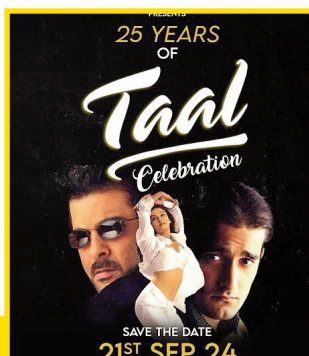


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Vedanta Zinc City Half Marathon: Running for Zero Hunger in the Heart of Udaipur

Thousands of Participants Set to Compete Across Three Categories on 29th September 2024

In the picturesque city of Udaipur, known for its serene lakes and stunning landscapes, thousands of enthusiastic runners are gearing up to participate in the much-anticipated Vedanta Zinc City Half Marathon. Scheduled for 29th September 2024, this marathon is poised to become one of India's most scenic and prestigious running events, with participants competing across three categories—5 km, 10 km, and 21 km. The event, organized by Hindustan Zinc, promises to deliver a unique blend of athleticism, social responsibility, and local heritage.

A Marathon with a Mission

The marathon's theme, "Run for Zero Hunger," reflects a larger purpose beyond the race. It underscores the collective responsibility to fight malnutrition, particularly in rural India. Hindustan Zinc, in alignment with its sustainabil-

ity goals, aims to raise awareness and drive action towards a malnutrition-free India, making this marathon a rallying point for a healthier, more equitable society.

Thousands of Runners in Action

The marathon will see participation from seasoned runners and amateurs alike, with thousands of athletes expected to take part. Starting from Udaipur Field Club, the race route will take runners along the tranquil Fateh Sagar Lake, through the breathtaking Aravalli mountains, and past some of Udaipur's most iconic landmarks, such as Maharana Pratap Memorial and Neemach Mata Temple. Participants will be rewarded with medals made from premium zinc produced by Hindustan Zinc—a symbol of both achievement and the company's rich mining legacy.

The unveiling of the race medals took place at a press conference attended by prominent figures, including Arun Mishra, CEO of Hindustan Zinc, Dr. Manoj Soni, founder of Anybody Can Run (ABCR), and Umesh Manwani, Secretary of Field Club Udaipur. Hindustan Zinc's commitment to this marathon is not

only an extension of its social responsibility efforts but also a testament to the company's leadership in the metals and mining industry. The marathon has been AIMS-certified (Association of International Marathons), further enhancing its global appeal.

A Legacy of Zinc and Health

The inaugural Vedanta Zinc City Half Marathon also serves as a celebration of Udaipur's title as Zinc City, a nod to its 2,500-year history of zinc mining and smelting that has shaped the city's identity and contributed to the nation's prosperity since the Bronze Age. The event strengthens Udaipur's connection to this legacy, with Hindustan Zinc continuing to be a global leader in the industry. The company supplies zinc to over 40 countries and holds a 75% share in India's primary zinc market. With a vision for a sustainable future, Hindustan Zinc has also launched Ekojenn, Asia's first low-carbon green zinc brand, and is committed to achieving net zero emissions by 2050.

A Race Ambassador with an Iron Spirit

Adding to the excitement of the race is its Race Ambassador, IPS Officer

Krishna Prakash, who heads the Maharashtra Police Force One. Known for being the first Indian civil service officer to complete the Ironman Triathlon and achieve success in the Ultraman World Championship, Krishna Prakash's presence will inspire runners to push their limits and embody the spirit of perseverance.

The Experience for Participants

To ensure the safety and comfort of all participants, Hindustan Zinc has partnered with Anybody Can Run (ABCR) to offer world-class support throughout the event. Special hydration stations will be placed along the race route, while medical stations staffed by physiotherapists and doctors from Geetanjali Hospital will be available at rest points. Additionally, Udaipur Field Club, the venue partner, has emphasized its dedication to providing an unforgettable experience, ensuring the highest safety standards for runners.

CEO's Message: A Call for Health and Community

At the medal unveiling, Arun Mishra, an avid marathoner himself, expressed his enthusiasm for the event, saying, "The Vedanta Zinc City

Half Marathon is more than just a race. It is a movement to inspire people towards a healthier lifestyle while supporting a cause that is critical to the well-being of our nation—eradicating rural malnutrition. We hope this marathon encourages people to join us in this mission for a better future."

A Growing Legacy of Social Responsibility

Dr. Manoj Soni, founder of Anybody Can Run (ABCR), shared the organization's vision, which goes beyond fitness and encompasses a sense of community spirit and social responsibility. "Our goal is not only to organize marathons but also to use these events as platforms to promote social causes. Fitness should be accessible to all, and through our events, we aim to build a culture of active, healthy lifestyles that benefit individuals and society alike," said Dr. Soni.

Vedanta Zinc: Leading the Way in Sustainability

As one of the world's largest integrated producers of zinc and silver, Hindustan Zinc has been recognized by S&P Global as the most sustainable company in the metals and mining sector, highlighting its



operational excellence, innovation, and commitment to ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) practices. The company's role in global energy transformation and its efforts to provide critical metals essential for a sustainable future reflect its leadership in the industry.

