



OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE PARALYMPIC COMMITTEE OF INDIA®

INDIAN PARA SPORTS

MAGAZINE

SPECIAL INAUGURAL ISSUE - 2016



Promoting
a Strong & Vibrant
Paralympic Movement
across the Nation



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Special Edition
Rio Paralympics
2016

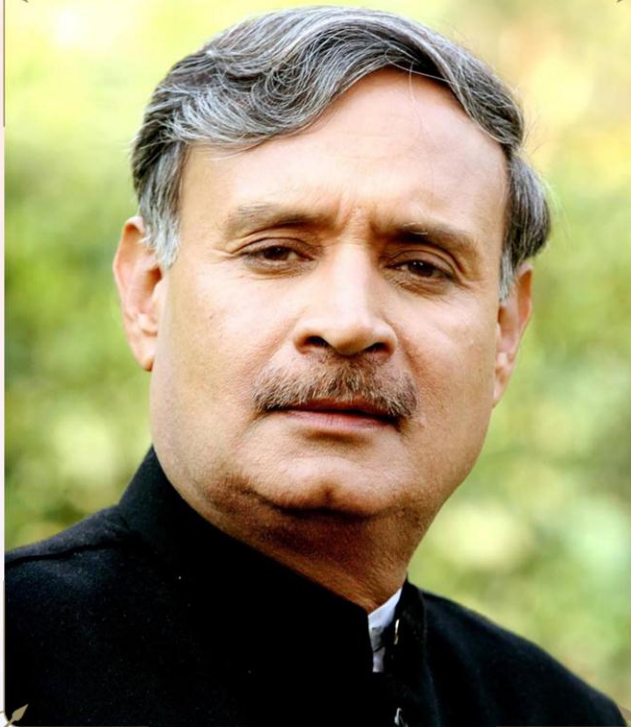
Athletes' Council

Our Pride Paralympians

World Record
Champion

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• Rao Inderjit Singh •

President

◆— **Paralympic Committee of India®** —◆

Hon'ble Minister of State

(Independent Charge) for Ministry of Planning &

Minister of State for Urban Development

Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation

Government of India

Dear Readers

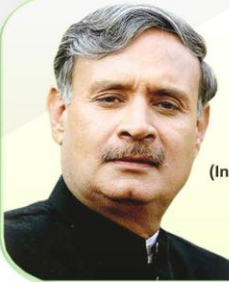
The stupendous performance of our Para Athletes at Rio Paralympic Games has earned its spurs which has long been overdue in our country's sporting arena. I am confident and sure that our Committee will continue to strive towards achieving its goals and objectives by nurturing all the aspiring para athletes in achieving their best for bringing laurels to our Country.

The Committee will further facilitate the exchange of ideas for greater cooperation among nations for a well rounded promotion of Para Sports at International level. My congratulations and best wishes to PCI team in converging all their energies in fulfilling our set goals.

Rao Inderjit Singh

PCI President

Governing Board Paralympic Committee of India®



Rao Inderjit Singh
President

Paralympic Committee of India®
Hon'ble Minister of State
(Independent Charge) for Ministry of Planning &
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Athletes' Council Member



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Powerlifting



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Para Sports Technical Committee



Paralympic Committee of India

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Wheelchair &
Amputee Sports
London - U.K

Introduction

The Paralympic Committee of India (PCI) was founded in the year 1994. Since then, PCI has been working solely for the promotion of Sports among physically challenged, including the visually impaired persons in India. PCI is affiliated to the International Paralympic Committee (IPC), with HQs at Germany and International Amputee Sports Federation (IWAS), with HQs at UK as National Paralympic Committee (NPC) PCI is also recognized by Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (MYAS), Govt. of India as a National Sports Federation (NSF). PCI has affiliated bodies / Sports Federations in all States / Union Territories. PCI is Registered in Bangalore under the Karnataka Societies Registration Act, 1960 and the Rules, 1961, bearing Registration No 280/94-95 dated 08.07.1994 and is also registered with NITI Aayog, Govt. of India vide its Unique ID: DL/2016/0099909.



The Paralympic Games and its athletes showcase the achievement of people with disabilities and acts as a primary vehicle to change societal perceptions that leaves long lasting legacies. PCI aims to follow this aspiration and promote a more inclusive India through its activities.

On Para with the best!



**Amul
Garv bhi,
verve bhi!**

Advertisement on Indian Paralympians by Leading Cooperative

Motto, Vision & Future Endeavours

Globally, the Paralympic Movement aspires to build a bridge that links sports with social awareness, thus contributing to the development of a more equitable society with respect and equal opportunities for all individuals.

