

**MISSION:**

To provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with an intellectual disability, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in the sharing of gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the community.

HISTORY:

Founded in 1987 as Special Olympics India and later changed to Special Olympics Bharat in 2001 with 28,652 registered athletes.

PARTICIPANTS (per the 2015 census):

Registered athletes and participants:	1,414,202
Coaches:	119,900
Competition opportunities:	33,689

GOAL:

To reach 1,250,000 athletes and participants by the end of 2015

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS:

- 57 athletes participated in the 2013 Special Olympics World Summer Games in PyeongChang, South Korea
- Participation in the 2011 Special Olympics World Summer Games in Athens.
- Participation in the 2010 Special Olympics Global Congress in Marrakech, Morocco.
- In 2006, Special Olympics Bharat was recognized by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India, as National sports federation for intellectually disabled and also granted priority classification.
- Typically their National Games and Torch Runs span multiple cities and states securing media and supporters. In 2005, the Program hosted a 15 city Torch Run; National Games in 9 locations for 12 sports. In December 2008 SO Bharat actively participated in Global Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR) for World Winter Games.
- The Program hosted two major cricket events since 2004, Ahmadabad, Gujarat (2004); Mumbai (2006). Both events had hundreds of athletes from multiple countries with thousands of spectators and supporters
- In addition to the 13,117 competitions at local, state and National levels, 2,116 Coach Education Training Sessions were held in 2011. Healthy Athletes, Youth Activation & Young Athletes programs are activity interlinked with these activities.
- 64 participants attended the 2009 Special Olympics World Winter Games, Idaho USA.
- Post-Graduation diploma & diploma in Special Olympics successfully run since 2006 till date.
- More than 500 athletes participated in the 2013 Asia Pacific Games in Newcastle, Australia

SUPPORT:

Special Olympics International is providing funding however; Special Olympics Bharat has been recognize as the National Sports Federation for Mentally Challenged with priority classification and receives nationwide recognition from the Sports Authority of India, MYAS enabling them to access government funds to national coaching camps and to participate in National & International competition.

27 OFFICIAL SPORTS:

Alpine Skiing	Aquatics	Athletics	Badminton	Basketball
Bocce	Cricket	Cycling	Equestrian	Figure Skating
Floor Hockey	Floorball	Football (Soccer)	Golf	Handball
Kabadi	Kho Kho	Open Water Swimming	Power Lifting	Roller Skating
Short Track Speed Skating	Snowboarding	Snowshoeing	Softball	Table Tennis
Tennis			Volleyball	

OTHER Development PROGRAMS:

Athlete Leadership, Motor Activities Training Program (MATP), Young Athletes

EXECUTIVE STAFF:

Air Marshal (Retd.) Denzil Keelor, CEO
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