

LG Kavinder flags off 'Run for Fun' Marathon Says Marathon strengthens Ladakh's identity on the global sporting map Hails participation of Differently-Abled Runners Calls on youth to take up sports for growth & National Pride

Leh, September 13: The Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Shri Kavinder Gupta, today flagged off the 'Run for Fun' Marathon, a part of the 12th edition of the Ladakh Marathon, near NDS Ground Leh. Around 1,650 runners, including students and persons with disabilities, participated in the event.

On the occasion, Secretary, Youth Services and Sports, Ms. Bhanu Prabha; Administrative Secretary, Mr Sanjit Rodrigues; Administrative Secretary, Mr. Bhupesh Chaudhary, and the President of ALTOA were also present.

The Hon'ble Lt Governor said that the Ladakh Marathon has not only boosted tourism but also created new livelihood opportunities for local communities by attracting runners from across India and abroad.

Highlighting its growing stature, Shri Kavinder Gupta noted that the Ladakh Marathon has emerged as one of India's most prestigious long-distance races and is now a globally recognised endurance event. With more than 6,000 runners from over 30 countries participating this year, the marathon has put Ladakh firmly on the global sporting map.

The Hon'ble Lt Governor remarked that the event's challenging high-altitude terrain, coupled with Ladakh's unique culture, makes it a rare and inspiring experience for participants. Despite the oxygen-thin atmosphere and unpredictable mountain weather, runners show remarkable enthusiasm, he said.

The Hon'ble Lt Governor also underlined that AIMS certification, iconic races like Khardung La Challenge and Silk Route Ultra, and the warm participation of Ladakhi people have made the event truly distinctive. He commended the organisers for their professional conduct of the marathon, ensuring both safety and a memorable experience for runners.

The Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor also expressed special appreciation for the participation of persons with disabilities in the marathon, noting that their determination and spirit are a true inspiration for society. He said their active involvement reflects the inclusive spirit of Ladakh Marathon and sends a powerful message of courage, equality, and perseverance.

Shri Kavinder Gupta also appealed to the youth to actively take part in sports and physical activities, stressing that sports not only build fitness and discipline but also provide opportunities for personal growth and national pride.



