ANNUAL REPORT

FY 2024-25

About us

Indian Blind Sports Association (IBSA) was founded in 1986 as an outcome of the pioneering initiatives taken by the Blind Relief Association, Delhi, to develop and promote sports for visually impaired youngsters. At present, IBSA has around 20 state bodies with 4 sports specific federations as its members. It is the sole Indian Affiliate of the International Blind Sports Federation, the apex sports organization for blind sports in the world. It is also affiliated with the Paralympic Committee of India.

Memberships & Federations

In our ongoing mission to nurture and promote blind sports in India in a more organized and sustainable manner, the Indian Blind Sports Association (IBSA) has undertaken a significant structural transformation. Moving away from the earlier institution-centric approach, we have adopted a state-affiliated model that enables broader reach, deeper grassroots engagement, and improved coordination.

This shift marks a major milestone in the evolution of blind sports governance in the country. It recognizes the importance of decentralization and local representation in fostering inclusive sporting ecosystems. Through this model, we aim to empower more individuals with visual impairments to participate in sports by making platforms more accessible and responsive to regional needs.

As of March 2025, IBSA proudly comprises 18 active state affiliates and 4 sport-specific federations, covering disciplines such as goalball, blind cricket, athletics, and 5 a side football. These affiliates play a crucial role in talent identification, training, and hosting local competitions, creating a strong pipeline of athletes ready for national and international platforms.

Rewards & Recognition

On 13th April, the Indian Blind Sports Association (IBSA) was honoured for its outstanding efforts in promoting sports among individuals with visual impairments. The felicitation was presented by Modern School, Barakhamba Road, and the Modern Institute for Education, during a special webinar on the theme “Inclusion – Empowering Diverse Abilities Through Sports.”

The recognition was jointly received by Mrs. Radhika Bharat Ram, Chairperson, and Mr. Absalom David, Hony. General Secretary of IBSA. This moment marks not only a celebration of IBSA’s continuous dedication but also reflects the growing awareness and support for inclusive sports initiatives across educational institutions.

IBSA sincerely appreciates the efforts of Modern School and the Modern Institute for Education for organizing such a thoughtful and engaging event that highlighted the importance of accessibility, inclusion, and empowerment through sports. The platform also provided an opportunity to share best practices and inspire collaboration between educators, sports professionals, and inclusion advocates.

This recognition reinforces our commitment to creating equitable opportunities for the visually impaired in the field of athletics and team sports, while strengthening partnerships with institutions that share our vision for a more inclusive and active society.

Paris-Paralympics

Kapil Parmar an outstanding achievement of winning the Bronze Medal in Judo (J1 category) at the Paris Paralympics 2024! This remarkable accomplishment is a testament to his unwavering determination, relentless hard work, and true sportsmanship. His performance on the international stage has brought immense pride to the country. We extend our heartfelt appreciation to Coach Munawar Anzar Ali, whose guidance, training, and mentorship played a vital role in shaping Kapil's success.

The bond between a dedicated athlete and a committed coach is the foundation of every great sporting triumph, and this medal is a shared victory.

Tbilisi- IBSA Grand Prix

Kapil marked a strong beginning to the prestigious IBSA Judo World Cup held in Tbilisi, Georgia. On the opening day of the tournament, two Indian judokas took to the mat. Among them was Kapil Parmar, who had previously won the bronze medal at the Paris Paralympics 2024. Kapil demonstrated exceptional skill, determination, and tactical strength throughout his matches.

Kapil began his campaign with solid victories over opponents from Russia and Kazakhstan, both known for their strong judo traditions. His winning streak was halted in the semi-final, where he faced a tough bout against the judoka from Italy. Despite the setback, Kapil remained focused and resilient.

In the bronze medal match, he faced a highly competitive opponent from Brazil. With precision and perseverance, Kapil emerged victorious, securing yet another bronze medal for India on the global stage.

