

## Dear Hi 5 Family,

Happy New Year 2026! As we begin the year, we're excited about the journey ahead. Together, we will continue to create meaningful opportunities for underprivileged children, support their growth through sport, and strengthen the impact we make in their lives. Thank you for your continued support in helping us - Changing young lives through play. Here's to making this year truly memorable.

[Visit Website](#)

## About Hi 5 Youth Foundation

Founded in 2015, Hi 5 Youth Foundation is a professional sports non-profit organization dedicated to providing basketball training to underprivileged and tribal children. Through its multi-year programs, the foundation develops young children into skilled players and successful school teams, equipping them to leverage their achievements on the basketball court toward obtaining a college degree and enhancing their economic prospects.

Currently, **over 4,000 children across 8 Indian states participate daily at 35 government and tribal boarding schools**, positioning the initiative as one of the largest free basketball development programs in the country.

## Table of Contents

1. Hi 5 Overall Updates
2. Hope Thru Hoops
3. Tournaments
4. Pathways To Success
5. Hi 5 Basketball Academy
6. Hi 5 USA

## 1.0 Hi 5 Overall Updates

### 1.1 New Center at Kothagudem

Hi 5 expanded the footprint of its basketball excellence program, Hope Thru Hoops, in Telangana in December by launching its seventh center at Telangana Social Welfare Residential Girls School, Kothagudem—located 198 km from Hyderabad—providing free and structured basketball training.

### 1.2 Diwali on the Court with Hi 5 Children



Telangana Tribal Welfare Residential Educational Institutions Society- Boys, Jinnaram



Sphoorti Model School, Telangana



MPS CBSE Mithagar, Maharashtra

This Diwali, our basketball courts became spaces of celebration and togetherness. Children from the Telangana Tribal Welfare Residential Educational Institutions Society and Sphoorti Model School in Telangana, as well as students from Mumbai Public School (CBSE), Mithagar, celebrated the festival on their respective courts, reflecting the spirit of Diwali.

## 2.0 Hope Thru Hoops

Hope Thru Hoops is a basketball excellence program — a rigorous, multi-year basketball development program aimed at building underprivileged and tribal children into skilled players and high-performance school teams that experience success!

### 2.1 Intra Hi 5 Nationals Finals 2025: U-17 Concluded with Participation from 5 States

Between October and December, 12 teams from five states qualified for the Season 8 Intra Hi 5 Nationals Finals. These teams were selected from regional qualifiers that featured 49 teams and 490 children across 7 states, including Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Telangana.

## National Winners



Champions, U-17 Girls  
**Dixit Dynamos**

Vile Parle East MPS,  
Maharashtra



Champions U-17 Boys  
**Parivaar Tigers**

Parivaar Education Society,  
West Bengal

Sevalaya in Tamil Nadu, Parivaar in West Bengal, and Motilal Nagar BMC School in Maharashtra supported the conduct of the regional qualifiers, while the semifinals and finals of the Season 8 Intra Hi 5 Nationals were facilitated by the Sphoorti Foundation and Krushi Home. We extend our sincere thanks to the Sphoorti Foundation and its founder, Mr. Srivyal Vuyyuri, for generously providing accommodation and meals for all players and staff. [Click here to watch the short summary video of Intra Hi 5 Nationals.](#)

## 3.0 Tournaments

### 3.1 Hi 5 Rising Star: Ruchika Singh

Hi 5 player Ruchika Singh from MPS, Vile Parle East, Mumbai, represented India at the 13th Asia Pacific Cup in Singapore as part of the U-16 Girls team of Akanksha Singh Basketball.

We thank Akanksha Singh Basketball Academy for this opportunity and look forward to continued collaborations.



### 3.2 Hi 5 Children Selections for October - December, 2025

#### National Level

15

4th EMRS National  
State Meet

15

SGFI National  
Championship

#### State Level

73

SGFI State  
Championship

15

Senior State  
Championship

#### University Level

03

Mumbai University

04

27th Maharashtra Inter  
University Sports Meet

02

Inter University West  
Zone

#### Other Major Platforms

24

Khel Mahakumb Zonal

### 3.3 External Tournament for October - December, 2025



## Tournament Performance

No. of Tournaments Played

22

Total Podium Finishers

47



First place

24



Second place

20



Third place

03

**Tournament participated:** Union Christian Slam Fest | Tilak Trophy 2025 | Spardha Tournament | Senior Division Inter Club League | Nagpada Tournament | Mayo Basketball Tournament | Krushi Home Annual Sports Meet | Khel Mahakumb Districts | Jr NBA Mumbai | Indo Scot Championship | IKYAM Tournament | Hitam Sports Meet | Ghatkopar YMCA | DSO Thane Gramin | DSO Mira Bhayandar | DSO Division | DSO District | DSO Borivali Taluka | DBA Dunkers Tournament | All Bengal Invitation Basketball Tournament | Astra Sathaye College Festival | 3rd Division League

