

Sarhad International Shauryathon 2026 Flagged held at Drass; CT Scan Machine and Ambulance Dedicated to Drass Hospital



Drass, July 05, 2026: The Sarhad International Shauryathon 2026, themed "Run with Resolve, Run for Unity," was organized today at the Kargil War Memorial in Drass District with the objectives of promoting patriotism, national unity, physical fitness and inspiring the youth towards nation-building. The event was jointly organized by the Indian Army and Sarhad, Pune, with the support of Arham Foundation, Pune.

The Shauryathon was ceremonially flagged off by Hon'ble Member of Parliament Dr. Shrikant Shinde; Hon'ble Member of Parliament (Ladakh), Mohamad Haneefa Jan; Hon'ble Minister of State for Home, Government of Maharashtra, Yogesh Kadam; Director General of Police, UT Ladakh, Anand Jain, IPS; Station Commander, 56 Mountain Brigade, Brigadier Ashish Bhalla; Director, FCS & CA and Joint Director, Youth Services & Sports, UT Ladakh, Tahir Hussain Zubdavi; Deputy Commissioner, Drass, Imteeaz Kacho, JKAS; Superintendent of Police, Drass, Ishtyaq Kacho, JKPS, Commanding Officer, 16 Grenadiers, Colonel Vikas Dixit and Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Drass, Vishal Atri, JKAS besides LAHDC Councillor, Bimbat, Abdul Wahid and LAHDC Councillor, Ranbirpura, Abdul Samad in the presence of Army officers, District and Police officials and other guests.

The shauryathon (marathon) featured race categories of 21 kilometres, 10 kilometres, 5 kilometres and 3 kilometres witnessing enthusiastic participation of people belonging to different sections of society. Students from various schools, including Higher Secondary Schools of Drass, Government Degree College, Drass, and other educational institutions as well as Army personnel, sports enthusiasts/runners from across the country and youth of the local community participated with extraordinary enthusiasm, reflecting the growing spirit of fitness and national pride.



The theme, "Run With Resolve, Run For Unity," beautifully captured the essence of national integration, courage and respect for the supreme sacrifices made by India's brave soldiers. Organizing the event in the newly formed District of Drass — the Land of Heroes and Gateway to Ladakh — added special significance, reinforcing the values of patriotism, resilience and unity.

The marathon concluded with the prize distribution ceremony during which the guests felicitated the winners of different race categories. Mementoes were also distributed among guests and partner organizations. The contributions of all officials, participants and volunteers were appreciated.

On the other hand, the CT Scan Machine of Drass Hospital donated by the Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Eknath Shinde, was inaugurated by his son Hon'ble Member of Parliament Dr. Shrikant Shinde, in the Trauma Centre Building of the hospital, in the presence of Hon'ble Chairman/Chief Executive Councillor, LAHDC-Kargil; Hon'ble Member of Parliament (Ladakh), Mohamad Haneefa Jan; Hon'ble Minister of State for Home, Government of Maharashtra, Yogesh Kadam; Director

General of Police, UT Ladakh, Anand Jain, IPS; Station Commander, 56 Mountain Brigade, Brigadier Ashish Bhalla; Deputy Commissioner, Drass, Imteeaz Kacho, JKAS; Superintendent of Police, Drass, Ishtyaq Kacho, JKPS; Director, Health Services, UT Ladakh, Dr. Tashi Thinlas; Superintending Engineer, PWD Circle, Kargil, Dr. Tsewang Thinlas; In-charge Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Fatima Nissa; Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Drass, Vishal Atri, JKAS; Principal, GDC-Drass, Nasir Shabani; Block Medical Officer, Drass, Dr. Sajjad Hussain; LAHDC Councillor, Ranbirpura, Abdul Samad; LAHDC Councillor, Bimbhat, Abdul Wahid and civil and Police officials of various departments and civil society members. The inauguration marked a significant milestone in strengthening healthcare infrastructure in the border region.