Paris-Paralympics Felicitation Ceremony

The Indian Blind Sports Association (IBSA) hosted a special Felicitation Ceremony on 22nd September 2024 to honour the remarkable achievements of visually impaired athletes and their coaches who represented India at the Paralympic Games 2024.
The event celebrated the success of two bronze medallists:
🥇Kapil Parmar (J1, Judo – 60kg)
🥇Simran Sharma (T12, 200m)

They were joined by athlete-participants Kokila and Aisha, whose spirited performances brought pride and inspiration to the community.

The ceremony was graced by Mrs. Radhika Bharat Ram Chairperson of IBSA, and Mr. K.C. Pande, Executive Secretary of The Blind Relief Association Delhi. Mementos and appreciation gifts were presented to all athletes and their dedicated coaches — Mr. Munawar Anzar and Mr. Gajender Singh — whose mentorship played a vital role in the athletes' success.

सत्यमेव जयते

Bhupendra Patel

Chief Minister, Gujarat State

Dt. 02-12-2024

Message

Being optimistic is the most positive attitude in our life. There is no room for disablement for a soul having spirit of ability, perseverance and courage. As per vision of **Honourable Prime Minister Shree Narendrabhai Modi**, the Divyangs deserve utmost care not only from their families but from the entire Nation. It is needful to offer unique opportunities for them by organizing several sports events such as different championships for them.

I am much pleased to learn that the **Indian Blind Sports Association (IBSA)** in association with **Para Sports Association of Gujarat** has taken initiative to organize the **23rd IBSA National Athletics Championship for the Blind** from **14th to 16th December, 2024** at **Nadiad**. I am delighted to learn about the activities being undertaken by **IBSA** to provide a platform for our visually challenged sportspersons and give them recognition and support that play a significant role in amplifying and extend its reach. I hope, this will become a medium of inspiration for the society. I hereby, extend my best wishes to the organizing team and all the participants for their bright future.

(Bhupendra Patel)

To,
Shree Radhika Bharat Ram, *Chairperson,*
Indian Blind Sports Association (IBSA),
C/o. The Blind Relief Association,
Lal Bahadur Shastri Marg,
Nr. Hotel Oberoi, New Delhi-110003.
Email: indibsa@gmail.com
Apro/ ug /2024/11/29/rs

IBSA National Athletic Championship

The 23rd National Athletic Championship for Visually Impaired 2024 was held from 13th to 16th December 2024 at the Sports Complex, Marida Road, Nadiad, Gujarat. This prestigious event brought together 175 visually impaired athletes, along with their 50 guide runners, coaches, and managers, representing 19 states affiliated with the Indian Blind Sports Association (IBSA).

This championship has given athletes the opportunity to perform and connect, and it promotes inclusion in the sport. The event brought together participants from across diverse regions of India, shining a light on the resilience and determination of the visually impaired community, while also underlining the vital role sports plays in empowering lives.

The championship was sponsored by Usha International and Co-powered by ISGEC heavy Engineering Limited.

Press Meet

On 12th December 2024 (Wednesday), a press meet was organized at Hotel Centra, Ahmedabad where representatives from digital and print media were present. The meet had participations from around 15 journalist representing prominent outlets such as The Times of India, Divya Bhaskar, DD News Gujarati, Sports 18, The Press Trust of India Ltd., and others.

The press personnel were particularly curious about understanding the unique aspects of the championship—how visually impaired athletes compete, the role of guide runners, and the sources of their unwavering motivation.

Additionally, a live telecast of the championship highlights and discussion was aired on the evening of 12th December at 5:30 PM on GTPL Gujarat News with Mr David Absalom, Hony. General Secretary, IBSA and Mr. Kantilal Parmar, President PSA of Gujarat.

Special courtesy is extended to **Dreamweb India, Noida** and Ms. Preeti Juneja for their invaluable support and contributions for arranging the press meet that covered around 87 print, TV and online media.

Nadiad to host nat'l level athletics c'ship for blind

India's largest sporting event from Dec 14 will see 175 participants from 19 states

The event is being organised by IBSA

Ahmedabad Mirror Bureau
feedback@ahmedabadmirror.com

Posts @ahmedabadmirror

Nadiad is set to host the 23rd USHA National Athletics Championship for the Blind, beginning December 14, at the Maria Da Sports Complex.

