

4th Asian Para Games

(Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports)

October 31, 2023

“India's extraordinary performance at the Asian Para Games has left the nation thrilled! I congratulate our remarkable athletes for bringing home a record-breaking 111 medals. This achievement is a testament to the unwavering dedication and indomitable spirit of our athletes.”

- [Prime Minister Narendra Modi](#)

Asian Para Games

The Asian Para Games, also known as Para Asiad, is a quadrennial multi-sport event overseen by the Asian Paralympic Committee. It provides a platform for athletes with physical disabilities to showcase their talent and compete at an elite level. The games are held in the years of the Asian Games and follow the practice of hosting both events in the same city. However, it's worth noting that the Asian Para Games are not included in the host city contract for the Asian Games, resulting in both events being organized independently.



These games are recognized by the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) and are considered the second-largest multi-sport event globally, following the Paralympic Games. The most recent edition took place in Hangzhou, China, from October 22 to October 28, 2023, in which 44 countries participated. The next games are scheduled to be held in Nagoya, Japan, between October 14 and October 22, 2026.

History

Before the inception of the Asian Para Games, there was the FESPIC Games, which included athletes from the Asia Pacific region. The FESPIC Games debuted in 1975 in Oita, Japan, with the participation of 18 nations. Over the years, eight more editions of the FESPIC Games were held until 2006.

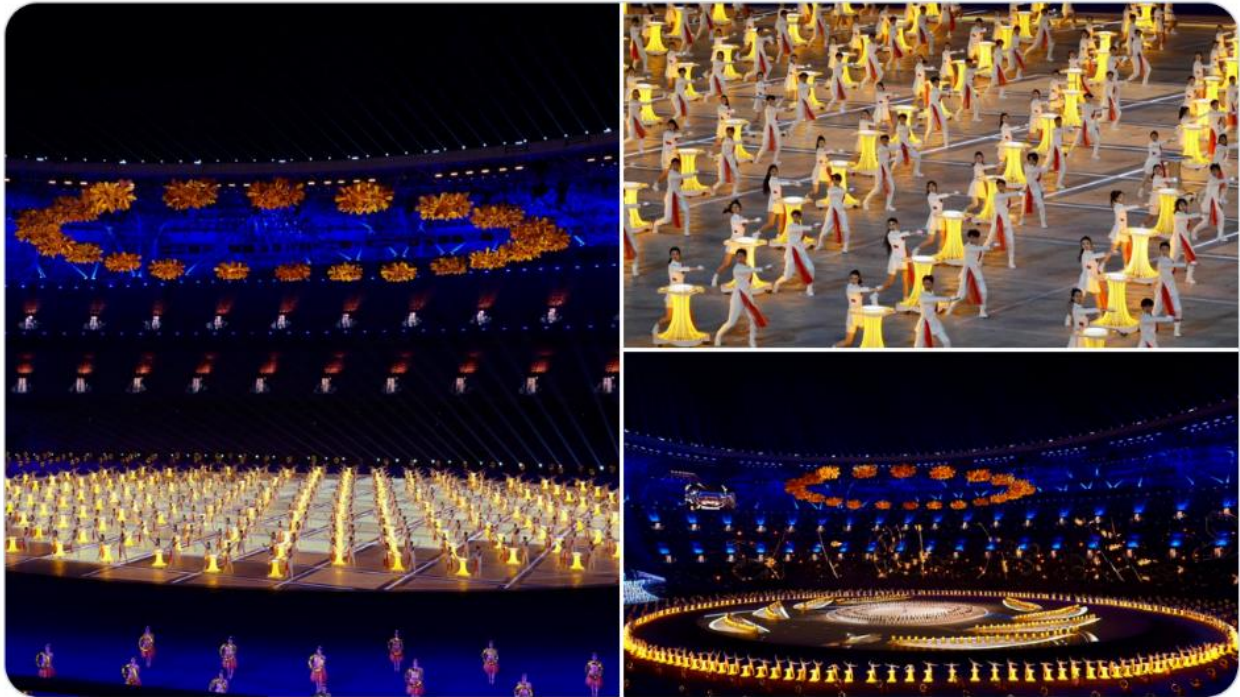
The Asian Para Games superseded the FESPIC Games, leading to the dissolution of the FESPIC Federation, which governed these games. It merged with the Asian Paralympic Council, which was subsequently renamed the Asian Paralympic Committee. This significant transition occurred following the final edition of the FESPIC Games held in November 2006 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The inaugural Asian Para Games occurred in 2010 in Guangzhou, China, marking the first multi-sport event for athletes with disabilities in the Asian region.