On the other hand, the key of the 4x4 Ambulance donated by the Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra to Drass Hospital was also handed over by Dr. Shrikant Shinde to the Block Medical Officer and was dedicated to the public in the presence of all dignitaries.

While addressing the gathering, Dr. Shrikant Shinde described the occasion as a historic moment for the people of Drass and said that the commitment made by Eknath Shinde had been fulfilled within a year. He informed the gathering that the Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra was unable to attend the event due to health issues but had conveyed his heartfelt greetings and best wishes to the people of Drass. On his behalf, Dr. Shinde expressed gratitude for the warm hospitality extended to the visiting delegation and reaffirmed the Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister's commitment to the welfare and development of border regions. He lauded Eknath Shinde's humanitarian vision and dedication to public welfare, stating that the donation of the CT Scan machine and ambulance reflected his unwavering commitment towards strengthening healthcare facilities in remote and border areas across the country. He further assured the people that all genuine demands submitted to him would receive his full support and that he would make every effort to raise their concerns before the appropriate authorities.

Dr. Shinde also paid rich tributes to the Indian Army and Police for their unparalleled sacrifices in safeguarding the nation's borders under the most challenging conditions and praised their selfless service. He also highlighted the developmental vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi for Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, expressing confidence that the region would continue to witness rapid progress in infrastructure, healthcare, education, tourism, connectivity and overall socio-economic development. He stated that under the visionary leadership of the Prime Minister, several transformative initiatives have been launched to improve the quality of life of the people, strengthen public infrastructure and accelerate inclusive growth. He expressed optimism that the Government of India would continue to extend all possible support to ensure sustainable development and prosperity across the region.

Chairman/Chief Executive Councillor, LAHDC-Kargil, Dr. Mohd. Jaffer Akhoon, expressed his heartfelt gratitude to Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra Eknath Shinde for his generous support towards donating the CT Scan Machine and Ambulance to Drass Hospital. He described the initiative as a landmark contribution towards strengthening the healthcare infrastructure of the border region and ensuring that quality medical facilities are accessible to the people at their doorstep.

The Chief Executive Councillor also extended sincere appreciation to Sarhad, Pune, and its office bearers particularly Sanjay Nahar as well as all the individuals and organizations whose collective efforts made the initiative possible. He stated that such acts of generosity and social responsibility reflect a strong commitment towards public welfare and inspire others to contribute to nation-building through meaningful developmental initiatives.



Dr. Akhoon stated that the installation of the CT Scan Machine and the addition of the Ambulance would greatly enhance emergency and diagnostic healthcare services in Drass, reducing the need for patients to travel long distances for critical medical investigations and treatment. He noted that these facilities would prove to be a lifeline for the people of Drass and the surrounding remote villages, ensuring timely diagnosis and emergency care.

LAHDC Councillor Abdul Wahid expressed heartfelt gratitude to the Government of Maharashtra, particularly Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, for extending valuable support to the people of Drass. He said the CT Scan Machine and ambulance would substantially improve healthcare services and benefit patients across the region. He also submitted a memorandum highlighting the developmental requirements of Drass and expressed hope for continued support in the future.

Founder-President of Sarhad, Sanjay Nahar, highlighted the Foundation's long-standing association with Kargil and Drass and reaffirmed its commitment to supporting the region through education, healthcare and humanitarian initiatives. He assured continued collaboration for the welfare and development of the people of Ladakh.

After the conclusion of the event, Deputy Commissioner of Drass, Imteeaz Kacho, expressed gratitude to the Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra for his generosity by donating the CT Scan machine and the 4x4 ambulance to the hospital of the newly created District of Drass. He thanked the Hon'ble Member of Parliament Dr. Shrikanth Shinde and other dignitaries for attending and gracing the event. He added that the CT Scan machine will act as a game changer and bring a sort of revolution in the health sector of Drass District while the ambulance will augment healthcare services of the hospital particularly during the harsh winters.