

SATHIYAN GNANASEKARAN

DISCIPLINE: Table Tennis

Event: Men's Singles, Doubles, Team & Mixed Doubles

Date of Birth: 8th Jan 1993

Hometown: Chennai, Tamil Nadu

Training Base: Raman TT High Performance Centre, Chennai

Coach: Subramanian Raman



Background: Sathiyam Gnanasekaran was born into a middle-class family of elite academicians. His parents couldn't afford to pay his school fees till 3rd standard, however, he managed to complete his school education. He hails from Chennai and started playing Table tennis as a hobby. Sathiyam's talent was spotted by former Indian paddler Subramanian Raman, who tempted him to pursue the sport seriously. In May 2019, Sathiyam attained his career best World ranking of 24 and became the first Indian paddler ever to break into the World Top-25 ITTF rankings. Sathiyam holds a degree in Information Technology from the St Joseph College of Engineering, Chennai. He became national champion for the first time in 2021 beating ten-time champion Sharath Kamal. He received the Arjuna Award in 2018.

Achievements:

- Won Gold in Men's team, Silver in Men's Doubles and Bronze in the Mixed Doubles at the Commonwealth Games 2018.
- Won the Bronze Medal in the Men's team event at the Asian Games 2018.
- Won the Mixed Doubles event at WTT Contender Budapest 2021.
- Bagged two golds and two silvers at the South Asian Games 2016.

Key Govt. Interventions:

- Financial Assistance towards various international competitions and foreign training camp.
- Funding for personal coach to accompany him for international competitions.
- Funding for foreign and domestic sparring partner to prepare for the international competitions and CWG in 2022.
- Funding to procure gym equipment for his home during lockdown period in Chennai (May-June 2021).
- Visa Assistance for his coach to accompany him for the World Table Tennis Championships 2021.

Foreign/Support Staff:

Coach – Subramanian Raman

Sparring Partner – Simon Berglund & Anirban Ghosh (Pro rata)

Days in National Coaching Camp (from Sep 2021 to date): 25 days

Financial Assistance (Post Tokyo Olympics):

ACTC	TOPS	OPA
Approx. ₹ 12,39,000/-	₹ 3,53,363/-	₹ 3,00,000/-