

## India in Asian Games-2014

The 2014 Asian Games was held in Incheon, South Korea from September 19 – October 4, 2014. China topped the medals table for the ninth time followed by South Korea and Japan. China won 151 gold medals ahead of the 79 won by host South Korea. Most Valuable Player award was won by Japanese swimmer Kosuke Hagino, who won seven medals including four individual gold medals. India finished eighth with 11 gold, 10 silver and 36 bronze.

India's performance in Incheon went slightly down from 14 gold medals to 11 compared to Guangzhou 2010. Four of those gold medals came in athletics (two) and kabaddi (two) while archery, boxing, hockey, shooting, squash, tennis and wrestling accounted for the rest.

In shooting Jitu Rai won the first gold for India by beating the strong contenders like Wang Zhiwei of China and South Korean two-time Olympic champion and reigning world champion Jongoh to win the gold.

Yogeshwar Dutt accomplished it in style by ending India's 28-year-old gold medal drought in the wrestling. The London Olympic Games bronze-medallist fought with verve and determination to win the men's freestyle 65kg gold.

In tennis Sania and Saketh Myneni defeated Chinese Taipei's pair to win the country a mixed doubles gold. She also bagged a bronze in the women's doubles partnering Prarthana. Apart from these two medals in tennis, men's doubles pair of Myneni and Sanam Singh took the silver, while Yuki Bhambri and Divij Sharan settled for a bronze.

After 16 years India won the Gold medal in Asian Games men's hockey tournament, and consequently earned a direct berth to the 2016 Summer Olympics hockey tournament. Goalkeeper PR Sreejesh heroically thwarted the efforts of Pakistani players in the crucial penalty shoot to give a victory of 4-2.

India completed a twin gold on the kabaddi after the men and women team defeated Iran. Indian men won a nail-biting contest against Iran and clinched the seventh consecutive gold. While in women's kabaddi it was second straight gold in Asiad.

Memorable gold came in other disciplines by compound men's team archers, Mary Kom (the first-ever in women's competition), woman discus thrower Seema Punia and the 4x400m relay team. India has been winning the relay event since the 2002. The quartet bettered the previous record in a brilliant race to win the gold for the fourth time in a row.

Indian men's squash team won a historic Asian Games gold medal beating Malaysia 2-0 spear headed by Saurav Ghosal in the final. While the Indian women's squash team led by Deepika Pallikal and Anaka Alankamony lost their matches to settle for a silver.

Athletes have done well to win medals in some new discipline such as compound archery, women's 20km walk and also sailing. Khushbir Kaur finished second to win the silver in the women's 20 kilometre race walk. Varsha Gautham and Aishwarya Nedunchezhiyan claimed a bronze medal in the women's two person dinghy sailing.

In the closing ceremony the OCA flag were handed over to the people's representatives of the next Games in 2018 to be held in Jakarta.

### 'So-go Chum'

'Sogo Chum' is a dance with Sogo, a small hand-held drum, a popular prop in Korean farmer's music and dance. It was performed in the closing ceremony of Asiad Games 2014.

### Spotted seal siblings

Three Spotted seal siblings was the official mascot of the Games in Songdo Island, Incheon. The three seals, known as "Baram", "Chumuro" and "Vichuon", means wind, dance and light in Korean language, is in accordance with the theme of main venue.

### Ronggeng

Ronggeng is a type of Javanese dance in which couples exchange poetic verses as they dance to the music of a rebab or violin and a gong. It was performed in the closing ceremony of Asiad Games 2014.

### List of Gold Medallists for India:

Name	Sport	Event
Jitu Rai	Shooting	Men's 50 metre pistol
Rajat Chauhan Sandeep Kumar Abhishek Verma	Archery	Men's team compound
Saurav Ghosal Mahesh Mangaonkar Harinder Pal Sandhu Kush Kumar	Squash	Men's team
Yogeshwar Dutt	Wrestling	Men's freestyle 65 kg
Seema Punia	Athletics	Women's discus throw
Sania Mirza Saketh Myneni	Tennis	Mixed doubles
Mary Kom	Boxing	Women's 51 kg
Men's hockey team	Field hockey	Men
Priyanka Pawar Tintu Luka Mandeep Kaur M. R. Poovamma	Athletics	Women's 4 x 400 metres relay
Women's kabaddi team	Kabaddi	Women
Men's kabaddi team	Kabaddi	Men

(Source: Compiled by Ponneinselvan Muthu,  
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