



Government Sports School, winners of the Tata Tea Jaago Re Soccer Stars football tournament in Bangalore on Monday. Standing (from left): C K Kiran Kumar, Yatish Pratap, Raja Bhakshi, Krishna (Coach), M Arun Kumar and C Harsha. Kneeling: Mahesh Bandari, H S Shivanna, K Gowri Shankar, R Manivannan and Bharath.

Sports School champs

DH NEWS SERVICE

BANGALORE: Powered by an all-round performance by R Manivannan and Raja Bakshi S Government sports school, Vidyanagar scored a 2-0 victory over St Meera's High School to claim the title and earned the chance to compete in the National finals of the Tata tea Jaago Re Soccer Stars football tournament held in association with the Arsenal Football Club here at the Bangalore Football stadium on Monday.

Govt. School held their aces coming into the finals with the tournament's top-scorer Manivannan looking hungry for more.

Right from the word go the Govt. School boys went on the offensive, with Mani-

vannan being the standout, as the forward almost single-handedly created early scoring opportunities. In one such instance, left wing Gowry Shankar K got past two defenders and sent in a powerful cross that was intercepted by an unmarked Manivannan, who nudged the ball into the net in the 9th minute to hand his team a 1-0 lead.

The second-half saw St Meera's show some purpose as they came up with some attacking moves, but they couldn't convert them into scoring opportunities.

Govt. School then took further control of the match when Raja Bakshi struck past St Meera's custodian Dinesh P off a long pass from Kiran Kumar C K in the 16th minute. Armed

with a 2-0 cushion and with only four minutes left in the 20-minute clash, Govt. school held on to the lead to emerge winners.

Meanwhile, Diwakar Tapa, Kyrpang Swell (both ASC Center) and S Pratap Kumar (Corporation Boys High School) were selected to be a part of 30 other boys from all over India to train for two weeks with Arsenal coaches in Kolkata. The training will be followed by a selection of 16 boys who will get an opportunity to attend an Arsenal training camp in the UK.

Individual awards:

Most valuable player: Yadav R (Charan's Happy Hour Primary School).

Highest goal scorer: Manivannan (Government Sports School, Vidyanagar).

Best goal keeper: Santhosh Raj (Angels High School).