

जा.क्र. 44

दि. 24/07/2026

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
Akola Municipal Corporation
Akola, Maharashtra

To

The Selection Committee
Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar.

The people of Akola have followed Sarthak Kamalkishor Dhole's progress closely over the past two years, and it gives me great pleasure to write to the Committee in support of his nomination for the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar.

In May 2026 Sarthak won a Bronze Medal at the 34th International Philosophy Olympiad in Warsaw, which was India's first medal at that competition in seven years. In July he set a national record at the International Young Physicists' Tournament at ETH Zürich, with the highest individual score in the history of India's participation. He has represented India in more than ten countries and has won over 250 medals.

He has carried Indian philosophy abroad through symposia in Hungary, Croatia and Poland, and through Philosium, the philosophy education network he founded, which now runs in over 60 countries and has reached more than 4,500 students and teachers. In science, he has developed a device to distinguish alopecia areata from trichotillomania and to assess the severity of the condition, work that has been recognised by the Indian Medical Association.

HEADSPACE, the support initiative he founded for patients with alopecia, remains active in this city, and his team runs art sessions in Akola through BetterTGT, using art as a means of teaching peace and understanding among young people. He has trained in Kathak since childhood, and carries that interest in our traditions into everything else he does.

Sarthak is an example to the young people of Akola. I support his nomination to the Committee wholeheartedly, and he has my congratulations and my best wishes.


[Sau. Sharda Ranjit Khedkar]
Mayor,
Akola Municipal Corporation