2013

Special Olympics Bharat

2013 Special Olympics Asia Pacific Regional Games

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Report
2013 Special Olympics Asia Pacific Regional Games, held in Newcastle, Australia
November 29th – December 7th, 2013

Introduction

- **Participants** - 2000 Athletes from 27 Countries
- **Games** - Athletics, Bocce, Basketball, Bowling, Football, Table Tennis, Aquatics, Cricket
- **Indian Delegation** - 520
  400 Athletes, 100 Coaches, 50 Others

Item		Athletes	Coaches	Others	Total
Football	Girls	-	2	-	2
	Boys	20	5	-	25
Athletics	Girls	41	14	5	60
	Boys	103	29	4	136
Bocce	Girls	42	11	6	59
	Boys	51	13	1	65
Badminton	Girls	10	4	1	15
	Boys	16	5	-	21
Basket Ball	Girls	10	3	2	15
	Boys	10	2	1	13
Aquatics	Girls	14	3	2	19
	Boys	22	5	-	27
Table Tennis	Girls	9	2	-	11
	Boys	12	3	-	15
Cricket	Girls	-	-	1	1
	Boys	23	10	-	33
HOD		-	-	3	3
Total	Girls	126	39	17	182
	Boys	257	72	9	338
	Total	383	111	26	520

Regional Games Preparatory Training Camp for Athletes for Newcastle 2013

Warming up

Athletics

Bocce

Basket Ball

Table Tennis

Aquatics

Basket Ball

Badminton

Send - Off party at the Australian High Commission in New Delhi Hosted by the Deputy High Commissioner, Mr. Bernard Phillips and Tanya Wilson, Head of the Immigration Department

Reaching Newcastle

Amidst much singing, dancing and laughter nearly 2500 Athletes from 29 nations got together for **The Host city welcome program**, held at the Newcastle Basketball Stadium.

The event began with a heartfelt speech, welcoming each nation, delivered by Awabakal Elder Aunty Sandra. The Lord Mayor of Newcastle, Jeff McCloy and member for Newcastle, Tim Owen MP, joined in the celebrations, welcoming the Athletes, Coaches and Families.

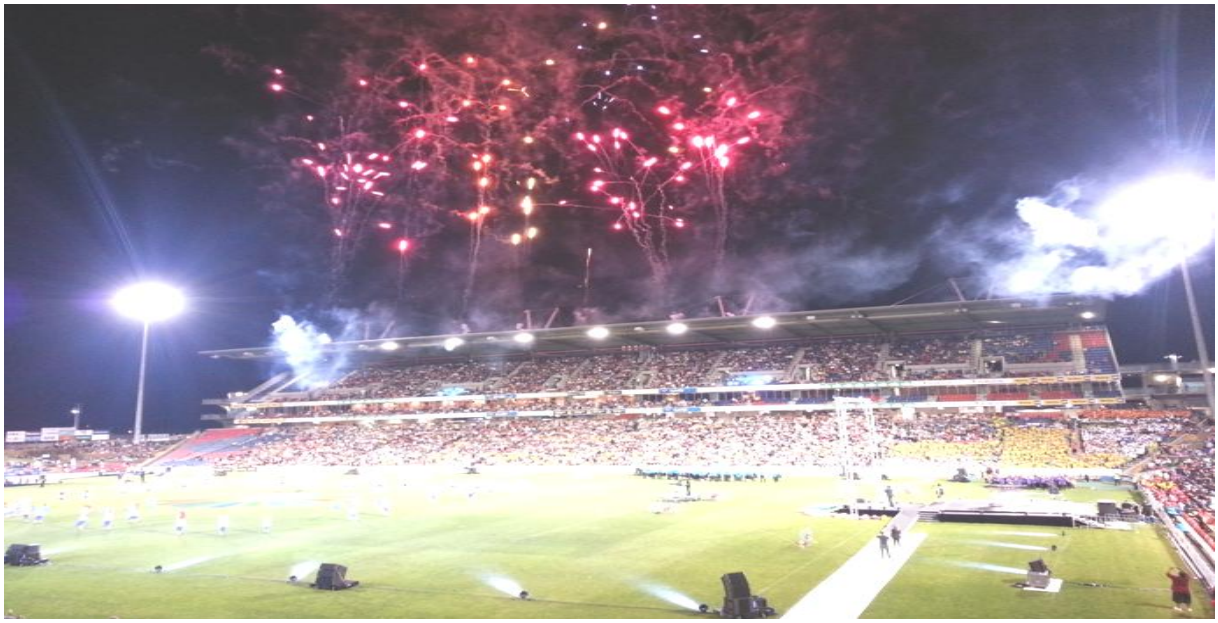
The host city Welcome program included the Australian National Anthem followed by some performances and songs along with appearances by Kit the Koala, the Games Mascot and a sausage sizzle (an Australian and New Zealand cuisine consisting of a barbecued sausage served on a slice of white bread, commonly sold as a fundraiser)