Weathering every storm faced, the newly elected PCI Governing Board is pledged to further the promotion of Para Sports in India and help every aspiring Para Athlete to shine exponentially at the National and International Forums. The elections of PCI were held on 08.10.2015 at Hotel Raj Hans, Faridabad Haryana, as per the guidelines of the National Sports Development Code (NSDC) of Govt. of India and in complete compliance with the law of the land.



Paralympic Committee of India[®]

Reforms Implemented

PCI lays immense stress on the implementation of all IPC rules and regulations in the daily working of each State Unit and Para Sports Federation associated with NPC India. As such all the existing and potential PCI Members, including the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (MYAS) and the Sports Authority of India (SAI), are in agreement with PCI for carrying out the reforms in conformity with IPC Handbook and as per the satisfaction of IPC. Although several reforms are underway, the rapid progress of Reforms with inclusion of nearly all the Paralympic Sports, since April 2016, without any hindrance is the proof of PCI's claim for its intention and pace of compliance.



Keeping the principles of Sir Philip Craven, President IPC, central to the fundamentals of every groundwork activity, PCI is determined to keep all the athletes at the center of everything it does. To encourage our athletes to voice their opinions in the ongoing workings and decisions of the Committee, PCI has set up an Athlete Council. The interim nominated representatives of the Athlete Council are Ms. Deepa Malik, Silver Medalist at Rio Paralympics 2016, and Mr. Devender Jhajharia, Gold Medalist at Athens Paralympics 2004 and Rio Paralympics 2016. However, representing the democratic values of the law of the land, the election of the Athlete Council will be taken up at the earliest possible for a more reflective council. PCI will ensure a pan- India representation for the proposed elections to provide free and fair representation to the stars of our organization. The rights awarded to the representatives would be as follow:

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"You are not disable by the disabilities you have, you are able by the abilities you have"



The Athletes' Council has the right to submit motions to the General Assembly, through the Governing Board

- The Athletes' Council will establish a relationship with the IPC and/or Region's Athletes Council.
- The Athletes' Council may make provisions for gender/ impairment/sport representation in the Council.
- PCI may seek the opinions of the Athletes Council to promote the issues of importance / interest to the Athletes.
- The Athletes' Council will promote clean and fair play
- The Athletes' Council will contribute to and promote the grass root development of Para Sports
- The Athletes' Council will represent the rights and interest of athletes and make related recommendations

At present, PCI has affiliated State/ Union Territories units only in 24 States and 2 Union Territories out of a total of 29 States and 7 Union Territories. However PCI is in process to induct the following State / UTs of India to ensure a pan-India reach and representation of the left out areas of Para Sports in the country:

- a. Arunachal Pradesh
- b. Himachal Pradesh
- c. Meghalaya
- d. Mizoram
- e. Nagaland
- f. Sikkim
- g. Telangana
- h. Chandigarh
- i. Dadra and Nagar Haveli
- j. Daman and Diu
- k. Lakshadweep
- l. Andaman and Nicobar Islands





PCI is now in process to plan its next calendar year, 2017, in compliance with the IPC calendar year book, incorporating the all IPC and APC accredited International Sporting events to benefit the Indian Para Athletes.

All relevant National Governing Board Meetings would be stipulated in advance to ensure a regulated and strategic growth for Para Sports in India

STEPS UNDERTAKEN TO FURTHER PARA SPORTS

The representation of a country with a population of 1.25 Billion cannot be satisfied by a 19 member strong Indian Para Contingent for the Paralympic Games. To inspire the second largest population of the Physically Challenged persons to adopt Para Sports, PCI has already requested in writing to the Govt. of India (Ministry of Human Resource & development) to issue an advisory to all the State / UTs of the Country to cooperate and direct all the schools / colleges / Universities in their respective States / UTs to become Member of their respective Para State Association. This would ensure mass participation and awareness of Paralympic Movement at the grass root level beginning at the tender school-going age.



PCI is planning to host the 6th National Para Games in Delhi in March, in order to further spread Paralympic Movement in the country in continuation with the heights achieved through the recently concluded Rio Paralympic Games, 2016.

The proposed games will have 9 Para Sports with 2900 as the tentative number of expected athletes, officials, escorts / guides and volunteers. In addition to the above-realized figures, PCI would invite and welcome the members of International Paralympic Committee (IPC) and of Asian Paralympic Committee (APC) that would take the total expected figure close to 3000. The grandeur of the planned National Games will have a far-reaching impact on the societal perceptions towards Para Sports in India while upholding the phenomenal prowess of a true athlete.





