



Research Unit
Press Information Bureau
Government of India

Paving the Path to Success

India's Road to the Olympics 2024

July 22, 2024

As the world turns its gaze to Paris for the 2024 Olympics, India proudly announces its largest-ever contingent for the games, consisting of **117 athletes across 16 sports disciplines**. This diverse team, which includes **70 men and 47 women**, will compete in **69 events** with a total of **95 medals** at stake. Supported by an impressive funding allocation of over **470 Crore rupees**, the Indian athletes are primed to make their mark on the global stage.



Sports landscape in India

India's sports ecosystem has evolved into an athlete-centric model, with the motto "**Athlete-First.**" This integrated ecosystem includes the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (MYAS), the Sports Authority of India (SAI), the Indian Olympic Association (IOA), and the National Sports Federations (NSFs). Together, these bodies ensure that athletes can focus solely on their training and competition, with logistics and other support taken care of by the system. Corporate sponsors, CSR partners, athlete families, fans, broadcasters, and media have all played crucial roles in sustaining Olympic sports in India.

Government Efforts for Efficiency and Growth

The Indian government has significantly ramped up its efforts to support athletes and boost the country's performance in the Olympics. These efforts encompass a variety of initiatives and programs designed to enhance the training, preparation, and overall performance of Indian athletes on the global stage.



❖ Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS)

The Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) is a flagship program aimed at providing targeted assistance to potential Olympic medalists. TOPS offers support in several key areas:

- ❖ **Training and Camps:** National Coaching Camps and international training sessions.
- ❖ **Foreign Exposure:** Opportunities for athletes to compete and train overseas.
- ❖ **Specialized Support:** Hiring of foreign experts, coaches, and support staff.
- ❖ **Equipment and Facilities:** Provision of necessary sports equipment and training facilities.
- ❖ **Financial Assistance:** Direct funding to cover various aspects of athletes' preparation.



The TOPS scheme includes a Core Group of over **170 athletes** preparing for the 2024 Olympics and a Development Group of over **130 athletes** targeted for the 2028 and 2032 Olympics.

❖ **National Sports Development Fund (NSDF)**

The NSDF supplements the TOPS by providing additional financial support for the specialized training and competition needs of elite athletes. This ensures that athletes receive comprehensive support tailored to their specific requirements.

❖ **Corporate Support and CSR Initiatives**

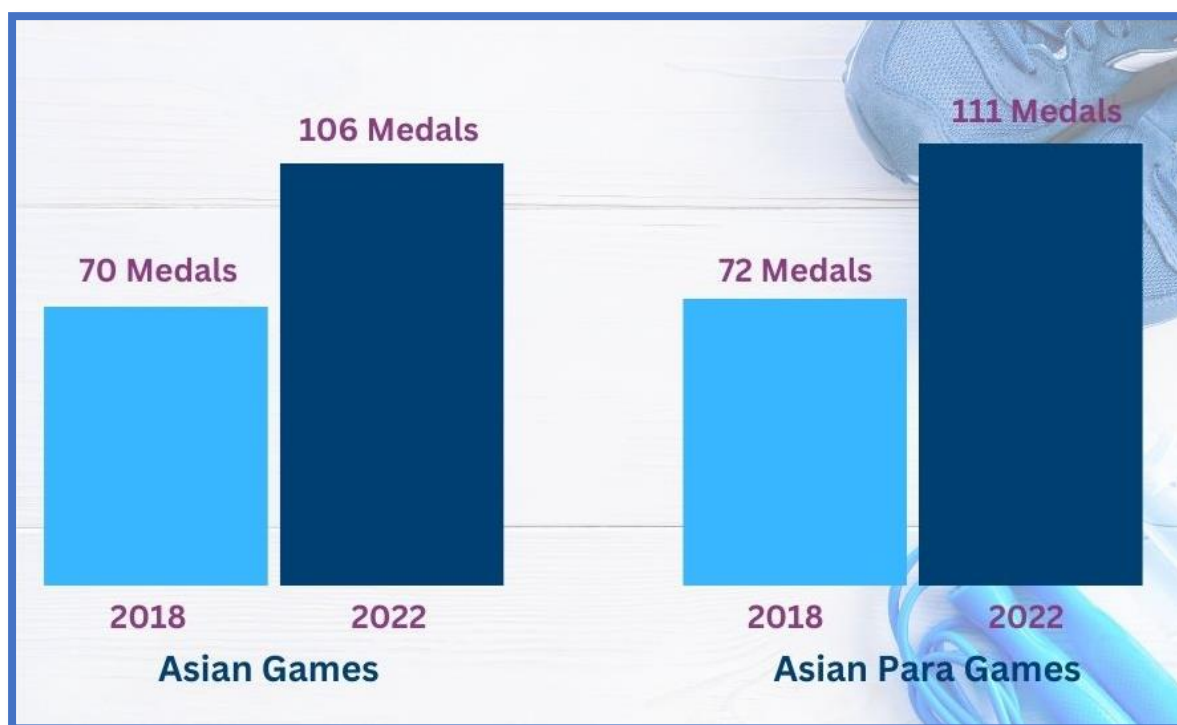
Corporate sponsors and CSR partners play a crucial role in sustaining Olympic sports in India. Their contributions include funding for training programs, equipment, and other resources necessary for athletes' development.