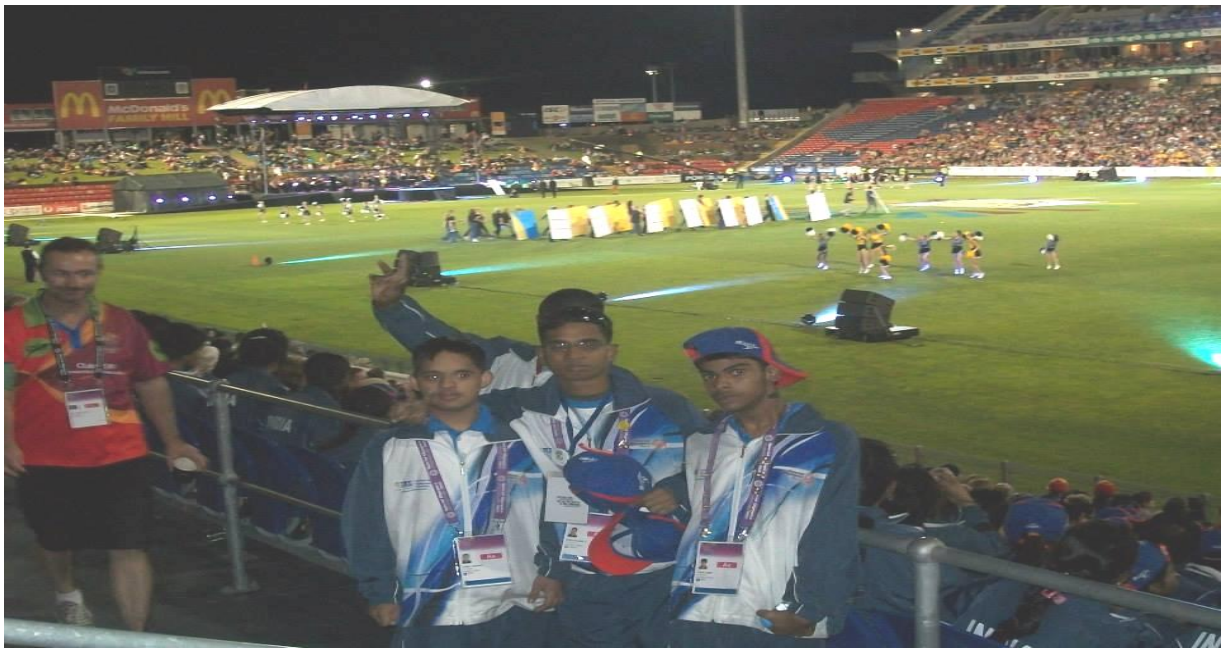
Opening Ceremony

The Opening Ceremony was held at the Hunter Stadium with its magnificent display of fireworks and performances by local dancers, singers, cheerleaders and artists heralding the beginning of the inaugural Special Olympics 2013 Asia Pacific Games. Each nation entering the arena was welcomed with loud applause and cheers.

During the Torch run, the law enforcement personnel along with Special Athletes ran, spreading awareness about Special Olympics. This culminated with the lighting of the cauldron for the flame of hope at the opening ceremony.

The Games were declared open by the Governor General of Commonwealth of Australia, Her Excellency the Honorable, Quentin Bryce AC CVO





BHARAT

BHARAT

BHARAT

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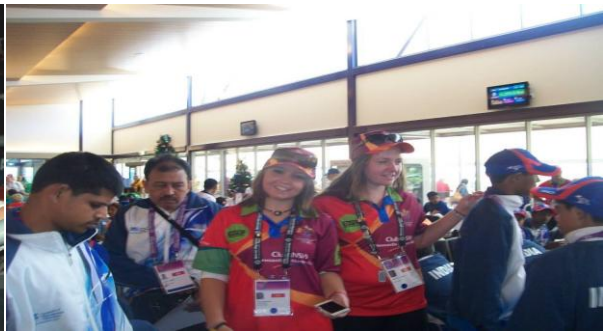
BHARAT

