



**INDIAN BLIND SPORTS ASSOCIATION  
ANNUAL REPORT**

**2018-19**



Established in 1986 as an initiative of the Blind Relief Association, Delhi to work at national level for the promotion of blind sports, the Indian Blind Sports Association (IBSA) entered into its 33<sup>rd</sup> year of glorious existence in 2019. This report seeks to record the activities and growth of the Association during the year 2018-19.

## **HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR**

- Ankur Dhama was honoured with the Arjuna Award by the President of India, Sri. Ram Nath Kovind at Rashtrapati Bhavan on 25 September 2018.
- Avnil Kumar and Nidhi Mishra won bronze in 400m and discus throw respectively at the Asian Para Games held at Jakarta, Indonesia from 6 – 13 October 2018.
- Akshay Bidhuri won two gold medals in bench press and powerlifting (under 56 kg weight category) and Ajay Birajdar won a gold in bench press & silver in powerlifting (under 75kg weight category), thus totaling to 4 medals for India in the 13th Annual IBSA World Open Bench Press & Powerlifting Championships for the Blind held between 10-18 November at Luxor, Egypt.
- The 21<sup>st</sup> National Athletic Championship for the Blind was held from 10-13 December at Thyagaraj Stadium, New Delhi and had a record participation of 603 visually impaired athletes and officials representing 86 affiliate institutions from 19 states across the country in various track and field athletic events and 49 players including 3 female players in chess competition.
- A two-day Goalball workshop was conducted by experts from Finland and Russia as a part of the 21<sup>st</sup> National Athletic Championship for the Blind.
- For the first time, the registration to the Championship was made online through an exclusively developed software.
- Sight classification equipment comprising Auto Refractometer Matronix Q 30, Slit Lamp, Trail Set and Vision Chart was purchased for IBSA.
- IBSA organized the Northern Region Coaching Camp for Female Athletes in Delhi from 10 – 15 September 2018 which had a participation of 24 athletes from six different northern states.
- IBSA and Maharashtra State Lawn Tennis Association (MSLTA) organized a Lawn Tennis coaching camp from 19-21 February 2019 with a participation of 20 players and coaches.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

As on 31 March 2019, IBSA had a total of 236 affiliate institutional members from 25 states. The reach of IBSA has been extending year by year, with 30 new affiliates joining the Association family this year.

1. Navjyoti Viklang Kalyan Evam Punarvas Sansthan, Rajasthan
2. Louis Braille Memorial School for the Sightless Girls, Jammu
3. Bhartiya Andhjan Vikas & Punarvasan Sanstha Amravati, Maharashtra
4. Viklang Kalyan Samiti, Madhya Pradesh
5. Niwant Andh Mukta Vikasalya, Maharashtra
6. Rajbala Divyang Sewa Samiti, Uttar Pradesh
7. Paryas to Ujala Blind Welfare Society for Visible Challenge, Punjab
8. National Association for the Blind, Odisha
9. All Tripura Blind Committee, Tripura
10. Om Kabaddi Pratishthan, Maharashtra
11. National Association for the Blind, Gujarat
12. Netra Vidyalaya Jr. & Degree College for Blind, Telangana
13. National Association for the Blind, Solapur, Maharashtra
14. Disabled Knowledge Training Institute, Gujarat
15. National Association for the Blind, Sindhudurg, Maharashtra
16. Kanpur Blind School, Uttar Pradesh
17. Blind Welfare Society, New Delhi
18. North Ex Blind Welfare & Educational Society, Delhi
19. Zakir Hussain Delhi College. New Delhi
20. Indian Association of the Blind, Delhi
21. Daulat Ram College, Delhi
22. Dyal Singh College, New Delhi
23. NFB Education, Training & Rehabilitation Centre for the Blind, Assam
24. National Federation of the Blind, Bihar
25. IDL Foundation, Karnataka
26. Andhjan Vikas Kendra, Gujarat
27. National Federation of the Blind, Himachal Pradesh

28. Samaj Suraksha Sankul, Gujarat
29. Blind Sports Association, Andhra Pradesh
30. TABSA – Tamil Nadu Blind Sports Association, Tamil Nadu

The Association welcomes these new partners.

