

Standard Chartered Marathon Singapore



START

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SINGAPORE Standard Chartered International Marathon



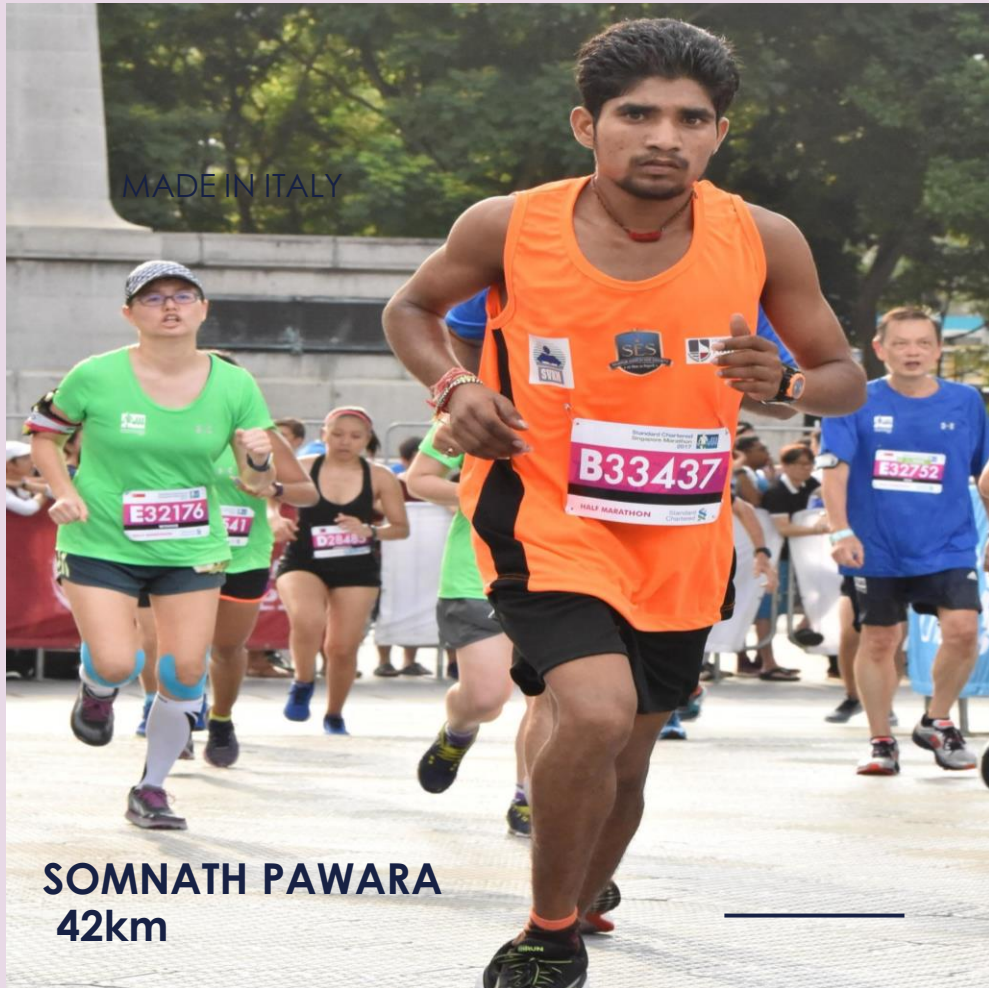
2 Tribal Girls

3 TRIBAL Boys

5 Tribal athletes
participated in
Singapore international
marathon



SINGAPORE MARATHON GRADUATE



SOMNATH PAWARA
42km

NO HALF MEASURES IN FULL MARATHON

Shirpur Taluka tribal runner, who meant to be a half marathon participant in Singapore yesterday, takes full marathon route by mistake and completes it

