

Mawana sugars marathon

Taking a strong stand for equality in society, Mawana Sugars Indian Open Marathon Thursday announced that there will be equal prize money for men and women participating in the race. Last year's winner Satya Prakash of Services, Ram Singh Yadav, Angad Kumar and Sudha Singh are among the top runners who have confirmed their participation in this event. The winner's prize money is Rs.2.5 lakh. The total prize money is Rs.15 lakh. Held under the aegis of the Athletic Federation of India (AFI), the entry for the marathon is open till 11 February. In addition to runners from Delhi Police, the Indian Army, Air Force and para-military forces, this year corporates and colleges are being encouraged to send in their teams of runners. Into its 24th edition, the Mawana Sugars Marathon will be flagged off from India Gate and nearly 12000 athletes are expected to run for full and half marathon respectively. "We are expecting a huge response from schools, colleges and corporate houses in Delhi. We have already received 8000 applications. We expect nearly 12000 entries for the marathon," Siddharth Shriram, chairman of Mawana Sugars Limited, said.

Saha in Lazio

Free agent Louis Saha joined Lazio on Wednesday as cover after Germany striker Miroslav Klose had been ruled out injured for up to eight weeks. French forward Saha was released by Sunderland last month, enabling him to sign outside a transfer window. **sns & agencies**

Poonia's gain

Discus-thrower Krishna Poonia on Thursday signed a two-year sponsorship deal with Hindustan Zinc and described the help from the corporate world as a big relief since it would help her prepare well for the Asian Games and other multi-discipline events in the next two years. **pti**