### Northern Region Coaching Camp for Female Athletes, Delhi



Indian Blind Sports Association (IBSA) and USHA International jointly launched ‘Vision 2020’, a campaign to attract and train a large number of female athletes in sports. As a part of this campaign, IBSA organized Northern Region Coaching Camp for Female Athletes in Delhi from 10 – 15 September 2018. 24 athletes from the northern region including Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh and J&K participated in the camp. The details of athletes are as given below:

- |     |         |   |   |
|-----|---------|---|---|
| (a) | Delhi   | - | 7 Nos. (4 x National, 3 x State level ) |
| (b) | Haryana | - | 1 No. (National Level)                  |

- (c) Himachal Pradesh - 1 No. (State Level)
- (d) J & K - 6 Nos. (State Level)
- (e) Punjab - 7 Nos. (1 x National, 6 x State level)
- (f) U.P. - 2 Nos. (1 x International, 1 x National level)

The camp was held from 06.30 A.M. to 09.30 A.M. at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium and from 04.30 P.M. to 06.30 P.M. at the Blind Relief Association, Delhi. The morning session was conducted by Dr. Satyapal Singh (Dronacharya Awardee) and the evening session by Mr. G. Krishnan (Level II Official IPC).

### **Arjuna Award for Ankur Dhama**



On 25 September 2018, Ankur Dhama was honoured with the Arjuna Award by the President of India, Sri Ram Nath Kovind at Rashtrapati Bhavan. A felicitation ceremony was held at the Blind Relief Association, Delhi on 27 September 2018. Ankur Dhama, an alumnus of JPM Senior Secondary School belonging to the 2013 batch, was nurtured by IBSA since his school days. Ankur

was the first totally blind (B1) para-athlete to represent India at the Rio Paralympics in 2016.. Ankur is the second athlete under IBSA to covet the Arjuna Award after Ramkaran Singh received the award in 2012.

### **Asian Para Games 2018, Jakarta**

A contingent of 8 athletes with 6 escorts and guide runners accompanied by coach Dr. Satyapal Singh participated in the Asian Para Games held from 6-13 October in Jakarta, Indonesia. Of the 7 male and 1 female athletes, Avnil Kumar won the bronze medal in the Men's 400m T13 category and Nidhi Misra won a bronze medal in the Women's discus throw F11 category.



### **13<sup>th</sup> Annual IBSA World Open Bench Press & Powerlifting Championships for the Blind, Egypt**

The Indian team comprising Akshay Bidhuri and Ajay Birajdar participated in the 13th Annual IBSA World Open Bench Press & Powerlifting Championships for the Blind held from 10-18 November at Luxor, Egypt.

Akshay Bidhuri, a Class XII student at JPM Senior Secondary School, the Blind Relief Association, Delhi won two gold medals in bench press and powerlifting (under 56 kg weight category) and Ajay Birajdar from Maharashtra won a gold in bench press & silver in powerlifting (under 75kg weight category), thus totaling to 4 medals for India. Around 120 athletes from 10 countries competed for



the world title in powerlifting and bench press under various weight categories.

The athletes were congratulated and the victory was celebrated at a felicitation ceremony organized by the Blind Relief Association & Indian Blind Sports Association at

Gandhi Hall, B.R.A on 20 November, 2018. Mr. Naresh Dhawan, General Secretary of the Delhi State Powerlifting Association was the chief guest of the occasion.

## **21<sup>st</sup> National Athletics Championship for the Blind, New Delhi**

The 21<sup>st</sup> edition of National Athletics Championship for the Blind, the largest sports event for the visually challenged in the country was held in New Delhi from 10 - 13 December 2018.

The Meet was jointly organized by Indian Blind Sports Association (IBSA) and the Blind Relief Association, Delhi with USHA International as the title sponsor.