The proposed 6th National Para Games 2017, Delhi, would be conducted under the Financial Support and administration of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Govt. of India in technical collaboration with PCI, for the smooth and efficient deliverance of the same.

PCI will make all the required efforts to make the Games nothing less than a world-class sporting event spread over a period of 6 days in 6 different venues/ stadia setting an exemplary standard achieved by no other National Sports Federation in the country ever before. The commencement of the desired Games has been planned to be declared by the Honorable Prime Minister, Shri. Narendra Modi in the attendance of foreign delegates from International Paralympic Committee (IPC) and from Asian Paralympic Committee (APC) among all our various invited National Dignitaries.



The 6th National Para Games will support the cause of empowering people with disabilities and would immensely contribute to promote the awareness of Paralympic Movement in India through development of skills, livelihood and mainstreaming through Para Sports.



Role of Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

Government of India (MSJEOI)



Encouraged by the performance of the Indian Paralympic Team at Rio Paralympic Games, MSJEOI hosted an elaborate facilitation function on 28th October 2016 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi to honour 4 Rio Paralympic Games Medal winners along with Indian Blind Cricket Team and Indian Blind & Para Judo Team. The Honorable Minister for MSJEOI made an announcement to facilitate the hosting of the 6th National Para Games in March 2017 at New Delhi in order to promote Para Sports and Paralympic Moment in India, as per the wishes of the Honorable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. The Honorable Minister also announced to create 5 Para Sports Centers, one in each zone in India to promote Para Sports in technical support and guidance of PCI. The active participation of MSJEOI in Paralympic Movement is a bonus gain to Para Sports due to the efforts and persuasion of the dedicated PCI team under the leadership of its President



PCI support to Odisha State Government

PCI has the honour to support Odisha State Govt. in organizing a mini marathon (11 Kms) named " The Ability Marathon" in the capital city of the State,Bhubaneswar, on 3rd December 2016, the International Disability Day.

A Group of Paralympians will add glitter to this mammoth event for accelerating Paralympic Movement in India.

PCI and its Para Athletes have, over the years, accumulated several credentials while excelling in the field of Para Sports and have received the following noteworthy Awards from Govt. of India, besides innumerable awards from various State Govts:



Prime Minister Narendra Modi honoured the silver medalist of Rio Paralympics – 2016 Mrs Deepa Malik by giving her cash award of Rs 4 crores in Swarna Jayanti Celebrations at Gurugram



Representation of Para Sports in mainstream cinema at renowned talk show; The Kapil Sharma Show



The 15th National Paralympic Swimming Championship was conducted at Suvarna JNMC International Swimming Pool, KLE University Campus by the Paralympic Swimming Association of Karnataka (PSAK) and the Paralympic Swimming Association of Belgaum with support from KLE University under the aegis of Paralympic Committee of India from November 27-30, 2015. An officiating clinic was conducted by Dr. V. K. Dabas for the Technical Officials to orient and refresh them about IPC-Swimming Rules.



15th National Para Powerlifting Championship 2016 was conducted at Sree Kanteerava Indoor Stadium, Bangalore on 14th June 2016 by The Karnataka Sports Association for Physically Handicapped under the aegis of Paralympic Committee of India. Power lifters from all over the country participated and the standard IPC Powerlifting rules were followed for the competition.



Paralympic Committee of India (PCI) under the aegis of National Rifle Association of India conducted the 26th All India G.V. Mavalankar Shooting Championship in small bore Rifle / Pistol (Para Events) at Dr. Karni Singh Shooting Ranges, New Delhi from 4th to 8th November 2016, wherein more than 50 shooters participated from different states of India, surpassing the earlier record of 39 shooters. Medical classification was conducted for the first time at a National level, wherein 54 shooters were examined. Mr. J.P. Nautiyal Chairman, PCI (Shooting) and Dr. C. Ananda Jothi (Medical classifier) had given first hand information about the parameters of medical classification, rules and regulation of IPC shooting to the shooters in length.

INDIA AT THE SUMMER PARALYMPICS:

Through the years, India has diligently participated in every edition of the Summer Paralympic Games barring 1976-80, wherein there was no official participation of an Indian Team. India climbed the medal tally slowly but steadily.

