

Report National Leadership Conference 2019



8-10 April 2019 New Delhi







IKEA Foundation



Executive Summary

The National Leadership Conference was held from 8-10 April 2019 at the Hotel Four Points by Sheraton, New Delhi witnessing participation of 20 Area Directors and 21 state representatives (Presidents, Sports Directors) from 22 States. Three representatives from Special Olympics Asia Pacific Regional Office- Mr Simon Koh, PMD, Mr Dipak Natali Vice President and Ms Catherine Ho Director Development, were in attendance to observe and support the Conference.



The States were provided an opportunity to interact in an open session with the SO Bharat leadership and Senior Representatives while also presenting highlights of progress and status of the program in their respective states of the past one year. While Mr Simon Koh expressed his observations and suggestions in the opening and closing sessions, Mr Dipak Natali and Ms Catherine Ho took sessions drawing attention to the Human RACE Campaign and the urgency of Fundraising. The Youth leaders leveraged the platform to connect individually with the States who they would be/ are working with to expand Youth Activation



The National Leadership Conference is an annual event which creates a unifying platform for the Senior Representatives from all the States and Union Territories of India. The event facilitates cooperative & comprehensive deliberations in conjunction with the Special Olympics Global Strategy and with the guidelines of the Government of India.

Message from Air Marshal Keelor to the Area Directors: You may recall that during the Area Directors meeting I highlighted that the Athletes who win medals have started their journey approx. 3 yrs back; obviously someone in the field has

trained them. We need to explore and see who these people are, who without our initiative, have effectively prepared them for higher levels of competitions. I also mentioned that Coaches are now playing a leading role in the growth and development of the program and they have to be

encouraged and supported in the highest priority. We have the youth engaged in our program and we need to build trust in them and expand their participation at all levels. I am certain that your leadership in your respective states will continue to flourish as you adapt to the expanding strategies of the Special Olympics movement

Pre-Conference: Monday 8 April 2019

Open Session

A prelude to the Conference was an Open Session held between the SO Bharat National Office and the States. The states were encouraged to candidly express challenges faced by them along with any apprehensions, with an objective to deliberate solutions and draw conclusions jointly



Day One: Tuesday 9 April 2019

The participants were welcomed by Mr Shrey Kadian , Athlete Leader, SO Bharat followed by the Opening address by Air Marshal Denzil Keelor, Founding Trustee and CEO SO Bharat ,Dr (Cmdr) Kartikay Saini , Chairman, SO Bharat and Mr Simon Koh, President and MD SOAP



The Indian Status Report, Abu Dhabi Games 2019 and the preparation so far for the upcoming SO World Winter Games 2021, Sweden were presented by Ms Mukta Narain Thind, Mr Victor R Vaz and Mr Harpreet Singh Gambhir respectively.

Calling the year 2018 – a year of Innovations and beginnings the status of multiple projects underway and the plan ahead was presented, highlighting best practises from the states. The challenges that may be faced ahead, were addressed, following the importance of striking partnerships and resource mobilization



The performance of SO Bharat in the World Summer Games 2019 held in Abu Dhabi, UAE, and the greatest achievement at the World Games so far, was



highlighted. The Medal tally demonstrated the successes at 85, 155 and 129 – Gold, Silver and Bronze , standing to a total of 369 Medals. The preparation for the Special Olympics World Winter Games 2021 to be held in Sweden, was highlighted by Mr Harpreet Singh







An exclusive session on **Fundraising strategies**, led by Ms Catherine Ho, Director- Development established the importance and urgency of raising funds at the national as well as State levels.



The session concluded with the elevator pitch activity that prepares to give a clear, concise and compelling summation of who you are, what you do, why are you at a networking function, and how you bring value to others within a short duration

Human RACE, an initiative of Special Olympics Asia Pacific, is an online platform that gives a voice to athletes with intellectual disabilities and the community around them. It provides an exclusive first-person insight into the daily lives and unique perspectives of athletes, coaches, family members, and volunteers who work with people with intellectual disabilities – to drive home the point that we are more alike than different.

