

## Dravid's mother engraves Karnataka's cricketers in a mural

A massive mural of 45x20 feet created by Pushpa Dravid, mother of former Indian skipper Rahul Dravid, with portraits of six famous cricketers of Karnataka was unveiled Monday at the Chinnaswamy Stadium here.

Engraved in terra cotta and fibre, the tall, orange coloured mural has action postures of Karnataka's six cricketers - Venkatesh Prasad, Sunil Joshi and Dodda Ganesh, all-rounder Roger Binny, batsman Sujit Somasunder and wicket-keeper Sadanand Viswanath.

The mural was unveiled by Prasad in the presence of Dravid's parents -Sharad and Pushpa and a host of past and present cricketers of Karnataka, including speedster Javagal Srinath, Indian Test captain Anil Kumble, legendary spinners E.A.S. Prasanna and B.S. Chandrasekhar and former wicket-keeper Syed Kirmani.

'All these players have inspired me to portray them. Though there are many more such role models who contributed to the game in the state, the six were selected by the Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA) for the mural, which took me nine months to make,' Pushpa told reporters.

The mural has been fixed on the wall outside the pavilion-end, facing the busy thoroughfare MG Road and a few paces away from the 27x15 feet 'Wall' built to honour Dravid's feat of scoring over 10,000 runs in Tests and One-Day Internationals (ODIs) series.

'The purpose of this artistic presentation is to inspire future generations of cricketers in contributing to the game at the state and national levels. As Dravid's mother, I am proud of these players, who inspired my son,' Pushpa said.

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