crossed one another. The charred bodies were sent to Government Hospital in Royapettah for post mortem.



It was reportedly said that Niveditha, a doctor, called her day off at 11.30 pm yesterday. Then, the duo went for dinner at a hotel and was returning in their car to their residence in Ashtalakshmi Nagar.

The couple got married in February last year. Niveditha was from Sri Lanka, whose father runs a business here. Sundar's family hail from Vellore and his mother Latha served in a Panchayat union. His father owned a lorry transport business. But the family moved to city after seeing Sundar's interest in racing.

Sundar won an international championship in 2010-11.FMSCI chief Akbar Ebrahim and former Indian F1 driver Karun Chandhok

wrote condolence messages on Facebook. Sundar had won the national title in car racing and two-wheeler events on several occasions. His wife Niveditha was a doctor in a private hospital in Chennai.

ON FAST LANE

Sundar won an international championship in 2010-11. He won Formula 16 race for 46 times. The racer is close to actor Ajith Kumar who also shares similar interest for the sport.