### **Participation**

A record number of 603 visually impaired athletes and officials representing 86 affiliate institutions from 19 states across the country participated in various track and field athletic events. 49 players including 3 female players participated in the chess competition. The participants included budding as well as top national and international athletes. Divided into two age categories of Intermediate boys and girls (between 14 to 17 years) and Open men and women (not below 14 years) the participants competed separately according to their sight/vision classifications, namely, B-1 (totally blind) and B-2 & B-3 (partially sighted) classes. The track events included 100, 200, 400, 800, 1500 and 5000m and relay races. Field events were long jump, shot put, javelin and discus throw. The only indoor event was chess.

### **State Participation**



Seventeen states and two union territories participated in the Meet namely Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Delhi, Madhya Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Manipur, Uttarakhand, West Bengal, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Orissa, Jharkhand, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Tripura, Andhra Pradesh and NCT of Delhi, Chandigarh (UT)

## **New states**

Athletes from states like Tripura, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh participated in IBSA's national meet for the first time. Also IBSA in collaboration with USHA International had been working to improve the participation of female athletes in blind sports and in this event saw participation of 205 female athletes.

## **Sight Classification**

The visual classification of athletes was carried out by internationally qualified sight classifier Dr. Tania Jain. Dr. Jain was sponsored by IBSA to undergo V.I. Classifier training in Athens (Greece). Indian Blind Sports Association is proud that it is not only the first but also the only para sports body in the country that has an internationally qualified medical classifier.



## **Technical & Officials**

All the competitions were conducted in accordance with the international norms for blind sports as stipulated by International Blind Sports Federation. To ensure highest level of professionalism and fair conduct of competitions, services of professional and experienced judges and other technical officials from Athletic Federation of India, Chess Federation and IBSA were engaged.

## **Sponsors**

The Meet was sponsored and supported by USHA International, Hero FinCorp, Subros, SRF Welfare Trust, the Lalit, Amaravathi, Shanaz Hussain, Haldor Topsoe, Pioneer, KCL Limited, Sant Nirankari Charitable Foundation, Steel Authority of India Limited and several others.

## **Inauguration Ceremony**

The Meet was inaugurated by Hon'ble Shri Rao Inderjit Singh, President, Paralympic Committee of India; Minister of State, Ministry of Planning & Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers at 11:00 am on Monday, 10 December at Thyagaraj Sports Complex, near INA Colony. Smt. Meenakshi Lekhi, M.P. (Lok Sabha) was the Guest of Honour.



## **Chess Competition**

Chess competition for the blind was also a part of 21<sup>st</sup> National Meet and was organized in Press Conference Hall of Thyagaraj Sports Complex. The Competition was organized on Swiss League Round pattern. Somendra Kumar from Andh Mahavidhyalaya Blind School, Delhi won the Gold medal. Akediwala Prince Dipakbhai from MK Mehta School for the Blind, Gujarat bagged the Silver, while Akhil Sharma from Association of Blind Persons, Delhi won the Bronze medal.



## **15 New National Records and 6 New Meet Records Established**

The 4-day 21<sup>st</sup> USHA National Athletics Championship for the Blind saw 15 new national records and 6 new meet records established by athletes from across the country, out of which 12 & 3 records were made by female athletes respectively.

### **New National Records**

Women B3, Javelin: Chandrakala B. S (Maharashtra) - 19.01m

Women B3, Long Jump: Varsha Bhise (Maharashtra) - 3.65 m

Women B3, Discus: Kavya. V (Karnataka) -18.58 m

Women B3, 100 m: Pusarapu Anusha (Telangana) - 15.83 s  
 Girls B1, Shotput: S. Bidyarani (Manipur) - 5.89 m  
 Men B3, Javelin: Manjeet (Delhi) - 43.51 m  
 Men B2, 400 m: Munna Kumar Rajak (Delhi) - 00:55:59 s  
 Girl B1, 1500 m: Radhika (Chandigarh) - 06:25:87 s  
 Girls B1, Javelin: Marsa Hassa (Jharkhand) - 15.77 m  
 Girl B1, Discus: S. Bidyarani (Manipur) - 17.99 m  
 Women B3- Shotput: Netravathi v (Karnataka) - 6.3 m  
 Girls B3-800 m: Pramila G.R (Karnataka) - 3.22.73 s  
 Women B2-800 m: B Jayalakshmi (Karnataka) - 2.42.63 s  
 Women B2, Javelin: Kukadiya Takhuben (Gujarat) - 20.72 m  
 Boy B1, Javelin: Ashok Toppo (Jharkhand) -29.35 m