❖ **International Competitions and Exposure**

The government has facilitated extensive international exposure for athletes across various sports. This includes participation in international competitions and training camps abroad, which are critical for gaining competitive experience and improving performance.

❖ **Focus on High Priority Disciplines**

The government's strategy involves focusing on high-priority disciplines with strong medal prospects. These sports include archery, athletics, badminton, boxing, hockey, shooting, and wrestling. For each of these disciplines, detailed funding and support plans have been implemented, ensuring athletes have the best possible preparation.

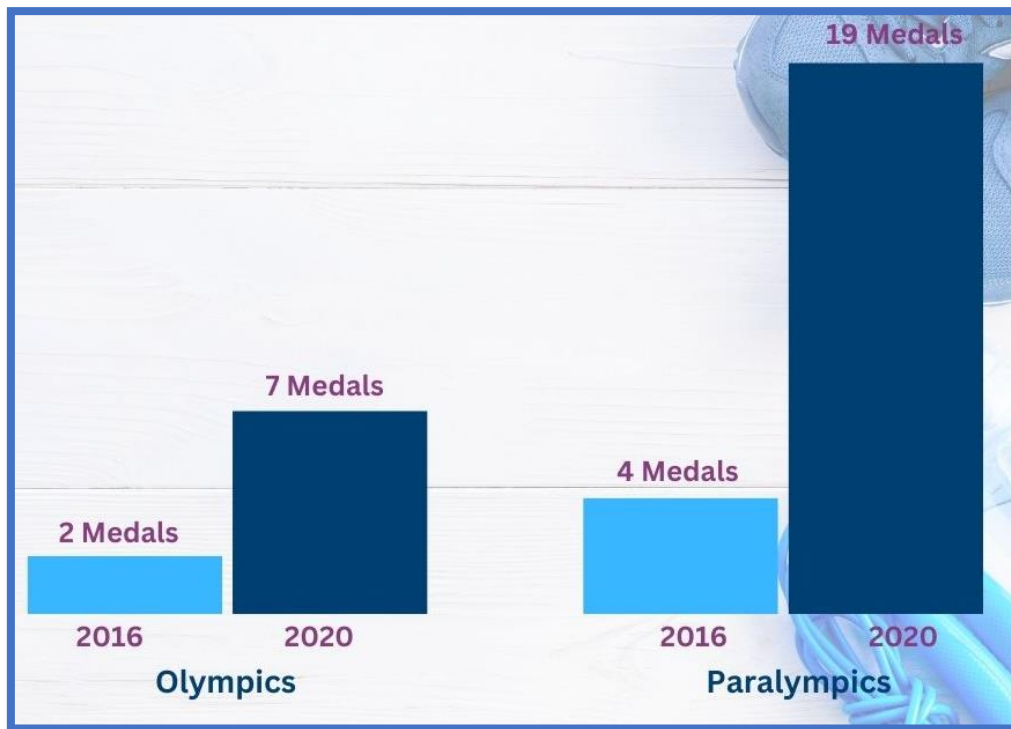


❖ Mission Olympic Cell (MOC)

The Mission Olympic Cell (MOC) is a dedicated body that oversees the implementation of the TOPS. It includes representatives from past elite athletes, IOA, NSFs, and other stakeholders. The MOC is responsible for approving customized programs for athletes, recommending financial disbursements, monitoring performance, and addressing athletes' immediate needs.

Achievements and Impact

The impact of these efforts is evident from the significant increase in medals won across recent competitions. From winning **2 medals in Rio 2016 to 7 in Tokyo 2020** and **from 4 to 19 medals** in the Paralympics, India's performance reflects the enhanced support system, including the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS), National Sports Development Fund (NSDF), and extensive corporate backing. The nation's medal count at the Asian Games and Asian Para Games also surged, showcasing the success of an athlete-centric sports ecosystem and comprehensive government initiatives. This upward trajectory underscores India's commitment to achieving excellence in global sports.



The Indian government's comprehensive and targeted approach towards supporting its athletes is a reflection of its commitment to achieving excellence in sports. With a robust support system in place, India aims to significantly improve its performance at the Paris Olympics 2024 and beyond, showcasing the nation's potential on the global sports stage.

References

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2034434>

<https://x.com/pibyas/status/1814278906356334618>

<https://olympic.ind.in/paris-2024>

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetailm.aspx?PRID=2034434#:~:text=Union%20Minister%20highlighted%20that%20India,in%20these%20disciplines%2C%20he%20added.>

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=2029762>

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=2029657>

<https://sportsauthorityofindia.nic.in/sai/documents>

Pathway to Paris pdf:

<https://static.pib.gov.in/WriteReadData/specificdocs/documents/2024/jun/doc2024629346101.pdf>

Santosh Kumar/Sarla Meena/ Ritu Kataria /Madiha Iqbal