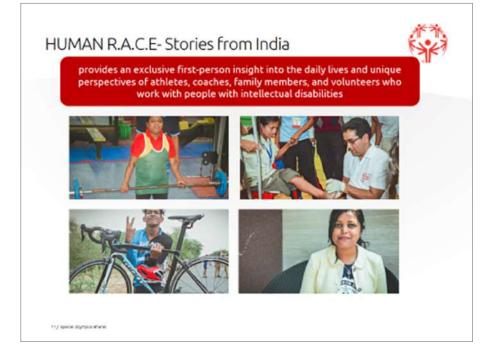
Objective of the Campaign:

To change mindsets towards people with ID by getting the audience to consider their own perceptions and inherent prejudices, walk in the shoes of people with ID, and think about what inclusion truly means.

The page renders authentic stories to help people understand the challenges and discrimination faced by persons with Intellectual Disabilities. The session was led by Mr Dipak Natali



What you can do: Share content to the site through videos, pictures and first person stories.



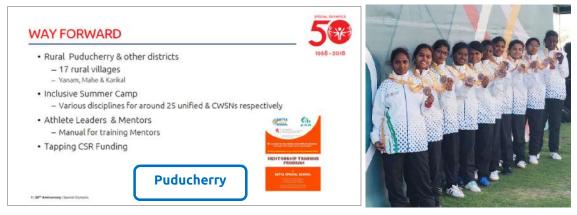
A session led by Ms Mukta Narain Thind and Ms Raman Rekhi outlined the current trend and importance of expanding Unified Schools and Unified Champion Schools all over the country with an increasing engagement of the youth in leading this endeavour

Highlights from the States

Seventeen States presented best practices from their respective states also spelling their plans for the future















Felicitation of the Participants and Partners - Abu Dhabi Games 2019

The evening of 9 April 2019 saw celebration of achievements that highlighted the spirit of participation of the Athletes at the World Games. Herbalife Nutrition felicitated 135 (39 Athletes, 25 Partners and 71 Coaches) World Games participants who are not Medallists, presenting a token of appreciation worth INR 5000 to each. This demonstration aligned with the essence of the Special Olympics Athlete's Oath- '*Let me win, but if I cannot win let me be, brave in the attempt'*. Present at the occasion were also the Medallists from Delhi NCR



The support extended by Herbalife Nutrition since 2015 has grown deeper over the years underpinning its commitment to promoting Inclusion through sports in India. In appreciation and gratitude of their support SO Bharat felicitated Mr Satyaketu Singh Senior Director Sales & Marketing, Herbalife Nutrition





SO Bharat took the opportunity to recognise and express gratitude to the timeless support extended by Etihad Airways & Balmer &Lawrie throughout the duration of the World Games. Mr N K Sharma and Mr P K Gupta from Balmer Lawrie & Co. Ltd received the felicitation during the function



Day Two: Wednesday 10 April 2019

Presentations on Young Athletes supported by IKEA Foundation

The status of the Young Athlete Program *supported by the IKEA Foundation* was presented to the participants. Ms Sulekha Rana presented the progress report. Experiences from the Research carried out on the Young Athletes program so far, were shared by Prof Kalpana Sharma, Amity University UP NOIDA



Renewal of the Memorandum of Understanding with the Amity University UP NOIDA



Continuing with their commitment for promoting Inclusion through sports the Amity University UP NOIDA renewed the MoU with SO Bharat on Wednesday 10 April 2019, for a period of three years henceforth. The University would continue to participate in training programs held by SO Bharat to develop human resources for supporting sports and related programs for persons with Intellectual Disabilities along with facilitating technical and logistical support for conduct of the Special Olympics Programs.



Presentation of the ACTC Calendar by Mr Victor R Vaz was followed by the presentation of the Accreditation Certificates to the Area Directors.



The National Leadership Conference 2019 draw to a close with the observations and suggestions expressed by Mr Simon Koh .

