

Raid de Himalaya gets tougher, new track

Shimla (IANS): Motorists are going to clash at the 20th edition of the Raid de Himalaya – the world's highest cross-country motorsport challenge – on the most impossible roads of Kargil, Zaskar and Ladakh in Jammu and Kashmir, the organisers said on Thursday.

However, this time the racing competition, kick-

ing-off on October 8 from Leh, will miss the high-altitude terrains of Himachal Pradesh. A total of 31 teams for Xtreme cars and trucks, 37 teams for Xtreme motorcycles and quads, 12 bikers in the Alpine two-wheeler category and 31 teams in Adventure Trail, which follows the Time-Speed-Distance format, are going to

race on the highest reaches of the Himalayas.

This year's event will run its first stage on the never-before traversed section from Lamayuru, called the moonland of Ladakh, to Photoksar.

Rallyists are going to race on a newly-upgraded road that was earlier a mule track into Zaskar.