

# More girls taking up rallying is heartening

**Sanjay Sharma**

The 22nd consecutive year of the JK Tyre FMSCI National Racing Championship (JKNRC) gets under way this weekend and it seems like we are starting all over again. After nearly a decade, we have tweaked the entire event and are repackaging it to pave a sharper path for our budding talent.

Our goal of nurturing future talent, we believe, will receive a greater thrust in the re-scripted composition. A huge level of interest has been kindled among the younger generation, especially girls who are taking to the sport in big numbers. Many of them have also graduated to various international series, and are even on top of some leader-boards.

In the early 2000s, few years after we launched JKNRC,

we used to have barely 3 or 4 drivers on the international grid vs almost 15-20 now, which clearly signifies growth. After a thorough analysis, however, we felt that the number at the top is depleting and that we needed to consolidate it. At the same time, we wanted to involve the masses through talent-hunts etc. Broad-basing the entry level seemed to be the key and we realised that we needed to plug this to safeguard the future of Indian motor racing.

This is precisely why we have relaunched 4-stroke karting, making LGB Novice Cup and LGB 4 the main platforms for youngsters. A similar approach will be followed for 2-wheelers too, with the Suzuki Gixxer Cup honing novices.

JKNRC will introduce the next level of international Formula cars to the country. BVK SPORTS