Message by Mr Simon Koh, President & MD, SOAP



The work done by the Area Directors is great and is a lot but it should not be presented just during this meet. It deserves to be showcased throughout the year. Therefore the information should reach the National office regularly, to be incorporated in the monthly e- newsletter.

While we celebrate the achievements of the Athletes at the World Games, we must draw attention to translating this experience into Inclusion. That would spell the impact of the World Games and the transformative power of sport and community.

My commitment to you is that everyone in the regional office is ready and willing to provide the support you need to help further your Program's



agenda, and that a win for you is also a win for us.

Participation Index

Special Olympics Asia Pacific Singapore

Name	Designation	
Mr. Simon Koh	President & Managing Director	
Mr Dipak Natali	Vice President	
Ms Catherine Ho	Director- Development	

Special Olympics Bharat- State Chapters

S. No	Name – Area Directors	Organization	State Reps
1	Dr. Anjana Goswami	Assam	Mr. Jacob Lais
2	Ms. Arundhati Kulkarni	Chhattisgarh	Mr. Pramod Tiwari
3	Dr. Ashwani Jojra	Jammu	
4	Mr. Asoke Chaki	West Bengal	Mr. John Barui
5	Mr. B S Mehta	Uttrakhand	Harsh Chouhan
6	Ms. Chitra Shah	Puducherry	Dr. Ram Mohan Singh
7	Ms Christine Beale	Meghalaya	
8	Dr. DG Chaudhary	Gujarat	Dr. Rameshbhai Joitaram Chaudhary
9		Madhya Pradesh	Mr. Ahtiesham Uddin
10	Fr. Kannaanchira Sabstian Roy	Kerala	Mr. Jai Raj
11	Col. Karaminder Singh	Punjab	Mr. Suresh Kumar Thakur
12	Ms Kumuda TA	Karnataka	Ms. Arathi K T & Mr. Amarender Anjanappa
13	Ms. Neelu Sarin	Chandigarh	Ms. Geeta Bajaj
14	Neeti Saxena	Delhi	Reetika Nair
15	Mr. J. Paul Devasagayam	Tamilnadu	Mr. G Arumugam
16	Mr. Prakash Rath	Odisha	Ms. Arpita Mohapatra
17	Mr. C. Rajashekhar	AP & Telangana	Ms. S. Saraswathi (T);Mrs. B. Jhansi Lakshmi (AP)
18	Mr. Satbir Singh Sahota	Jharkhand	
19	Ms. Sandra Vaz	Maharashtra	Ms. Hansini Raut
20	Dr. Shivajee Kumar	Bihar	Mr. Sandeep Kumar
21	Mr. U K Pandey	Rajasthan	Mr. Narender

Youth Leaders & Volunteers

S No	Name	Designation	
1	Shrey Kadian	Youth Activation Committee Member - Delhi NCR	
2	Simran Sahni		
3	Mohammad Kaif		
4	Shubham Chowdhary		
5	Devanshi Gupta		
6	Neha Sharma		
7	Param Ahuja		
8	Aayush Gill		
9	Himanshu Pahwa		
10	Kanav Thind Chaudhri	Volunteer	
11	Aryavardhan Jha		
12	Udbhav Malhotra		

SO Bharat National Office

S. No	Name	Designation
1	Air Marshal Keelor	Founder & CEO
2	Kartikay Saini	Chairman
3	Dr Amitav Misra	General Secretary (and President SO Bharat- UP)
4	Victor R Vaz	National Sports Director
5	Air Cmde Sharma	National Director- Finance & Admin
6	Mukta Narain Thind	National Director-Organization Development
7	Harpreet Singh	Director- Sports
8	Sulekha Rana	Director- Organization Development
9	Raman Rekhi	Director- Marketing & Comms
10	Melvin Clive	Asst Director- Sports
11	Bhavneet Singh Juneja	Senior Manager- Accounts
12	Gaurav Mehan	Senior Manager - Finance & Accounts
13	Neeraj Bajaj	Senior Manager - Admin
14	Kavita Choudhary	Manager- Organization Development
15	Vaishali Sharma	Manager- Sports