**New Meet Records**

Men B1, 100 m: Ramanjee (Delhi) - 12.46 s  
 Men B2, Shotput: Ashish Singh (Uttarakhand) - 11.06 m  
 Men B1, Javelin: Majirana Bharat (Gujarat) - 31.89 m  
 Women B2- 400 M: Radha V (Karnataka) - 1:10:97 s  
 Women B1- Discus: Nidhi Mishra (Delhi) - 21.59 m  
 Women B2-1500 M: Radha V (Karnataka) - 5:35:50 s

**Team Championships**

The following teams won the Team Championships in their respective categories:

S.No.	Category	Institution
1.	Men B – 1	Prajwalit Foundation, Delhi
2.	Men B – 2	Prajwalit Foundation, Delhi

3.	Men B – 3	Anand Singh Smarak Khel Avm Sanskritik Samiti, Delhi
4.	Women B – 1	Institution For The Blind, Chandigarh
5.	Women B – 2	Deepanjali Trust For The Disabled, Karnataka
6.	Women B – 3	Sri Sardha Devi Andhra Vikas Kendra, Shimoga, Karnataka
7	Boys B – 1	Netraheen Vikas Sansthan, Jodhpur Rajasthan
8.	Boys B – 2	Govt. Sr. Sec. School For Blind Boys, Kingsway Camp, Delhi
9.	Boys B – 3	Rajasthan Netraheen Kalyan Sangh, Rajasthan
10.	Girls B – 1	1. Institute For The Blind Chandigarh  2. St. Michael School For The Blind, Ranchi, Jharkhand
11.	Girls B – 2	Govt. Ideal Blind School, Takyal, Manipur
12.	Girls B – 3	Netra Vidhyalaya, Andhra Pradesh

The following athletes emerged as the fastest totally blind (B-1) runners, winning Gold Medals in the 100 m sprint:

Category	Athlete	Institution	Timing (s)
Girls	T.Krishnaveni	Netra Vidhyalaya Junior & Degree College for the Blind,	15.60

		Telangana	
Boys	Vipul Sharma	Government Senior Secondary School for the Blind, Delhi	13.85
Women	Nidhi Mishra	Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi	15.50
Men	Ramanjee	Divine Vision, Delhi	12.46



### **Valedictory Ceremony**

The Valedictory Ceremony was held at Thyagaraj Stadium on Thursday, 13 December at 3:30 PM. The first Indian boxer to have won a gold medal at Olympics, Padma Shri Vijender Singh was the Chief Guest and Shri Rahul Bhatnagar, Secretary of Sports, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports; Director General, Sports Authority of India was the Guest of Honor of the ceremony.



### **Special Gestures**

- No participation fee was charged from the participants.
- Free boarding and lodging was provided to the participants from other states. The Delhi participants were not provided night stay facilities due to paucity of space.
- Free local transport from Blind Relief Association to the stadium was provided by the Association to all participants. Free pickup and drop facility between the nearest railway stations to the Blind Relief Association was also arranged on demand.
- Second class railway fare/ bus fare by shortest route was reimbursed on the basis of railway concession available to the blind whose performance met the qualifying standard of the meet.

**Souvenir-** All the participants were given T- shirts and all the officials, coaches and managers were presented bags as souvenirs. The souvenir was sponsored by Usha International, and HeroFincorp.

**Cultural Evening** - IBSA organized three cultural evenings for the participants at the Blind Relief Association premises.

