

Marathon for a 'Cause' draws 'Overwhelming Response'

Our Bureau



More than 3,000 runners took part in the maiden 'Nimaligarb Marathon 2016' organised by NRL recently with the theme, 'Run to keep fit'. The event generated widespread and overwhelming response from sports persons and fitness conscious alike from neighbouring hamlets and towns of Golaghat and Bokakhat, extending much beyond to the capital city of Guwahati and the rest of the country. NRL employees and their families too participated in large

numbers.

Conceptualized to spread the mantra of a fit and healthy lifestyle by instilling the habit of running, the marathon was divided into 3 categories, viz. 10 kms-Endurance run, 5 kms-Dream run and 3 kms-Run for fun. It was a spectacle of sorts as people started converging from as early as 7.30 AM at Nimaligarb High school, the start point for 10 kms run and Chaura Banti High School, Labonghat-the start point for 5 kms and 3 kms category. Spectators lined up at the venue

and on both sides of the street to witness this grand sporting event and cheered for the runners as they crossed them on their way to the final destination following an earmarked route.

To lend support to the cause were sports celebrities including Arjuna awardee and Olympian Bhogeswar Barua, National TT champions Monalisa and Kamlesh Mehta, former Hockey coach of Team India and the inspiration behind Shah Rukh Khan's character in 'Chak De India' M.R. Negi, Mr. Universe Mahadev Debn, Guinness record holder from the State for long-distance running Avijit Baruah, paralympian Rakesh Barik, former Assam team Rangi trophy captain Avijit Baruah and other sports personalities.

To add zing to the sporting extravaganza were celebrity film actors Burasha Rani Dixoya, Pranjal Saikia and Purnima



Patilak. To spread the importance of fitness through regular exercise by women were breast cancer survivors Momali Bhargadwaj, Jayantimala Chakraverty and Mrs. Minuti Boribakur.

The participants, organizers and crowds converged at the NRL Play Ground, NRL Township- the finish point of the marathon where a display of yoga, felicitation of the invited guests and prize distribution was held.

