

IAC contingent runs for a Clean and Green Mumbai

At the Mumbai Marathon held last month, there was a contingent runner for a cause of a clean and green Mumbai — Around 40 runners each for the Dream Run and Half Marathon, wearing green and blue colours associated with clean green air. This is the contingent representing the Indian Auto LPG Coalition — the IAC — a body formed out of relevant organisations in bringing in a cleaner atmosphere through LPG, a clean fuel in vehicles.

IAC was formed after several rounds of meetings with various stakeholders such as government bodies, pollution control departments, transport departments, oil companies, kit manufacturers, station equipment manufacturers and OEMs. The objective of this coalition is to build the Auto LOG industry in India along professional lines. IAC will endeavour to introduce in India the best of international practices in areas like training, station design, kit installation, maintenance, safety standards, kit retrofitment, customer awareness and education.

The president of this coalition is Reliance. IOC, ARAI, SIAM, CRTI, USAID are members of this coalition. Joseph John, presi-

dent, IAC, is a regular in the Half Marathon and was leading his contingent by example.

LPG is cost effective — almost half the price of petrol in most cities in India, clean and safe. It is a government approved alternative fuel to petrol in vehicles. There is a common misconception that LPG is not an approved fuel and that using it is illegal and dangerous. The usage of illegally fitted domestic LPG cylinders in cars and other automobiles have given rise to this thinking. BUT the fact is that LPG is a lot safer fuel than Petrol and diesel and can be legally used in authorised kits fitted in vehicles. And in fact, there are a number of authorised retrofitters operating who can legally fix an approved LPG Kit into a vehicle.

There are also more than 200 Auto LPG dispensing stations spread out all over the country. IAC is primarily involved in, inter alia, an information campaign promoting the use of LPG in automobiles, its safety features, cost effectiveness and efficiency.

Due to the efforts taken by IAC, India now has 200 Auto LPG stations in the country and a growth of 300 per cent in 2005. It is expected to touch 150 TMTA this year.