- 10 December- Prophets of Rock & Shadaj Band
- 12 December- Mayur Musical Group.
- 13 December- Sant Nirankari Charitable Foundation



## **Meeting with Asian Football Confederation, Abu Dhabi**

The Hony. General Secretary of the Indian Blind Sports Association attended a meeting with the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) between 6 - 8 January 2019 in Abu Dhabi. The meet was aimed at discussing the construction of a new football centre in Delhi under CSR project by AFC. Indian Blind Sports Association will work alongside Indian Blind Football Federation (IBFF) in India. The new center will be located in the premises of the Blind Relief Association, Delhi. In this meeting, AFC informed that the new center in Delhi and upscaling of the five blind football centers in India: Madurai, Shillong, Kolkata, Guwahati and one more (place yet to be decided) will be funded by them. The agreement for the project is under discussion and will be signed soon.

## **Lawn Tennis Coaching Camp, Mumbai**



Indian Blind Sports Association (IBSA) and Maharashtra State Lawn Tennis Association (MSLTA) in a collaborative initiative conducted a Lawn Tennis Coaching Camp for coaches and players in Mumbai from 19-21 February. This is in continuation to the success of the first regional Coaching Camp held in Delhi from 13-15 February 2018 in collaboration with Delhi Lawn Tennis Association. More than 20 coaches and visually impaired players took part and benefitted through the camp.

Simon McFarland, a Tennis Level 2 (ITF Advanced) Coach and Tennis & Squash Director at Windsor Lawn Tennis Club in Belfast, Ireland was the main coach for this training and provided his services free of cost. McFarland had been coaching tennis for 15 years. They became the first club in Northern Ireland to coach blind and visually impaired tennis in association with the Royal National Institute for the Blind since 2015.

He was accompanied by celebrated Dr. Davinder Kapur, a recipient of the MBE (Most Excellent Order of The British Empire) for his outstanding services in medicine and charity.

## **JUDO**

**Affiliate: Indian Blind and Para Judo Association**

### **IBSA World Judo Championship - Antalya, Turkey**



Four men and five female players represented India in the IBSA World Judo Championship held in Antalya, Turkey from 19-26 April 2018. The Men's Team stood 11<sup>th</sup> and Women's 7<sup>th</sup> at the end of the game. A total of 35 countries participated in the event, and India stood 22<sup>nd</sup> in the overall position.

## Asian Para Games - Jakarta, Indonesia

A squad of 11 players participated in the Asian Para Games held at Jakarta, Indonesia from 6-13 October 2018. The Indian team stood in the 9<sup>th</sup> position overall.

S. No	Name	State	Position
1.	Karpal	Haryana	5 <sup>th</sup>
2.	Jaydeep	U.P.	7 <sup>th</sup>
3.	Monu	Haryana	Participation
4.	J. Manoharan	Tamil Nadu	Participation
5.	Sunil Kumar	Haryana	5 <sup>th</sup>
6.	Bijendra	Haryana	5 <sup>th</sup>
7.	Janki Bai	M.P.	7 <sup>th</sup>
8.	Kusum	Haryana	5 <sup>th</sup>
9.	Poonam Sharma	M.P.	7 <sup>th</sup>
10.	M. Susheela	Tamil Nadu	Participation
11.	M. Mageswari	Tamil Nadu	5 <sup>th</sup>



## Commonwealth Judo Championships - Rajasthan

Held in Jaipur, Rajasthan from 4- 11 November 2018, six Indian players participated in the Commonwealth Judo Championship.

S. No	Name	State	Position
1.	Jaydeepkumar Hridaya Singh	Uttar Pradesh	Gold Medal

2.	Bijender	Haryana	Gold Medal
3.	Poonam Sharma	Madhya Pradesh	Gold Medal
4.	Sunil Kumar	Haryana	Silver Medal
5.	Komal Jayswal	Uttar Pradesh	Participation
6.	Nitin	Punjab	Participation

## **IBSA Judo World Championship - Lisbon, Portugal**

Karpal from Haryana participated in the IBSA Judo World Championship held in Lisbon, Portugal held from 16-18 November, 2018.

## **FOOTBALL**

**Affiliate: Indian Blind Football Federation (IBFF)**

### **3<sup>rd</sup> National Blind Football Tournament 2018, Kochi**



The third IBFF National Blind Football Tournament was conducted at Kochi from 27 April-1 May 2018. DCP Kochi, Sri Kuruppasamy IPS was the chief guest of the event. Mr David Absalom Hony General Secretary IBSA Delhi was the Guest of Honour for the occasion. Twelve teams participated in the tournament from across the country and the Academy Team Kochi won the championship.