The Vedanta Zinc City Half Marathon is set to become a landmark event not only for Udaipur but for India's running community. With its emphasis on health, social impact, and heritage, the marathon promises to leave an enduring legacy. The scenic routes, competitive categories, and commitment to Zero Hunger make this marathon more than just a race—it's a celebration of Udaipur's heritage, a symbol of social responsibility, and a step towards a healthier nation.



Atishi Singh Becomes Third Female Chief Minister of Delhi



Atishi Singh, a prominent leader of the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), has become the third and youngest female Chief Minister of Delhi, taking office on Saturday. Alongside her, five AAP MLAs — Gopal, Saurabh Bhardwaj, Imran Hussain, Kailash Gahlot, and Mukesh Ahlawat — were sworn in as cabinet ministers.

Atishi took the oath of office at the Raj Niwas, administered by Lieutenant Governor V. K. Saxena. With this, she follows in the footsteps of Congress leader Sheila Dikshit and BJP leader Sushma Swaraj, both of whom previously held the position of Chief Minister of Delhi. Sheila Dikshit served for over 15 years, while Sushma Swaraj held the post for just 52 days.

Considered a close confidante of former Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, Atishi took his blessings after being sworn in. She has announced that she will serve as Chief Minister for only four months, remaining in the role until the Delhi Assembly elections under Kejriwal's leadership. Kejriwal, who recently resigned following his release from jail in connection with the Delhi liquor policy case, had earlier declared that Atishi would be his successor, while

he sought re-election. His resignation was accepted on Friday night.

Born and raised in Delhi, Atishi joined the Aam Aadmi Party in 2013 and has quickly risen through the ranks to become the Chief Minister within 11 years. She took charge as the education minister following the imprisonment of Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia in the liquor policy case in 2023. Later, when Kejriwal was also imprisoned, she took on the responsibility of 14 key ministries, including finance, public works, and women and child development.

Atishi has been trusted with various critical roles, having previously served as an advisor to Manish Sisodia. Known for her strong relationships with both senior party leaders and grassroots workers, she is considered a unifying figure within the party.

Political analysts believe that Atishi's rise to the top is largely due to Kejriwal's trust in her. Despite the challenges posed by ongoing investigations into AAP leaders, including Kejriwal himself, Atishi has managed to keep the party strong and united. She also played a vital role in supporting Kejriwal's family during his imprisonment and acted as a shield for the party during times of internal strife.

Atishi's administrative competence is reflected in her handling of 14 ministries with great efficiency. Her educational background, including studies at Oxford University, adds to her strong public image. Much like Kejriwal, who left a prestigious IRS career for

public service, Atishi's clean image and qualifications are expected to be key assets for the party in the upcoming elections.

Women's support for AAP has been crucial in the party's success in Delhi. Initiatives like the Chief Minister's Women's Honor Scheme, which provides 50 lakh women with a monthly stipend of ₹1,000 and free bus rides, have made women a significant vote bank for the party. Atishi's appointment as Chief Minister adds a new dimension to AAP's electoral strategy, as the party positions itself for the 2025 assembly elections under the leadership of a female Chief Minister.

Delhi, set to hold assembly elections in 2025, could see Kejriwal return to power, potentially challenging Sheila Dikshit's record as the longest-serving Chief Minister. Meanwhile, the BJP, which has been out of power in Delhi for 26 years, is eager to reclaim the capital. Despite strong performances in national elections, the BJP has struggled to win the Delhi Assembly.

AAP's electoral strategy in the upcoming assembly elections remains focused on contesting independently, as seen in recent state elections in Haryana and Gujarat. With the BJP-led NDA government advocating for simultaneous national and state elections, it remains to be seen how this proposal will affect future polls, including the possibility of presidential rule being imposed in Delhi and other states nearing the end of their terms.

- Gopendra Nath Bhatt

Dr. Singhal Honored for Journalism

Kota: Dr. Prabhat Kumar Singhal, a renowned author and journalist, was honored on Sunday by the Kota Greater Press Club for his significant contributions to journalism. The ceremony was held at Umeed Club, where Club President Sunil Mathur, General Secretary Anil Bhardwaj, Vice President Harimohan Sharma, and Joint Secretary Chandra Prakash Chandu presented Dr. Singhal with a shawl, turban, and garland in recognition of his 45 years of dedicated service in journalism.

On this occasion, senior journalists Bhawar Singh Solanki, Ram Swaroop Joshi, and Kamal Singh Gehlot were also honored. Attendees included patrons Pawan Ahuja, Dheeraj Gupta Tej, Qayyum Ali, K.L. Jain, Shyam Rohida, Subodh Jain, Executive Members Dinesh Kashyap, Bhawar S. Charan, Himanshu Mittal, Manish Gautam, Lekhray Sharma, Sanjay Verma, Shakir Ali, and many other senior and young journalists. Club member K.L. Jain highlighted Dr. Singhal's popularity among journalists, noting how he has always worked collaboratively. Dr. Singhal holds a master's degree in history from Rajasthan University, Jaipur, a postgraduate diploma in journalism and mass communication, and a PhD from Open University, Kota (on "Police Administration in Rajputana, 1857-1947"). He retired as Joint Director from the Rajasthan Government's Information and Public Relations Department in October 2013 and remains active in writing and journalism. Dr. Singhal has authored 51 books on history, archaeology, art, culture, tourism, and literature. His 10 books on tourism are available in 160 countries through VSRD Academic Publishing House, Mumbai.