While there is an aspiration to have the Asian Games and Asian Para Games concurrently in the same host city, the absence of the Asian Para Games in the contract for the Asian Games means that both events are conducted independently. Each event is managed by a distinct Organizing Committee, operating without any direct connection between them.

Asian Para Games 2022

The opening ceremony of the 2022 Asian Para Games was held on 22 October 2023, at the Hangzhou Sports Park Stadium in Hangzhou, China. Originally scheduled to take place from 9 to 15 October 2022, the event was postponed to 2023 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The closing ceremony of the 2022 Asian Para Games was held on 28 October 2023 after nine days of competition and 566 events at the Hangzhou Sports Park Stadium in Hangzhou, China.



Mascot & Slogan

The Games' mascot, *Fei Fei*, unveiled online on April 16, 2020, draws inspiration from the divine bird in Liangzhu culture. It symbolizes local legends of happiness. "Fei," her first "fly," represents the flight of a bird, signifying a spirit of tolerance, respect, and friendship in society. The second "fly" signifies the determination of disabled athletes who are pursuing their dreams.



The slogan for the Asian Para Games is "**Hearts meet, Dreams shine**", mirroring the core message and style of the slogan for the Asian Games: "**Heart to Heart, @Future**".

India at Asian Para Games 2022

The Indian contingent at the Asian Para Games in Hangzhou comprised 303 sportspersons across 17 sporting disciplines. A total of 143 coaches, escorts, officials, and support staff were also part of the contingent. The athletes' list comprised 191 Male and 112 Female athletes.¹

¹ <https://newsonair.gov.in/Main-News-Details.aspx?id=469894>

- In the Asian Para Games at Hangzhou, India's overall medal haul surged to an impressive 111 comprising 29 gold, 31 silver, and 51 bronze. This remarkable feat superseded India's previous best of 72 medals, which was recorded in the 2018 edition of the Asian Para Games in Indonesia with a contingent of 190 athletes who participated in 13 sporting events.²



- Out of the 111 medals, female athletes have contributed 40 medals, i.e. 36% of the medal tally.³

² <https://olympics.com/en/news/asian-para-games-2023-hangzhou-india-medal-winners-tally-table>

³ <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1972615>

- India finished fifth in the Asian Para Games 2023 behind hosts China, Iran, Japan, and the Republic of Korea.
- Besides the medals, Indian para-athletes also broke three world records in Hangzhou. Two of these came in javelin throw disciplines in athletics. Gurjar Sundar Singh set a



new world mark in the men's javelin throw-F46 discipline with a gold medal-winning 68.60m effort while Sumit Antil set a new world record in the men's javelin throw-F64 with a 73.29m attempt.

- The men's compound team accounted for the third-world record with a score of 158. Barring these, Indian athletes also rewrote several Asian and Games records at the Hangzhou meet.
- To see the full list of India's medal winners, click [HERE](#).

Prime Minister Narendra Modi lauded India's extraordinary performance at the Asian Para Games with a medal tally of 111. The Prime Minister hailed the unwavering dedication and indomitable spirit of the athletes.⁴

Speaking about the record-breaking performance, Shri Anurag Singh Thakur, Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports said, " *The spectacular performance of athletes at the recently-concluded Asian Games as well as these Para Asian Games and the last Olympics, Paralympics, CWG, Deaflympics, goes to show that India's power in sports is growing. And like PM said at the IOC meeting recently, India is not just performing well but is also ready to host big events, be it Youth Olympics in 2030 or the Summer Olympics in 2036.*"

India at 4 editions of the Para Asian Games

| Year | City | Position | Medals |
|------|----------------------|------------------|--------|
| 2010 | Guangzhou, China | 15 th | 14 |
| 2014 | Jakarta, Indonesia | 15 th | 33 |
| 2018 | Incheon, South Korea | 9 th | 72 |
| 2022 | Hangzhou, China | 5 th | 111 |

References:

- PIB Press Release on [PM lauds India's extraordinary performance at Asian Para Games](#) dated October 28, 2023.
- PIB Press Release on [Indian para-athletes create history with India's highest-ever Medal Tally](#) dated October 28, 2023.

⁴ <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1972706>

- PIB Press Release on [Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports sanctions 303 athletes and 143 coaches and support staff for the upcoming Asian Para Games](#) dated October 17, 2023.

Twitter links:

- <https://x.com/19thAGofficial/status/1716079862279250379?s=20>
- <https://x.com/narendramodi/status/1718300466818240802?s=20>
- <https://x.com/19thAGofficial/status/1718149120702234717?s=20>
- <https://x.com/19thAGofficial/status/1718441367532384645?s=20>

NR/HP/RK/PK/JA