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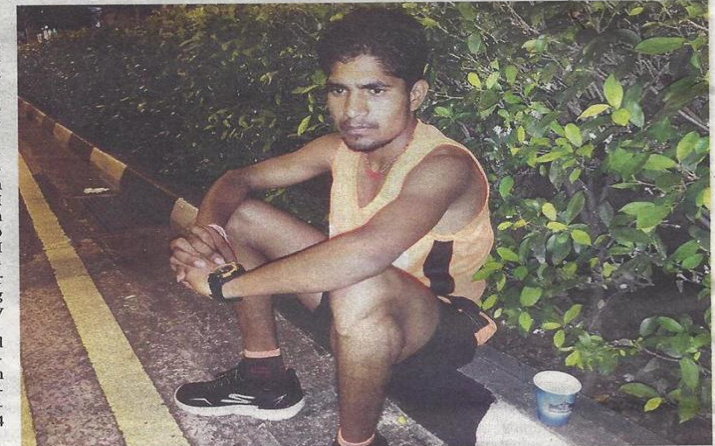
IT all started well for the tribal runner, who tried to match his speed with fellow runners from Kenya and other countries in the half marathon. Then the unexpected happened — he changed lanes.

"I did not read the signboard properly and accidentally entered the full marathon lane. I found it very tough as I had never been part of a 42 km race. Though I lost a chance to excel in the half marathon, I was delighted with my performance in the full race. After all, I completed this gruelling event," Somnath told mid-day from Singapore yesterday.

While running bare-footed in the IDBI Federal Life Insurance Mumbai Half Marathon last August, Somnath completed the 10km race in seventh place with a timing of 34 mins, 30 secs.

Yesterday, he completed his first full marathon with a timing of 3:56:03. All tribal runners wore shoes for this event.

"It was hard on him and he collapsed after 22 kms. He was taken to the medical center where he was revived. He was determined to complete the



Somnath Pawara after finishing the Singapore full marathon yesterday. He started in the half marathon

race, so he got up without wasting time," said Shri Vile Parle Kelavani Mandal's Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies (SVKM-NMIMS) vice-chairman Navin Shetty from Singapore, who sponsored this tribal runner.

"Though I lost a chance to excel in the half marathon, I was delighted with my performance in the full race. After all, I completed this

Narayan emerges champ in U-19 10km race

TRIBAL runner Narayan Pawara ended up winning the Singapore U-19 10km run with a timing of 35 mins, two secs yesterday.

Narayan came sixth in the 10km Open category. Meanwhile, Jagan Pawara (no relation to Narayan) came second in the same category with a timing of 38 mins, 12 secs. Running barefoot in the 10 km event of the IDBI Mumbai Half Marathon last August, Narayan had registered a timing of 34 mins. This time, in Singapore, he wore shoes. In the women's U-19 10 km race, Chetana Patel and Ashwini



SINGAPORE MARATHON GRADUATES

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ASHVINI PAWARA



NARAYAN PAWARA



CHETNA PATEL



JAGAN PAWARA





India to singapore

In a small district of Dhule, Maharashtra lies the village of Shirpur, mainly consisting of tribal community where five young petit and lean athletes, Chetana Patel, Ashwini Chaudhary, Narayan Pawara, Jagan Pawara and Somnath Pawara were fast asleep unaware of the twist of fate awaiting them next morning.



These famous five were totally surprised and cried with delight when their names were announced as the winner of the IDBI Mumbai marathon, and their selection for the participation in the standard chartered Singapore marathon.

Forget a plane, these famous five had not even ventured into an air-conditioned vehicle, nor had travelled further out of the district.

Their joys knew no bounds as life took a 'U' turn with a sudden change in diet, training and practice. Not used to running with shoes, these barefoot runners found out the hard way that the shoe was not the enemy, but the best buddy whilst running long distances.

With butterflies in their stomachs, these athletes boarded the air India flight to Singapore and landed the next day with dreams in their eyes. Not used to seeing high-rise towers and wide roads, they stared out of the car windows gasping and awestruck! This was just the beginning of a journey, which changed their life altogether.

They had two days to acclimatize and get used to the humid weather of Singapore. Not wasting much of time, the practice and short runs started in full swing.



On the day of the marathon, they were awake at 3:00am and put on their running gear, and a quick huddle amongst each other with a war cry in the air announced their arrival at the venue. They were not intimidated by the presence of well-trained athletes around them but had animated discussions with each other in eye-to-eye contact.

The mandatory blowing of the horn announced the commencement of the marathon, and off they ran full steam disappearing in the crowd of over 50,000 runners. Chetana, Ashwini, Jagan and Narayan were running the 10km race due to the age barrier, and Somnath was running the 21km race. Both the girls topped the chart in their respective age categories and the boys excluding Somnath, also topped their age categories.