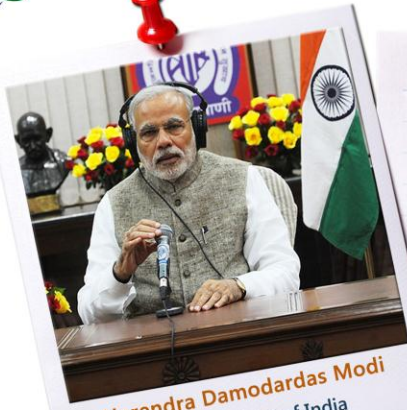


The first Paralympic medal won by an Indian was Gold by Mr. Murlikant Petkar in 1972 by setting a new world record in 50m freestyle swimming. Soon after, quenching the thirst of the nation for another medal, Paralympian Joginder Singh Bedi with his unprecedented performance bagged 3 medals a Silver and two Bronze medals in Shot Put, Javelin and Discus Throw while Bhimrao Kesarkar won a Silver medal in Javelin in 1984. India finished 37 out of the 54 participating countries. India continued to participate in each Paralympic Games thereafter, but failed to make an impact till the 2004 Summer Paralympics in Athens where Devendra Jhajharia, Javelin thrower, won gold setting a new world record and Rajinder Singh won bronze for powerlifting in the 56-kg category. India finished 53rd out of the 136 nations fielded that year. London Paralympics 2012 saw H. N. Girisha, an Indian athlete born with a disability in the left leg, win the silver medal in the 2012 Paralympic games in the men's high jump F-42 category. However, India had yet to prove its mettle to the world. India patiently waited till the Rio Paralympics 2016, wherein Indian athletes delivered their best ever performance, either in the Olympics or the Paralympics. Rio, Paralympic Games 2016, has been a first for Para-Sports in India in many ways.

The concentrated efforts of our dedicated Athletes under a distinctive leadership command of the dedicated newly reformed team of PCI has resulted in winning unprecedented honour and pride for our country, at the highest sporting arena in Para-Sports. The best-ever performance by our athletes in the said Games at a glance is as follows:

1. The best ever performance, in terms of the medal tally, by any contingent representing India in either Olympics or Paralympics. (2 Gold medals, 1 Silver medal, 1 Bronze Medal)
2. Indians won two gold medals in the individual events for the first time in either the Olympics or the Paralympics (Gold Medalists were Mr. Devendra Jhajharia in Men's Javelin Throw Category F-46 and Mr. Mariyyapan Thangavelu in Men's High Jump Category F-42)
3. Indians won two medals in the same event for the first time in either the Olympics or the Paralympics (Gold medalist Mr. Mariyyapan Thangavelu and Bronze medalist Mr. Varun Bhati in the event Men's High Jump Category F-42)
4. First Indian woman to win a medal in the Paralympics (Ms. Deepa Malik in Women's Shot Put Category F-53)
5. First Indian athlete to repeat the win of the gold medal by breaking and making his own world record in the same event (Mr. Devendra Jhajharia in Men's Javelin Throw Category F-46 won first gold in 2004 Athens and now another in 2016 in Rio).
6. First time telecast of Paralympic Games Highlights in India by DD Sports due to the efforts and pursuance of PCI.
7. Three of the Indian Athletes Mr. Farman Basha, Mr. Sandeep Kumar and Mr. Amit Kumar stood 4th. Thereby, narrowly missing out on Bronze Medals.

Paralympic Committee of India®



Narendra Damodardas Modi
Prime Minister of India

Prime Minister Narendra Modi lauds Indian paralympians during 'Mann Ki Baat'

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his radio addressal 'Mann ki Baat' on Sunday, 24th September 2016 congratulated the Indian Paralympians while assuring the country of the Government's continued support for them.

He said "Athletes at the Rio Paralympics have made the country proud. India won 4 medals in all, including 2 gold." Prime Minister Narendra Modi and PCI President Rao Inderjit Singh widely congratulated the Indian Para Contingent on popular media site Twitter.

TWEETS

MEDIA

LIKES



Narendra Modi @narendramodi 27m

Congratulations to Devendra Jhajharia for the historic and well-deserved Gold at the #Paralympics 🏆. We are very proud of him. #Rio2016 🇮🇳



355



711



Rao Inderjit Singh @Rao_Inderjits 25m

What a Great news to wake up to! Proud of our #Paralympics 🏆 team at #Rio2016 🇮🇳. You've defied all odds to win laurels. #DevendraJhajharia. #Gold 🏆



PMO India @PMOIndia

Follow

देश के हर व्यक्ति को #Paralympics में हमारे खिलाड़ियों के प्रति एक emotional attachment हुआ है - PM @narendramodi #MannKiBaat
11:09 AM - 25 Sep 2016



310



1,352

Meeting with Hon. Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India



Devendra Jhajharia

Awards and Recognition

FICCI Para-Sportsperson of the Year (2014)
Padma Shri - Government of India (2012)
Arjuna Award - Government of India (2004)
Maharana Pratap Puraskar Award. (2004)



Devendra Jhajharia

Padma Shri & Arjuna Awardee

Javelin thrower Devendra Jhajharia became the first Indian to clinch two gold medals at the Paralympics after he broke his own world record to set a new one and receive the top honour at the Rio Games



Devendra Jhajharia bettered his own previous world record of 62.15m to set a new world record with a throw of 63.97m at the Rio 2016 Paralympics in the men's F46 category event.