Said to be India's largest sporting championship for visually challenged, the event will see 175 participants from 19 states.

The three-day event is organised by the Indian Blind Sports Association (IBSA) in collaboration with the Para Sports Association of Gujarat.

The competitions will be held in three categories: T11, T12, T13 and over 246 prizes will be presented in various sporting disciplines, including track and field events, said David Absalom, the Honorary General Secretary of the Indian Blind Sports Association (IBSA).

The championship, sponsored by Usha International and powered by ISGEC Heavy Engineering Ltd, aims to showcase the talent of visually impaired athletes from across the country while promoting inclusivity in sports, Absalom said.

Amul Dairy Chairperson Vipul Patel will be the chief guest at the inauguration which would also see the presence of prominent dignitaries like Ms Simran Sharma, a Paralympian medalist in athletics, and Kapil Parmar, India's first Paralympic judo medalist.

Publication: The Indian Express ; Edition: Ahmedabad; Page No: 03; Date: 13.12.2024

National Athletics Championship for Blind to begin in Nadiad tomorrow

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
AHMEDABAD, DECEMBER 12

THE 23RD NATIONAL Athletics Championship for the Blind will be held between December 14 and 16 at Nadiad town in Gujarat's Kheda district, officials said on Thursday.

This is the first time the annual sports meet for the visually impaired is being organised outside Delhi, they said.

"This year, the championship is being organised by the Indian Blind Sports Association in collaboration with the Para Sports Association of Gujarat and will take place from December 14 and 16 at Nadiad," IBSA's honorary general secretary David Absalom told the media. The event will feature a range of sporting disciplines, including track and field events and relay races, he said. In all, 175 visually impaired male and female participants from 19 states, including 28 from Gujarat, will compete in 53 international and indigenous sports events under three categories of visual impairment – T11, T12 and T13. The contests also include the 100-metre dash, 200-metre dash, relay race, long jump, shot put, javelin throw, football, judo and kabaddi. "This year's championship is also significant because, for the first time, the event will feature participation from entire states rather than affiliates, ensuring a more inclusive and equitable opportunity for all. Nineteen state bodies have selected the best athletes after conducting trials," said Absalom.

Amul Dairy chairman Vipul Patel will inaugurate the 'Usha National Athletics Championship', said Absalom. Paralympics 2024 stars Simran Sharma, bronze medal winner in the women's 200 metres, and Kapil Parmar, who clinched a bronze in judo, will also attend the ceremony, he said.

Athlete Classification Process

On 13th December 2024 (Friday), the IBSA classifier commenced the classification procedure for participating athletes. This process involved evaluating around 80 new entries from various states, including Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Jammu & Kashmir, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal.

Following a thorough peer review, the athletes were categorized based on the recommendations of the classifiers, ensuring fair and accurate grouping in alignment with IBSA standards. This step was critical in maintaining the integrity and inclusivity of the championship.

Unfortunately, 8 athletes were determined to be not eligible following the classification process.

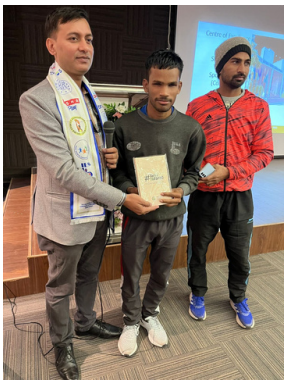
Anti-Doping Workshop

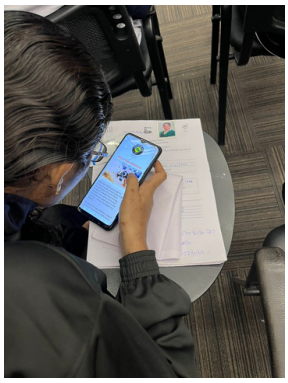
On 13th December 2024, a special Anti-Doping workshop was conducted at the Sports Complex for athletes, their coaches, and managers. The session was led by Mr. Vikas Tyagi and Mr. Amit Khandelwal from the National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) India, who provided comprehensive guidance on the importance of doping prevention.

