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Indian Paralympic Medalist

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Abstract

The paralympic games is major international multi-sport event involving athletes with a range of disabilities, including impaired muscle power, impaired passive range of movement, limb deficiency, leg length difference, short stature, hypertonia, vision impairment and intellectual impairment. Now days both summer and winter paralympic are organised parallel to Olympic games which are governed by International Paralympic Committee. India capped off a successful paralympic games campaign in Rio de Janeiro by procuring their best ever haul of four medals, including two gold and a silver and bronze medal. Mariyappan Thangavelu and Varun Singh Bhati secured two medals in High jump category. Deepa Malik won second place in the women shotput event. Fourth Devendra Jhajharia won gold medal by breaking his own record in javelin throw. First even gold in Paralympic for India was earned by Murlikant Petkar in 1972 at Heidelberg games in 50 meter freestyle swimming.

Keywords: Paralympics, Impairment, International Paralympic Committee

Introduction

India made its debut to paralympic games in 1968 at Tel Aviv, Israel. Ten Indian athletes participated with Eight Men and two women. But Indian athletes were not able to win any medal. In 1972 Paralympic India won its first gold medal by Murlikant Patkar in swimming. India sent ten competitors to this paralympics. Murlikant Petkar set a world record in 50 m freestyle swimming event with timing of 37.33 seconds. He also participated in javeling, table tennis, shot put and was finalist in all three events. Murlikant Petkar was the post of Craftmen rank in the corps of Electronic and Mechanical Engineer in Indian Army. He got would of several bullets during 1965 war against Pakistan. He switched to sports and won 4 medals in International events in swimming.

India didn't participate in paralympic of 1976, and 1980. But in 1984 summer paralympics in stroke Mehdeville, Great Britain and New York city, U.S.A. India sent 5 competitor and won four medals including 2 silver and 2 Bronze. Joginder Singh Bedi won silver at Men's shotput event and two bronze medal in Discuss and Javeling throw. Fourth medal was won by Bhimrao Kesarkar, in Javeling throw. He won silver medal.

1988 summer paralympic in Seoul, International Paralympic Committee decided to increase number of representatives from different countries. The 1988 summer paralympic were the first paralympic to took place in the same city as the Olympic games. India regularly participated in the paralympic games every four gears but was unable to win a single medal. This thirst of medal was finished by Devendra Jhajharia in 2004 summer paralympic in Athens by winning gold medal in Javelin throw and Rajinder Singh won bronze medal in power lifting in 56 kg category. India ranked 53rd in 136 nations.

Devendra Jhajhria

First India Paralympian to win two gold medals (In 2004 and 2016). He won gold medal at International Paralympic Committee world championship in 2013 (Lyon) and silver medal at 2015 Doha International Paralympic Committee. In Asian games he won Silver medal at 2014 incheon.

Devendra Jhajharia was born in 1980 in Jat family. He belong to churu district in Rajasthan. He was coached by R.D. Singh (Dronacharya in 1997). In 2016 he set up a new world record of 63.97m by braking his own record.

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- Awards: FICCI para-sportperson of the year (2014).
Padma Shri (2012) (First Paralympian to be honoured)
Arjun Award (2004)

Rajinder Singh Radhu: Born in 22 July 1973 at Mehsampur in Jalandhar district.

- He contracted polio when he was eight.
- Represented India in Beijing (2008), (2012) in London in Power lifting category.
- Won Silver medal at 2014 glasgow commonwealth games in Men's Heavy weight (from 72.1 kg)
- Gold at Asian Bench Press championship 2002 at New Delhi in Men's 56 kg.

In 2008 paralympics were held at Beijing. India sent five athletes but was unable to win a single medal. Again in 2012 paralympic, London India was able to win medal. This medal was won by Girisha Nagarajegowda in athletics in Men's High Jump (F 42). He won silver medal.

Girisha Nagarajegouda

- Born 26 Jan, 1988.
- Coached by Mr. Satyanarayana since 2011.
- Won gold medal in 2012 at Kuwait open championship.
- Silver medal in 2012 Malaysia Open Championship.
- Rajyotsava Award 2012 by Govt. of Karnataka
- 2013 Padma Shri
- 2014 Arjuna Award

2016 paralympic was a great success for Indian. India gave its best paralympic performance ever in history of paralympic games by winning 2 gold, 1 silver, and 1 bronze medal. 19 competitors (16 Men, 3 women) were sent to participate in 2016 paralympic game at Rio-de Janeiro in Brazil. Gold medal was won by Devendra Jhajharia in Javelin thrown breaking his own record (2004) and second by Mariyappan Thangavelu in Men's High Jump T-42 category.

Mariyappan Thangavelu -

- Born 28 June 1995 in Village Periyadagampati, Salim District, Tamil Nadu.
- Cleared height of 1.89m (6ft 2 in)
- Mariyappan has permanent disability in his right leg.
- Padma Shri (2017)

Deepa Malik

- Born on 30 Sept, 1970 village Bhaishwal, Sonapat district.
- First Indian woman to win a medal in Paralympic games.
- Silver in 2011 Chiristchurch IPC world championship in shotput F 52-53.
- Arjuna Award 2012.
- President role Medal Award 2014.
- Padma Shri Award (2017)

Varun Singh Bhati

- Bronze in 2016 summer Paralympic games in High Jump T 42.
- Born 13 Feb. 1995 in U.P. and suffered from poliomyelitis at young age.
- International Paralympic Committee Athlete Championship

2016 Berlin- Silver

2016 D ubai - Gold

- Gold Medal at China Open Athletic Championship

Conclusion

India's performance has been satisfactory in past time. The performance of player has been increasing and hope for better performance in future.

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