## Thailand India Blind Football Combined Training Sessions, Kochi

IBFF hosted the Thailand Blind Football Team in India for a Joint Training Session with the Blind Footballers and coaches at Jogo Grounds, Chilavanoor Kadavanthra Kochi from 23- 26 July 2018 as a part of an exchange of skills program to develop the National Academy Team comprising Indian players. The sessions were conducted by experienced Thailand coaches Surin Sungsiri and Chaiyaporn Sanidwong with the Thailand Blind football team captain Kong and Panyawut Kupan. Tim Suphankomut, Thailand Blind Sports Association head official also accompanied the team. Hony. General Secretary of IBSA Mr. A David was invited for the Closing Ceremony and he gave away prizes to the winning teams.



### **3<sup>rd</sup> Edition of the North East Blind Football Tournament, Meghalaya**



The third edition of the North East Blind Football Tournament organised by the Indian Blind Football Federation was held at Shillong Public School, Shillong from 24- 26 January 2019. The event saw nearly 100 participants featuring 10 teams from across the region including Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Mizoram, Manipur, West Bengal, and Meghalaya. A training session was also

conducted by IBFF on 23 January. Bethany Society won the finals after a tough fight with NESBFC.

### **England FA Blind Football Coaches & Players' Training Session**



A coaches & trainers training for new blind football trainers was held at Jogo Football Arena, Kochi from 26-28 February 2019. The England Blind Football Head Coach Jonathan Pugh , Manager Jeff Davis & Physical Trainer Ayser Hussain trained 32 participants from across India in this session. This event was done in partnership with Asian Football Confederation to develop blind football in India.

### **CAMPs & TRAINING SESSIONS**

1. Australia Blind Football Team India Tour | 17-22 September 2018

2. East Zone Blind Football Tournament and Training Session, Kolkata | 3- 4 November 2018
3. Blind Football Goalkeeper Training Session | 5-7 December 2018

## **DEMOS**

1. Delhi Blind Football Demo at Adidas, Chattarpur | 6-7 October 2018
2. Blind Football Demo and Exhibition Game, Irumbanam | 1 December 2018
3. Blind Football Demo and Interaction Session with Jamshedpur FC | 3 December 2018
4. Demo Game at Sacred Hearts College, Thevara | 10 December 2018

## **GOALBALL**



As a part of the 21<sup>st</sup> National Athletics Championship for the Blind 2018 held from 10-13 December in Thyagaraj Stadium, New Delhi, a two-day Goalball workshop was conducted by experts from Finland and Russia. Kari Rasanen, Chairman, Juha Halme, Referee Coordinator and Alexey Baryayev, Sports Director from International Blind Sports Federation – Goalball. They conducted both seminar and practice sessions for the athletes, officials, coaches, and referees. The attendees were also awarded participation certificates from IBSA (International Blind Sports Federation) Goalball at the Valedictory Ceremony. Around 100 players and 65 coaches and officials took part in the workshop. The workshop was sponsored by the IBSA – Goalball Committee in order to encourage and improve goalball in India.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

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### ***General***

- Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports
- Sports Authority of India
- Paralympic Committee of India

### ***Technical***

- Athletic Federation of India
- Delhi Chess Federation

### ***Sponsors***

- USHA International Ltd.
- Hero FinCorp
- Subros Ltd.
- SRF Welfare Trust
- The Lalit
- Amaravathi
- Shanaz Hussain
- Haldor Topsoe
- Pioneer
- KCL Ltd.
- Sant Nirankari Charitable Foundation
- Steel Authority of India Ltd.

### ***Gifts & Awards***

- Shri R.K. Anand

### ***Sight Classification Equipment & Web Application Support***

- IMG Advisory Pvt. Ltd.

### ***Other Supporters***

- Prophets of Rock & Shadaj Band
- Mayur Musical Group
- Music Group of Sant Nirankari Charitable Foundation