The educators introduced a mobile application tailored for visually impaired athletes, designed to help them avoid unintentional doping violations. Additionally, a specially crafted **Anti-Doping Guide in Braille** was distributed to each state secretary/representative, offering further insights and resources on doping prevention.

The session also featured an engaging Q&A segment, where three participants were awarded goodies and gift hampers by the NADA educators for their active participation.

To conclude, Mr. Kantibhai Parmar, President of the Para Sports Association of Gujarat, and Mr. Chandu Bhati, representative of the Blind Sports Association of Gujarat, along with Hony. General Secretary IBSA, Mr. David Absalom felicitated the educators for their efforts and contribution to empowering visually impaired athletes through this valuable workshop.



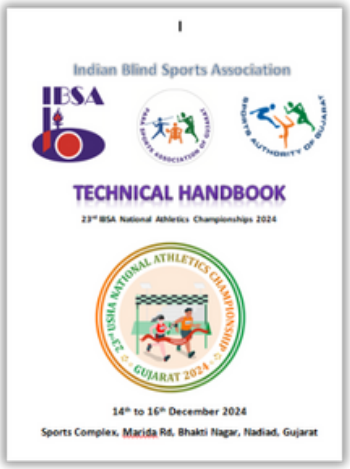


Managers' Meeting

A Managers' Meeting was convened to brief all managers and referees on the event setup, schedule, and procedural guidelines. The session aimed to ensure seamless coordination and adherence to the championship's timelines and standards.

Ms. Radhika Bharat Ram, Chairman of the Indian Blind Sports Association, and Mr. K. C. Pande, Honorary Executive Secretary of the Blind Relief Association, Delhi, joined the meeting virtually via Zoom. They extended their heartfelt wishes to all attendees, highlighting the critical role of their efforts in the championship's success.

During the meeting, a Technical Handbook and an Anti-Doping Guide in Braille were distributed to all state managers, providing comprehensive resources for managing their teams effectively and promoting doping awareness.



Inauguration Ceremony

The inauguration ceremony of the championship took place on 14th December 2024, graced by the presence of Mr. Vipul Patel, Chairman of Amul Dairy, Anand. Mr. Amit Prakash Yadav IAS, Collector & DM, Kheda - Nadiad Gujarat and Shree Santram Mandir's Swami Rameshwar Das graced the occasion as the Guests of Honour.

Other dignitaries' such as Mr. Kanlal Parmar – President, Para Sports Association of Gujarat; Mr. Chandulal Bha – Secretary, Para Sports Association of Gujarat & Executive Committee Member, Paralympic Committee of India; Ms. Dipali Rathi – President, Blind Sports Association of Gujarat Ms. Sudha K Patel, Committee Member – Blind Sports Association of Gujarat were also present.

The core organizing committee extended a warm welcome to the guests by presenting them with mementos and game scarves as tokens of appreciation for their invaluable presence. Their participation greatly energized the athletes and set an inspiring tone for the championship.

Mr. Kapil Parmar who clinched the bronze medal at the 2024 Paralympics and made history by winning India's rst Paralympic medal in judo and Mr. Ashwin Makwana, bronze medalist in the 2022 Asian Para Games were felicitated.