*Podium finishers refers to top three positions (first, second, and third place) in the tournament.*

## 4.0 Pathways to Success

Pathways to Success program, started in 2018, is a higher education, internship and practical training initiative, for Hi 5 children, to ensure that success on the basketball court – translates into a college degree and better economic opportunities in sports, sports management, and related areas.

### 4.1 Radhika Memorial Scholarship



At Hi 5, we honour the memory of Radhika Padmanabhan every year on December 17, a dear friend whose legacy continues to inspire us. Since 2020, this scholarship has carried forward her legacy by supporting the academic dreams of our players. This year, we are proud to recognize 9 of our students—5 boys and 4 girls—who achieved over 80% in their 10th-grade Maharashtra Board exams.

We sincerely thank Ravi Padmanabhan, Hi 5 USA Board Member, for his continued support and for taking the time to interact with every child individually, inspiring, and motivating them.

### 4.2 Building Confident Communicators on and off the Court

Under the Pathway to Success program, Hi 5 launched an ESL (English as a Second Language) Communication Training for Coaches in January 2026. This Level 1 training spans 20 hours over 4 days and helps coaches communicate with students in simple, effective English—including basketball terminology—during sessions. The program builds confidence in spoken English, strengthens personal communication skills, and enables coaches to clearly explain about Hi 5 to supporters and stakeholders. By focusing on self-confidence, self-motivation, leadership development, and sport-specific communication, the training empowers coaches to become strong role models for students—both on and off the court.

## 5.0 Hi 5 Basketball Academy



Dining Hall Building Area



Boys Hostel Area



Apartment Building Area

Construction at the Hi 5 Basketball Academy and Training Centre is progressing steadily, with work underway across five buildings simultaneously. The boys' and girls' hostel blocks have reached the plinth level. Construction of the apartment building and excavation of the dining area have commenced.

## 6.0 Hi 5 USA

### Guest Visits Across Intra Hi 5 Regionals and Nationals



Sai Manickam and Family



From left - Sree Devi, Padma Karpe, Babu Gopaladhine, Sudhakar, & Raj Karpe



Sundar Rajan, Babu Gopaladhine, & Girish Subramanian with Hi 5 children, referees, & staffs

Sai Manickam, from North Carolina along with Vasanthi and their son, Sai Charon, visited Hi 5 during the Maharashtra rounds of the Intra Hi 5 Regionals. They attended matches, visited Hi 5 centers, and interacted with children and staff.

Sundar Rajan, Babu Gopaladhine, and Girish Subramanian from the Bay Area visited the Intra Hi 5 Nationals in Telangana. They watched the games with keen focus and interest, engaged with children and staff while gaining insights into the scale, reach, and programs of the Hi 5 Youth Foundation.

Raj Karpe, Padma Karpe, Sudhakar, and Sree Devi of the Deccan Dunkers group also attended the Nationals, interacted with children and coaches. Mr. Suresh Chandra Seervi, Principal of TG Eklavya Model Residential Schools and program partner at the Gandhari Center, along with Mr. G. Subhash Chandra Bose, President of the Basketball Association of Krishna District, joined the Hi 5 team during the game and followed the proceedings.



Mr. Suresh Chandra Seervi, Principal of TG Eklavya Model Residential School



Mr. G. Subhash Chandra Bose, President of the Basketball Association of Krishna District

Mr. Suresh Chandra Seervi, Principal of TG Eklavya Model Residential School and program partner at the Gandhari Center, along with Mr. G. Subhash Chandra Bose, President of the Basketball Association of Krishna District, joined the Hi 5 team during the game and followed the proceedings.

## Concluding Note: Making a lasting difference!

In 2026, we aim to grow our impact and create more opportunities for the youth we serve. Thank you for being part of our journey — here's to a year of continued progress and purpose.

Our focus remains steadfast:  
Changing young lives through play.

## Our Partners & Supporters



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The Rising Stars



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