Honoring University-Level Athletes: Special Felicitation Ceremony Held at Lokmangal Agriculture and Allied Colleges with Great Enthusiasm!



Commemorating National Sports Day, a special felicitation ceremony was held on Monday, October 19, in the indoor stadium of Lokmangal Agriculture and Allied Colleges operated by the Shriram Shriram Gramin Sanshodhan Va Vikas Pratishthan and affiliated with Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri to honor talented athletes who brought laurels to the institution at the university level. The splendid ceremony commenced with the Maharashtra State Anthem and the ceremonial lighting of the lamp by the dignitaries.The event was presided over by College Principal Dr. Amol Shinde, with international specially-abled cricketer Shri. Karan Chakote gracing the occasion as the chief guest. Delivering the welcome address, Miss. Madhavi Zhendge outlined the context of the program and the athletes' journey to success. Following this, the program president formally welcomed and felicitated chief guest Shri. Karan Chakote with a bouquet.During the main felicitation ceremony, students who delivered outstanding performances at the university level including Miss. Shri Mahangade (Athletics), Miss. Jyoti Thite (Shot Put), along with Suraj Jawalge and Omkar Wakase (Wrestling) were specially honored by the dignitaries. In their speeches, the felicitated athletes expressed profound gratitude for the unwavering support provided by the college.

Subsequently, first-year agriculture students Shivrudra Koutagi, Miss. Anupama Khot, Miss. Monali Gaikwad, and Saif Makandar presented insightful thoughts on the theme *"The Importance of Sports During Student Life."* In the faculty address session, NSS Program Officer Prof. Ajit Kure and Prof. Priti Kamble shared their guidance. Prof. Kamble emphasized the paramount importance of sports in life, describing physical activity as a powerful tool for wellness and an excellent medium for women's empowerment. Sports Teacher Prof. Sambhaji Kokate extended his best wishes, urging students to make full use of the sports facilities available on campus and achieve excellence across various disciplines. International specially-abled cricketer and native of Hipparga, Solapur district, Shri. Karan Chakote delivered a deeply inspiring address. Sharing how he overcame physical challenges to make sports a medium for survival and progress, he set a stellar example for the students. Stating that rural athletes possess remarkable potential, he explained that exercise and sports are true friends of good health, and extended his best wishes to all athletes for their future endeavors. In his presidential address, Principal Dr. Amol Shinde warmly congratulated all the award-winning students. He stated that sports are vital for physical and mental well-being, noting that the college's sports infrastructure and student achievement graph have been

on a continuous upward trajectory. He expressed his aspiration for even more students from the college to elevate the institution's name at the university level in the future. The vote of thanks was delivered by second-year agriculture student Pratik Bangar, while the grand and effective anchoring of the ceremony was skillfully managed by Miss. Samina Mulla and Miss. Srushti Choudhary. The event was organized through the dedicated efforts of Sports Teacher Prof. Sambhaji Kokate and athletes from all constituent colleges. A large number of faculty members and students attended the ceremony.