Record-Breaking Performances

Several National Records and Meet Records were broken during the 23rd National Athletic Championship for Blind 2024, showcasing the exceptional talent and determination of the athletes. Below are the details:

Women's Events
Event T-12 Long Jump
National & Meet Record: Tejal Damor Amraji (**Gujarat**) – 4.39 m

Event T-13 Shot Put
National & Meet Record: Chetna Galch Ratabhai (**Gujarat**) – 6.63 m
National Record: Raval Komalben Chandula – 5.96 m

Event T-13 Discus Throw
National & Meet Record: Chetna Galch Ratabhai (**Gujarat**) – 18.63 m

Event T-13 Javelin Throw
National & Meet Record: Chetna Galch Ratabhai (**Gujarat**) – 25.73 m

T-12 400 m
National & Meet Record: Tejal Damor Amraji (**Gujarat**) – 1:04.17 s

Men's Events
Event T-12 5000 m Run
Meet Record: Saurabh Sharma (**Himachal Pradesh**) – 16:26.31 s

Event T-12 400 m
National & Meet Record: Naveen Surla (**Andhra Pradesh**) – 53.8 s

Team Championship

The 23rd Usha National Athletics Championship for the Blind, held at Sports Complex, Marida Road, Nadiad in Gujarat closing ceremony was attended by Ms. Kinnariben Shah, Nagar Palika President - Nadiad. Organised bi-annually by the Indian Blind Sports Association (IBSA), this is the largest sports event for the visually challenged in the country.

The spirit and prowess of the participants who took part in sporting disciplines such as field and track sports, and relay race competitions in both men's and women's open categories for visually impaired athletes (T-11 & F-11) and those with low vision (T-12, T-13 & F-12, F-13) was lauded by the dignitaries.

Category	Team Championships
Men T11 & F11	Tamil Nadu
Men T12 & F12	Gujarat
Men T13 & F13	Uttarakhand
Women T11 & F11	Chandigarh
Women T12 & F12	Maharashtra
Women T13 & F13	Madhya Pradesh

Another Milestone

The 13th National Para Judo Championship, organized under the aegis of the Indian Blind and Para Judo Association, was held from 24 to 28 February 2025 at KD Singh Babu Stadium, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.

Around 450 athletes from 20 states, including Delhi, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, and others, participated in the championship.

The championship was inaugurated by UP Deputy CM Shri Brajesh Pathak and concluded with Principal Secretary (Youth & Sports) Shri Manish Chauhan distributing medals and trophies. Notable dignitaries like Shri Avnish Awasthi, Chief Advisor to the CM of UP and Chairman of the Indian Blind and Para Judo Association, and Shri Munawar Anzar, Founder Secretary and World Judo Referee, also graced the event and gifted souvenirs to all participants.

1st Partially Sighted Championship

The First IBFF Partially Sighted Blind Football Championship was successfully held at the Atal Bihari Vajpayee Training Centre for Disability Sports (CDS), Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh, from 24th to 25th March 2025. This landmark event marked a new chapter in the promotion of blind football among partially sighted players across India.

The championship was officially inaugurated with a ceremonial kick-off by Ms. Pallavi Rai, Deputy Director (Sports), CDS. The opening ceremony was vibrant and energetic, with eight state teams participating with great enthusiasm and sporting spirit.

This first-of-its-kind championship is a major stride towards inclusivity, athletic development, and national-level recognition for partially sighted players. It not only provided a competitive platform for talent to shine but also inspired future initiatives in accessible and adaptive sports across the country.

India Women's Blind Football in Japan

The Indian Women’s Blind Football Team proudly represented the country at the Normalisation Cup 2025 held in Japan, where they played two friendly international matches against the Japan Women’s Blind Football Team. This tour marked a significant milestone in the development of women’s blind football in India, offering critical international exposure and competitive experience on foreign soil.

Participation in the Normalisation Cup serves as an essential stepping stone as the team prepares for major upcoming tournaments in IBSA Women’s World Championship 2025, scheduled to take place in India in October. These tournaments will witness participation from top international teams and will be critical in shaping the future of the Indian women’s squad.

The experience in Japan has not only boosted the team’s confidence but also strengthened their adaptability and performance under international standards. It also helped foster deeper relationships with the global blind football community.

The Indian Blind Sports Association and the Indian Blind Football Federation remain committed to nurturing talent, providing global platforms, and encouraging the growth of women’s blind football in India as a powerful tool for empowerment, representation, and change.

Contact Us

www.ibsaindia.org

indibsa@gmail.com

+91 9953494419, 8851886222