

AHMEDABAD GEARS UP FOR TOMORROW'S MARATHON

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Ahmedabad: All roads will lead to Shantigram on Sunday, as Ahmedabad will host the biggest marathon of Gujarat. Presented by the Adani Group, the Ahmedabad Marathon is expected to witness participation of over 7,500 people from all walks of life including celebrities, sports personalities, business tycoons, and amateur athletes.

Ahmedabad Marathon promises to be an event to remember, with the objective of #Run4OurSoldiers, there will be performances by the Army brass band and the Air Force band, which promises to be memorable for all visitors at the event. Apart from citizens, it is expected that 1,000 army personnel will also participate in the marathon.

Some 200 students are expected to join the spectacle and cheer the runners; they will also have a live band performance at the finishing line.

The marathon has generated great buzz nationwide. Some professional athletes and runners from defence backgrounds are keen to break their individual records and some will aim for national record. One professional runner said, "The route here is incredible with pleasant weather to go with it, I am sure many will find this marathon exciting. In fact the route here is one of best in the country."

Gattu Ramesh Babu, who has participated in 72 full marathons across the country and also has the incredible achievement of running marathons barefoot, will be one the key participants in the event. He says "As soon as I heard that this marathon is specially aimed towards the betterment of the armed forces, I immediately decided to be a part of it. I will be there as a pace setter for the



RACE DETAILS

- ▶ 4 categories | 5km/10km/21km/42.125km
- ▶ Full marathon | Reporting time: 4:45 am, Race flag off time: 5:30 am
- ▶ Half marathon | Reporting time: 5:30 am, Race flag off time: 6:15 am
- ▶ 10km Run | Reporting time: 6:00 am, Race flag off time: 7:00 am
- ▶ 5km Run | Reporting time: 6:45 am, Race flag off time: 7:45 am

full marathon, where I will motivate and encourage the athletes. I am really looking forward to tomorrow." RabindraKumar Das, who is also behind this mega event, will be running the marathon and is excited for the big day.

He said, "I have completed 12 half marathons and numerous other runs here and there. The Adani Ahmedabad marathon promises to be the biggest marathon in Gujarat and it has roused my passions to spread a running culture in the state." Complying precisely with international

standards, this marathon aims to be one of the leading marathons worldwide in the years to come.

The organizers have set every piece precisely to ensure that everything is at its proper place. To handle the mega event, tight security arrangements have been made with plenty of security personnel in place all along the route.

Medical attendants, with measures such as ambulances and paramedics on bikes, will be available to handle any medical emergency that may arise. Water and energy stations have been set up for all the runners.

IIM-A's AFP students to participate

Fifteen students of the Armed Forces Programme (AFP) at the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad (IIM-A), have registered for participating in the Ahmedabad Marathon. Their participation will be in all sub-categories, the full marathon, the half marathon, the 10km run and the 5km run. The armed forces promote physical fitness within the force and among the public at large.