

Scoring global goals: German football club CEO returns to meet 'Mini Brazil'

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Bhopal: Dietmar Beysdorfer, CEO of German football club FC Ingolstadt 04, arrived in Shahdol district of Madhya Pradesh on Saturday to meet and interact with young footballers from Bicharpur, the village famously dubbed "Mini Brazil" by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in July 2023.

The visit followed a specialised training stint these players undertook at FC Ingolstadt's facilities in Germany from Oct 4, 2023 to Oct 12, 2023. Five players—Sanjya Kunda, Suhani Kol, Pritam Kumar, Virendra Baiga and Manish Ghasiya—and their coach Laxmi Sahis participated in intensive skills



(Centre) Dietmar Beysdorfer, CEO of German football club FC Ingolstadt 04 reaches Jabalpur airport on Saturday

development, fitness training and tactical sessions at the club's Munich sports centre.

Beysdorfer, accompa-

nied by the club's technical coach Manuel Schaefer, will assess the players' progress and conduct further tactical discussions during their

stay in Shahdol on Monday.

The German delegation plans to emphasise teamwork, positional awareness and European football discipline in follow-up sessions. The "Mini Brazil" recognition by the Prime Minister has placed Bicharpur on the international football map, highlighting emerging talent from rural India.

After Shahdol, Beysdorfer and Schaefer will visit the Taty Tope Stadium in Bhopal on Nov 25 to observe and guide more players as part of Madhya Pradesh's growing football development programme. This visit marks a significant step in connecting grassroots footballers to global platforms, fostering skill development beyond local boundaries.

CEO, coach of German football club reach Vicharpur; to interact with players

Five players, coach from village in Shahdol were trained at club last month

Our Staff Reporter

BHOPAL

Dietmar Beiersdorfer, the CEO of German football club FC Ingolstadt 04 reached Shahdol on Sunday, along with the technical coach of the club. The duo will interact with the football players of Vicharpur in the district on Monday.

Vicharpur was designated as the 'Mini Brazil' of India by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in this Mann Ki Baat radio programme. Players



from Vicharpur had recently travelled to Germany for coaching at the club. They were trained under Dietmar Beiersdorfer.

The duo will review the progress of the team and render technical advice to the coaches and the players, besides discussing the training strategy for the players. Five players from Vicharpur and

their coach were trained in Germany from October 4-12 on the invitation of the Club. The players visited the Skills Lab and Sports Centre of the Club at Munich.

The representatives of the German Club will also visit Bhopal on November 25, where they will interact with the players, see them play and offer their expert advice.