Umang Sharma, an 11th Grader, Creates Affordable Keyboard

Udaipur: (Dr. Munesh Arora) Umang Sharma, a junior student of Class 11 at Princeton Day School, has developed an affordable keyboard for the visually impaired using artificial intelligence (AI). His interest in AI, robotics, and engineering, coupled with his passion for coding, led him to improve Braille technology with the help of experts. His success in creating this innovative keyboard is a result of his deep interest in computer building and technology.

Globally, around 284 million people are visually impaired, 39 million of whom are completely blind. A staggering 70% are unemployed, and 90% are illiterate, which significantly limits their opportunities. Umang's journey began when he discovered that Braille keyboards cost over \$7,000, a price he found to be unaffordable for many. Realizing the need for a cheaper alternative, he conducted research but found no better options.



A significant challenge faced by the visually impaired is the lack of access to technology, which contributes to high unemployment and illiteracy rates. Umang identified this as a vicious cycle, where the inability to afford technology like Braille keyboards prevents visually impaired individuals from securing jobs, yet employment is necessary to purchase such tools.

Current market solutions for Braille keyboards include audio keyboards built into operating systems, physical Braille devices, and one-time-use stickers for standard keyboards. After analyzing these options, Umang identified key issues, such as high cost, usability, and durability. He designed prototypes, consulted Braille experts, and made improvements to address these shortcomings.

The result is an affordable, user-friendly keyboard for the visually impaired, priced at just \$10, and nearly free if donated keyboards are used. The keyboard utilizes 3D-printed keys that are durable and can be easily attached to any keyboard.

Umang presented his project at two workshops held at the National Blind Association, Delhi, and the Silver Lining Blind School, where visually impaired youths from underprivileged backgrounds tested the keyboard. The feedback confirmed the effectiveness of the design, particularly for blind students and young children learning Braille. The keyboard helped improve their typing speed and key recognition, proving to be a faster alternative compared to conventional keyboards that require pressing each key to find the right one. The National Blind Association, Delhi, praised Umang's efforts, and the Silver Lining Blind School expressed gratitude for his dedication and hard work in serving the visually impaired. Umang has donated over 20 keyboards and is working on providing more units, benefiting over 250 students. Following this success, Umang plans to distribute his innovative Braille keyboards to blind schools globally and has founded a non-profit organization called "Zedable" to support his mission.

Devanani Meets Governor

Udaipur: During his stay at the Udaipur Circuit House, Governor Shri Haribhau Kishanrao Bagde was visited by Assembly Speaker Shri Vasudev Devanani, who welcomed him with a bouquet of flowers.

Also present were Udaipur city MLA Tarachand Jain, social activist and former UIT chairman Ravindra Shirmali, Divisional Commissioner Pragna Kevaramani, Registrar of Mohanlal Sukhadia University Vridhi Chand Garg, Head of the Music Department at Jai Narain Vyas University Jodhpur Dr. Bhumiika Dwivedi, Professor Neeraj Sharma, Advocate Akshay Mehta, Dr. Omprakash Barbar, and many other distinguished individuals. They expressed their greetings with floral tributes and ceremonial shawls.

Governor Emphasizes Tribal Welfare Initiatives



Udaipur: Governor Shri Haribhau Bagde held a review meeting with district-level officials, urging them to prioritize tribal welfare in their work. He highlighted the importance of effectively implementing central and state government schemes in tribal areas, stating that comprehensive development cannot be achieved until the income of tribal and underprivileged communities increases. The Governor emphasized the need for 100% enrollment of children from scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, and nomadic families in schools.

He expressed satisfaction with the recent rainfall and called for robust arrangements for crop purchases to ensure fair prices for farmers. Addressing issues related to the Forest Rights Act, he instructed officials to facilitate electricity connections and well-digging for tribal communities.

The Governor inquired about internet service availability at village panchayat headquarters, stressing the need for residents to access these services. He requested a report on sickle cell anemia cases and highlighted concerns about ration supply accessibility, urging efforts to ensure essential materials are within one kilometer for families. District Collector Arvind Poswal provided updates on various schemes, including the Mahatma Gandhi Employment Guarantee Scheme and the Clean India Mission.

A Talk on Money Psychology

Udaipur: The Rotary Club Udaipur Dristhi hosted a talk on Money Psychology at Vardhman Mahaveer Open University. Dr. Sweety Chhabra, the moderator, emphasized the importance of financial management, noting that poor management can deplete wealth regardless of its size, while proper handling can help accumulate savings. The session included insights into the psychological impacts of financial decisions and a practical card game. Club president Dr. Dristhi Chhabra and other members attended, stressing the need for financial education, particularly for children and girls. Rashmi Bohra from Vardhman University served as the program coordinator.