BHARAT

INDIA



Cultural Event during the Opening Ceremony

Main Event – Sports Competitions

Athletics

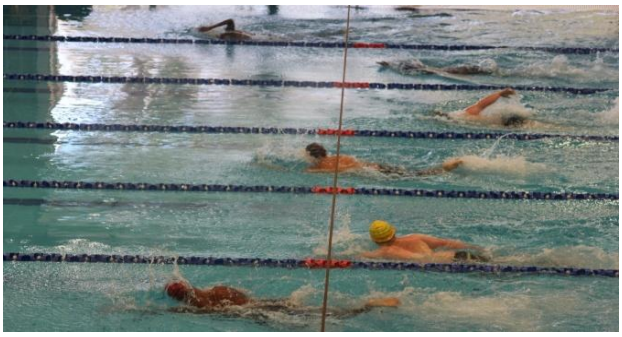
1751
1684
1752

HunterSports Centre

599

MEDICAL SUPPORT
1592

Aquatics



2
2
OMEGA

OMEGA

Bocce

Badminton

Basket Ball

Cricket

Hidetoshi Nakata at the Games

Football legend Hidetoshi Nakata joined Special Olympics athletes and Special Olympics CEO Janet Froetscher in a friendly match on the second day of the sports competitions. The Unified Sports experience event combined teammates with and without intellectual disabilities to showcase and promote the inclusionary power of sports.

Nakata began his professional career in 1995 and progressed his way through playing for Japan in three FIFA World Cup tournaments and twice in the Olympics.

Football

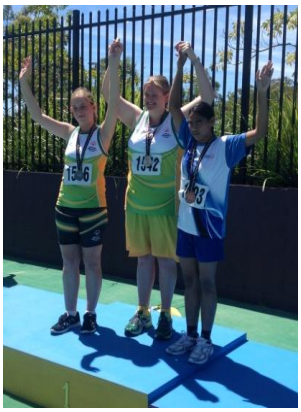
FUJI XEROX
WesTrac

CRICKETERS
CHURCHILLS CARPET COURT

NO EXIT
electrical
0418 493 320

Table Tennis

Award Ceremonies



Mr Avtar Singh, International Cycling Trainer SO Bharat, Special Guest presenting Awards

Special Olympics New CEO, Janet Froetscher, with the SO Bharat Team in Australia

Rafferty's Resort

The complete Indian delegation stayed at the Rafferty's Resort ,situated on the shores of Lake Macquerie,located on the outskirts of Newcastle,on Sydney highway.100 cottages nestled in the scenic location made their stay most comfortable and memorable.

On the last day of their stay,the management of the resort,the host volunteers and some local families got together to bid farewell to the Special Olympics Bharat delegation. Souveniers were gifted to the delegates, following cultural performances by the Athletes and presentation of mementos by Mr. Syed Ali Kazim,National Director and Victor Vaz,National Sports Director to Mr. David Criss,Owner,Raffertys Resort, Ms. Lisa, Volunteer Chief , Mrs. Harjinder Kaur Dhillon, Delegation Liasion Officer and The Chef.

Closing Ceremony

Triumphant Return to India

Final Medal Tally

Discipline	Gold	Silver	Bronze
Athletics	41	48	42
Aquatics	04	18	19
Bocce	24	37	47
Badminton	25	18	23
Table Tennis	15	13	9
Basketball Team (Girls)	01 (India beat Australia in Finals)		
Basketball Team (Boys)	01 (India beat Pakistan in Finals)		
Cricket (Unified)		01	
Cricket (Special Team)		01	
Total	**111**	**136**	**140**
Total Medal Tally: 387			
Football (Unified)	5th Position		
Football (Special Team)	6th Position		

Media Coverage

Special Olympics: Athletes return with 387 medals

Vandana Keelor | TNN

New Delhi: India's 'special' athletes have once again done the country proud and returned with the largest haul of medals in Special Olympics Asia Pacific Games 2013 held in Australia. The team of specially-abled sportspersons of Special Olympics Bharat (SOB) not only competed with 2,200 athletes from over 29 countries, but also won a total of 387 medals — the highest tally so far.

In the event, held in New Castle between December 2 and 7, a total of 111 gold, 136 silver and 140 bronze medals were added to India's kitty.

In all, the Indian squad comprised 381 sportspersons from 21 states, including Himachal Pradesh, Bihar, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Manipur, Rajasthan, among others

The games included eight disciplines — athletics, aquatics, badminton, basketball, bocce, cricket, football and table tennis.

Surjit Singh (23), an athlete from Bihar, opened the medal tally with a silver in the 800m sprint. Despite intellectual disabilities and cerebral palsy, Surjit's enthusiasm towards sports propelled him to excel. Delhi athletes, too, shone through their performance at the games. Intensive training and hard work paid off for 18-year-old Kirti Kalra and her 13-year-old sister, Simran, both with intellectual disabilities and impaired hearing affecting their speech. They won 3 gold medals each for badminton. They had also done India proud by putting up a great performance in figure skating at the Special Olympics World Winter Games, South Korea, held earlier this year.

