

Dharambir's Gold Rush: India's Historic Win in Club Throw

34.92m Throw Achieves India's First Paralympic Medal in Men's Club Throw

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Introduction

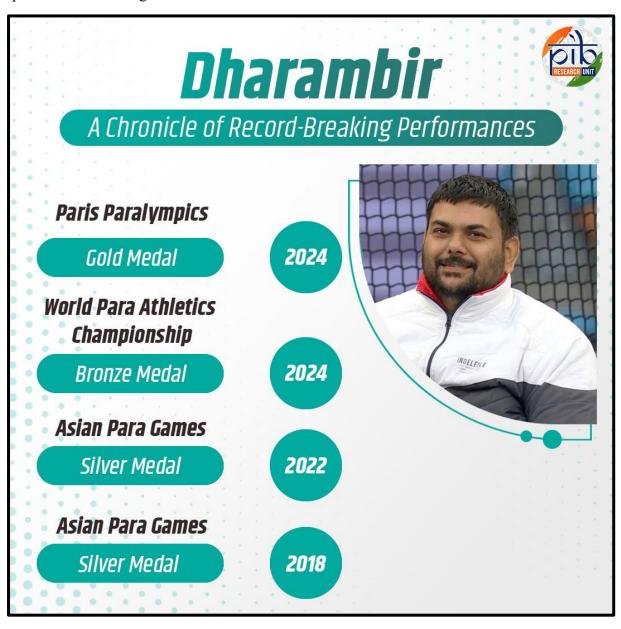
In a historic moment for Indian para-athletics, Dharambir claimed the gold medal in the Men's Club Throw F51 final at the Paralympics 2024, setting a new Asian record with an outstanding throw of 34.92 meters. Competing in the F51 category, which includes athletes with limb deficiency, leg length difference, impaired muscle power, or impaired passive range of movement, Dharambir's achievement marked the first time India has secured a medal in the Club Throw event at the Paralympic Games. His remarkable performance, along with compatriot Pranav Soorma clinching the silver, showcased India's dominance in the event and added to the nation's growing success at the Games.



From Setback to Success

Dharambir, born on January 18, 1989, in Sonipat, Haryana, experienced a life-altering accident that dramatically changed his path. While diving into a canal in his village, he misjudged the depth of the water and struck the rocks beneath, leading to paralysis from the waist down. This life-altering incident did not deter him from pursuing new opportunities. In 2014, Dharambir discovered para-sports, which opened a fresh chapter in his life. He began training in club throw under the guidance of Amit Kumar Saroha, a fellow para-athlete who faced a similar condition. Through hard work and dedication, Dharambir made significant strides in the sport, qualifying for the 2016 Rio Paralympics within just two years of starting his training.

Since then, Dharambir has showcased consistent brilliance, earning several medals for India on the international stage. For his outstanding contributions to sports, Dharambir was honoured with the Bhim Award in 2022, the highest sports accolade from the Government of Haryana. His inspiring journey stands as a testament to resilience, determination, and the power of parasports in transforming lives.



Dharambir's Path to Glory

Dharambir's impressive track record in para-athletics reflects his consistent pursuit of excellence. He first gained international recognition by securing a silver medal at the 2018 Asian Para Games, followed by another silver at the 2022 edition of the Games, reaffirming his dominance in the sport. Most recently, Dharambir added to his accolades with a bronze medal at the 2024 World Para Athletics Championship. Now, he has made history by clinching the gold medal at the Paris Paralympics, cementing his legacy as one of India's greatest para-athletes.

Government Support and Intervention

The government has provided crucial support for Dharambir's athletic career through various interventions. Financial assistance for specialized equipment has ensured he has access to the best tools to enhance his performance. Additional financial aid has been provided for training and competition expenses, facilitating his preparation and participation in international events. Furthermore, Dharambir has benefited from the Out-of-Pocket Allowance under the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS), which has helped cover various costs associated with his training and competitions, enabling him to focus on achieving excellence in para-athletics.

PM Modi Hails Dharambir's Historic Paralympic Gold

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi congratulated Dharambir today for securing India's firstever gold medal in the Men's Club Throw F51 event at the Paris Paralympics. In a post on X, Shri Modi praised Dharambir's remarkable achievement, stating:

"The exceptional Dharambir creates history as he wins India's first-ever Paralympic Gold in the Men's Club Throw F51 event at the Paralympics 2024! This incredible achievement is a testament to his unstoppable spirit. India is overjoyed by this feat."

Conclusion

Dharambir's journey from a life-changing accident to winning India's first-ever gold medal in the Men's Club Throw F51 event at the Paris Paralympics 2024 exemplifies the transformative power of perseverance and support. His exceptional throw of 34.92 meters not only set a new Asian record but also marked a historic achievement for Indian para-sports. Supported by dedicated training, government assistance, and an unwavering spirit, Dharambir's success is a significant milestone in India's Paralympic history. His story inspires countless others to overcome obstacles and strive for greatness, reinforcing the nation's growing prominence in the global Paralympic arena.

References:

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