



**Research Unit**  
Press Information Bureau  
Ministry of Information and Broadcasting  
Government of India



## **Khelo India Para Games 2023**

(Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports)

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The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports (MYAS) organizes National-level competitions, i.e., Khelo India Youth Games and Khelo India University Games to provide a platform for talented athletes to showcase their sporting and competitive skills. So far, eight editions of the Khelo India Youth and University Games and three editions of the Winter Games have been successfully conducted.

On the same lines, in a bid to promote Para Athletes, the **first edition of Khelo India Para Games 2023** is being organized from December 10-17, 2023 across three venues in the city of Delhi across seven sports - **Para Archery, Par Athletics, Para-Badminton, Para Table Tennis, Para Powerlifting, CP Football, and Para Shooting**. The eight-day event will see the participation of about 1500 athletes, 200 Technical Officials, 150 Volunteers, 350 Support Staff, 300 escorts, and 20 classifiers from 36 States and UTs.<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> <https://para.kheloindia.gov.in/>

## Key Features of 1<sup>st</sup> Khelo India Para Games:

- For the first time, a multi-sport para-athlete event at the National level is taking place in the country. The event is expected to be on par with the other Khelo India events like the Khelo India Youth Games & Khelo India University Games with respect to the standards of technical conduct, athlete experience, and overall execution.
- The technical conduct of the competition would be ensured by highly qualified technical officials of PCI, NSFs & CPSFI, some of them having officiated in international competitions.
- There will be a live telecast on TV & live streaming on a digital platform with the live scoring system.
- Participants will represent only States & Union Territories, although the nominations of the participants will come from various stakeholders as was done previously.
- The management of the event would be jointly done by the professionals under the guidance of the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Sports Authority of India, National Sports Federation (NSF), Paralympic Committee of India (PCI), Cerebral Palsy Sports Federation of India (CPSFI) and organizing committee.
- There will be a single medal tally of States.

## Launch of Khelo India Para Games Logo & Mascot

Earlier, on November 26, 2023, Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports, Shri Anurag Singh Thakur, along with several eminent athletes and para-athletes, launched the First-ever Khelo India Para Games 2023 logo and mascot '**Ujjwala**'. Among the attendees, former Indian Women's Hockey Team Captain Rani Rampal, Indian freestyle wrestler and Olympian bronze medallist, Yogeshwar Dutt, Indian professional wrestler Sarita Mor along Indian professional boxer Akhil Kumar were present. The presence of star para-athletes like Pramod Bhagat, Bhavina Patel, Avani Lekhara, and Sumit Antil added to the special occasion.<sup>2</sup>



Reflecting on Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision of an inclusive sports ecosystem, Shri Anurag Thakur said, *“Inclusivity isn't just a goal, it's the spirit that propels the game forward. With the start of the Khelo India Para Games, we aim to extend its impact by identifying and supporting talented para-athletes, who will contribute to India's success in multi-discipline events in coming years. I would like to congratulate everyone. It is because of our Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision, that Khelo India has become a household name. It has become a movement from a scheme. From 2018 till date, we have had 11 Khelo India Games, but this year we are delighted to add Para Games this year.”*<sup>3</sup>

### **Mascot ‘Ujjwala’ – A symbol of pride and empathy**

‘Ujjwala’- a sparrow, was unveiled as the official mascot of Khelo India – Para Games 2023. The little sparrow, the state bird of Delhi, is a symbol of its pride and uniqueness and portrays determination and empathy. **Ujjwala, as the mascot of Khelo India – Para Games 2023, is a reminder that strength comes in many forms and the human spirit is unbreakable.**



Mascot ‘Ujjwala’ has been going around to major landmarks in New Delhi, such as Khan Market, Sarojini Nagar, and Connaught Place to create a buzz about the first-ever Khelo India Para Games. The city has undergone an aesthetic transformation for the milestone event to provide an immersive experience for fans. There are also selfie points in various parts of the city where fans can go and get clicked with the mascot, Ujjwala. All of these locations are geo-tagged.



<sup>3</sup> <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1983710>

## Khelo India Para Games Schedule

**KHELO INDIA**  
**PARA GAMES**  
DEC 10, 2023 – DEC 17, 2023

**SCHEDULE**

Opening Ceremony 11 Dec  
Para Badminton 10- 12 Dec  
Gymnastics Hall (IG Stadium , New Delhi)  
Para Athletics 11- 13 Dec  
JLN Stadium, New Delhi  
Para Shooting 12- 16 Dec  
KSSR, New Delhi  
Para Powerlifting 12- 15 Dec  
Weightlifting Auditorium, JLN Stadium, New Delhi  
WATCH LIVE ON - SPORTS  
#KheloIndiaParaGames

**KHELO INDIA**  
**PARA GAMES**  
DEC 10, 2023 – DEC 17, 2023

**SCHEDULE**

CP Football 14- 17 Dec  
JLN Stadium- Football Ground (Next to Basketball Court)  
Para Table Tennis 14- 17 Dec  
K D Jadhav Hall (IG Stadium, New Delhi)  
Para Archery 15- 16 Dec  
JLN Stadium, New Delhi (Football Training Ground)  
Closing Ceremony 17 Dec  
WATCH LIVE ON - SPORTS  
#KheloIndiaParaGames

The Khelo India Para Games mark a monumental step towards inclusivity in Indian sports, demonstrating the extraordinary talent and grit of the para-athletes from every corner of the country. The capital awaits the sublime display of skill, dedication, and passion that these remarkable athletes will bring to the forefront.

For further updates on the Khelo India Para Games 2023, click on the official website [HERE](#).

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