23-year-old Rani's excitement knew no bounds at bagging a bronze in 4x100m relay race, her first recognition at an international platform since her journey with SOB that started in 2005. Having grown up and groomed by Missionaries of Charity-Asha Dan, Delhi, she faced a setback in 2011 when she was unable to participate in the World Summer Games, Athens.

Kawalpreet Kaur (16), with intellectual disabilities along with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder won gold in 200m and a bronze in 4x100 relay event. Having joined SOB in 2009 she has been supported and cared for by Udayan Care, Delhi.

In all, the Indian squad comprised 381 sportspersons from 21 states, including Himachal Pradesh, Bihar, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Manipur, Rajasthan, among others. "These athletes embody the Special Olympics Bharat oath — Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt," says chairman, Special Olympics Bharat, air marshal (retd) Denzil Keelor.

कीर्ति संग सिमरन ने बढ़ाई कुल की कीर्ति

एशिया पैसेफिक ओलंपिक खेलों में जीते छह स्वर्ण

माता-पिता ने कहा, बेटियों ने गर्व से ऊंचा कर दिया सिर

रोहिणी की रहने वाली बहनों ने बैडमिंटन में जीते तीन-तीन पीले तमगे

अपने माता-पिता के साथ कीर्ति (दायें) और सिमरन।

राजीव शर्मा, नई दिल्ली

दो बेटियां, दोनों ही वेरी-वेरी स्पेशल। माता-पिता की लाडली कीर्ति और सिमरन को भले ही सुनाई नहीं देता हो, लेकिन बैडमिंटन में उनके स्मैश की धमक देश ही नहीं पूरी दुनिया में सुनाई दी। दिल्ली के रोहिणी की इन दोनों बहनों ने ऑस्ट्रेलिया में हाल ही में हुए एशिया पैसेफिक स्पेशल ओलंपिक खेलों की बैडमिंटन स्पर्धा में छह स्वर्ण पदक जीतकर न केवल कुल की कीर्ति बढ़ाई बल्कि इतिहास भी रच दिया।

बड़ी बहन कीर्ति ने अंडर-18 वर्ग के सिंगल्स, डबल्स और मिक्सड डबल्स में तो सिमरन ने अंडर-13 में तीनों वर्गों के स्वर्ण पदकों पर कब्जा जमाया। खास बात यह रही कि डबल्स में दोनों बहनों ने जोड़ी बनाकर सोना जीता। कीर्ति और सिमरन अशोक विहार के कुलाची हंसराज पब्लिक स्कूल के मनोविकास केंद्र की छात्राएं हैं। कीर्ति 12वीं और सिमरन आठवीं कक्षा में पढ़ती है।

किरण कालरा कहती हैं कि बेटियां हो तो कीर्ति और सिमरन जैसी। ऐसी बेटियां तो किस्मत वालों को मिलती हैं। यह दोनों ही हमारे लिए बहुत खास हैं। किरण कहती हैं कि कुदरत ने मेरी मासूम बेटियों के साथ जो अन्याय किया उसका शुरू-शुरू में तो मुझे दुख होता था, लेकिन समय के साथ मैंने हालात से समझौता कर लिया। हमने खुद को इन्हीं के अनुसार ढाल लिया। आज मुझे यह कहते हुए गर्व होता है मैं कीर्ति और सिमरन की मां हूं। कीर्ति ने इसी साल फरवरी में दक्षिण कोरिया के प्योंग चांग में हुए स्पेशल ओलंपिक विश्व विंटर खेलों की फिगर स्केटिंग स्पर्धा में रजत पदक जीता था।

> मेरी दोनों बेटियां मेरा गुरूर हैं। कीर्ति और सिमरन मेरे लिए भगवान का अनमोल तोहफा है। मुझे इन दोनों पर नाज है। मैंने कभी नहीं सोचा था कि मेरी बेटियां ऐसा कारनामा करेंगी, जिससे मुझे नई पहचान मिलेगी। इन्होंने मेरे कुल की कीर्ति को चार चांद लगा दिए। इनकी इस उपलब्धि को क्या करने के लिए मेरे पास शब्द नही हैं। शुक्रिया भगवान मुझे ऐसी बहादुर बेटियां देने के लिए।
>
> -राजेश कुमार कालरा, पिता