Now a 2-time gold medallist, Devendra Jhajharia lost his left arm after accidentally touching an electrical wire while trying to climb a tree when he was eight years old. Defeating all mental and physical trauma of the amputation of his left arm, he continued pursue his dreams.



He believes that

“to be a champion,
you had to be a sportsman”

and that's what made him go after javelin.

He began competing in para-athletics while still in school, and won a gold medal at his very first International competition in Asian Games Busan 2002.

At the tender age of 23, he won a gold at the Athens Paralympic Games 2004. With consistent dedication and determination he again won silver at the Incheon Asian Games 2014

Mariyappan .T

Paralympic High Jumper

Indian paralympian Mariyappan .T, who scripted history at Rio Paralympics 2016 by clinching a gold medal



Gold medal in the men's high jump T42 finals, with a leap of 1.89m



Mariyappan .T

Born : 28 June 1995
Place : Periyavudagampatti,
Salem district, Tamil Nadu, India

Mariyappan was a child when an accident left him with a permanent leg impairment. On an otherwise typical school day, a bus swerved off the road and ran over him, crushing his right leg below the knee

Sports was a constant passion for Mariyappan. Hailing from a humble background, he played volleyball in school before a gym teacher suggested high jump. At the age of 14, the future Paralympian finished second in a competition against able-bodied competitors

“I didn’t see myself as different from able-bodied kids,”

Mariyappan uses his right leg and damaged right foot in particular to propel the beginning of his approach and then power his launch over the bar. He says his right toe gives him leverage. “It is my God,”

ParalympicIndia.org.in



Felicitation Ceremony by Mr. Sachin Tendulkar, Bharat Ratna Awardee (Highest Civilian Award of the Republic of India)



Deepa Malik

Arjuna Awardee

First Indian woman to win a silver medal at the Rio Paralympic Games 2016 in short put women's F53 category event.



Deepa Malik

Awards and Recognition

President Role Model Award (2014)
Arjuna Award - Govt. of India (2012)
Maharashtra Chhatrapati Award (2009–10)
Haryana Karambhoomi Award (2008)
Swawlabhan Puruskar Maharashtra (2006)



Deepa Malik suffers from spinal tumour and has underwent 31 surgeries and got 183 stitches. Despite all odds, she won the silver medal at the Rio Paralympics 2016.

Deepa faced the impossibility of life head-on. Even with seven broken vertebrae, frequent MRI scans and the absence of titanium plates, she remained unstoppable and her unreserved passion for sports brought her unprecedented glory.



Nobody ever thought that Deepa Malik at the age of 45 with three spinal surgeries and in one of the most severely disabled categories, would improve her throwing distance by a metre. She did not lose hope and kept her fighting spirit alive.

"Disability brought my life into focus,"

Deepa registered her name twice in the Limca Book of Records. In 2008, once for crossing a 1 km stretch of the Yamuna river against the current, and then again in 2013 for covering 58 km by riding a special bike.

Varun Singh Bhati

Paralympic High Jumper

Indian paralympian Varun Singh Bhati recorded his personal best jump of 1.86 metres to finish third at Rio Paralympics 2016 winning a bronze medal for the nation



Afflicted by Poliomyelitis at young age, Varun Bhati garnered his sporting talent since his school days. He won the bronze medal at the Rio Paralympic Games 2016 in High Jump Men's F42 Category



Varun Singh Bhati

Born : 13 February 1995

Place : Greater Noida,
Uttar Pradesh, India

Para athletes should get the same level of appreciation as their able-bodied counterparts

He participated in the Asian Para Games, Incheon 2014, where he stood 5th. He won a gold medal at the China Open Athletics Championship 2014 the same year. In 2015, he stood 5th again at Para World Championship, Doha, Qatar. He recorded a jump of 1.82m at the IPC Athletics Asia-Oceania Championship 2016 where he won a gold while setting a new Asian Record.

Meeting with
Hon. Parnab Mukherjee,
President of India



PCI Vision :

"To enable Para Athletes of India to achieve sporting excellence
and inspire and excite the world"



"Paralympic Movement is our Motto"

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