स्पेशल एथलीटों ने जीते कुल 387 पदक

जागरण संवाददाता, नई दिल्ली : भारत के स्पेशल एथलीटों ने ऑस्ट्रेलिया के न्यूकासल में एक से सात दिसंबर तक आयोजित पहले एशिया पैसेफिक ओलंपिक गेम्स में कुल 387 पदक जीते। इस आयोजन में 29 देशों के 2200 एथलीटों ने भाग लिया था, जिसमें भारतीय एथलीटों ने विभिन्न स्पर्धाओं जैसे बास्केटबॉल, बैडमिंटन, क्रिकेट, फुटबॉल, टेबल टेनिस, एथलेटिक्स, एक्वाटिक्स में कुल 111 स्वर्ण, 136 रजत और 140 कांस्य झटके। जिससे खिलाड़ियों का मनोबल काफी बढ़ गया है।

Jubilant Indian team

December 6, New Castle, Australia

SPECIAL OLYMPICS 2013 ASIA PACIFIC GAMES – 387 MEDALS FOR INDIA,

The Special Olympics 2013 Asia Pacific Games for athletes with an intellectual disability came to an end this evening at New Castle . Indian athletes shone winning 387 medals and won many a heart. Indian community in Newcastle supported and cheered the athletes all the way.

Following are our final scores

Athletics : Gold (41) Silver (48) Bronze (42)
Aquatics : Gold (04) Silver (18) Bronze (19)
Bocce : Gold (24) Silver (37) Bronze (47)
Badminton Gold (25) Silver (18) Bronze (23)
Table Tennis Gold (15) Silver (13) Bronze (9)

Basket Ball
- Girls Gold. (India beat Australia in Finals)
- Boys Gold (India beat Pakistan in Finals)
Cricket
- Silver (2) n Both unified & special team
Football
- 5th & 6th place in Unified & special team

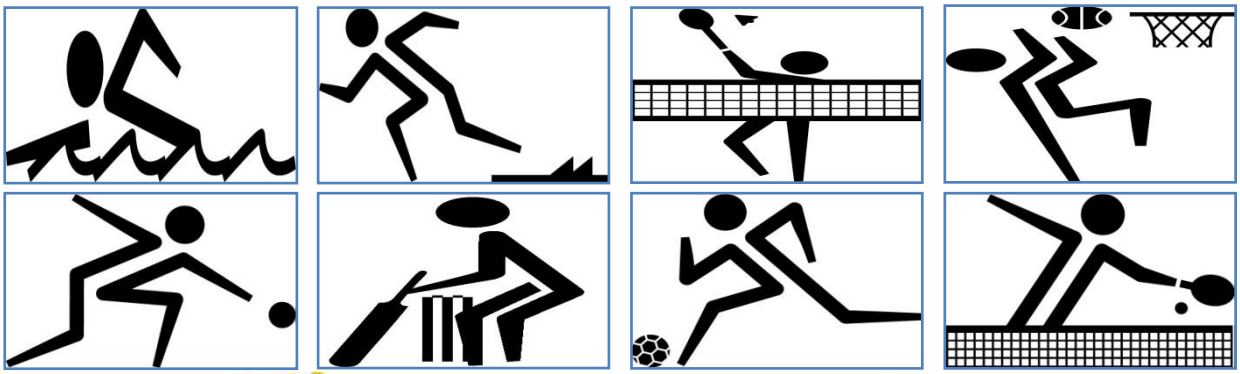
Total Tally – 387

India has the largest contingent after Australia that came with over 400 athletes, coaches and trainers and is

Conclusion

Special Olympics Bharat brings on record its gratitude and appreciation :-

- To the Government of India for its support to the SO Bharat National Federation to develop sports programs for persons with Intellectual Disailities
- To Austarlia, SOI and SOAP for creating this great opportunity for our Ahletes to compete in such a spectacular event
- To the Austarlian High Commission in India for providing the extraordinary support, free of cost, to enable our athletes to visit their country
- To the many persons and institutions who generously sponsored the teams participation in the event
- To the State Chapters who raised funds for their athletes, conducted their training and for hosting National Coaching Camp for training the team
- To the Trainers and Coachs who worked tirelessly to train the Athletes
- To the National Sports Director, Mr. Victor Vaz and his team for establishing the high stradards which enabled the athletes to succeed in the competitions
- To the National Director, Mr Ali Kazim and his team, for making the essential administrative arrangements for the team, to participate in the tournament
- To the hundreds of volunteers who worked so sincerely and cheerfully to support the program
- To all those who directly or indirectly came forward to support the participation of our athletes in the 2013 Asia Paccific Regional Games in Newcastle, Austarlia.



Special Olympics 2013 ASIA PACIFIC GAMES NEWCASTLE