

Performance Analysis of Indian Athletes in Asian Games during 1951-2022

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ABSTRACT

The objective of the study is to do performance analysis of Indian athletes in Asian games athletes in Asian Game during 1951-2022. The Asian Games are the oldest and most prestigious event on the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) calendar, dating back to the inaugural edition in 1951. Like the Olympic Games, they are held every four years. The 2022 Asian Games in Hangzhou, China, officially the 19th Asian Games. The first edition of the Asian Games was held in New Delhi in March 1951. The Games were officially opened by Indian President Rajendra Prasad at the Dhyan Chand National Stadium. A total of 489 athletes from 11 National Olympic Committees competed in 12 sports. Japan topped the medal table with 24 gold, 21 silver and 15 bronze medals. A total of 169 medals were awarded. In spite of this it has not shown any remarkable performance except in 1951 and 1962 in which India was at 2nd and 3rd positions respectively and in 2022, India was at 4th position. India has won better than before in 2022 Asian Games according to this source we can say that India will come to a better place in future. After the 2019 pandemic, all the countries participated in the Asian Games and achieved good results. India along with Japan and China only country to have won at-least one gold in every event of Asian Games. Great championship has an enormous sense of pride and can do something that seems insurmountable and inspire others. It was concluded that from the start to the last Asian Games, the performance, number of medals, and number of athletes increased. The level of competition increased day by day.

Keywords: Asian Game, Medal, Athletes, Olympic, Championship.

INTRODUCTION

The Asian Games are the oldest and most prestigious event on the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) calendar, dating back to the inaugural edition in 1951. Like the Olympic Games, they are held every four years. The 2022 Asian Games in Hangzhou, China, officially the 19th Asian Games.

The first edition of the Asian Games was held in New Delhi in March 1951. The aftermath of the Second World War meant Japan were barred from the 1948 Olympics in London. They were not invited to the founding meeting of the Asian Games Federation in 1949 but the country was allowed to compete in the inaugural Asian Games. South Korea did not participate, however, due to the Korean War, which had started the previous year and would last until 1953. The second edition of the Asian Games was held in Manila in May 1954. The Games were formally opened by Philippines President Ramon Magsaysay at the Rizal Memorial Stadium. The third edition of the Asian Games was held in Tokyo, Japan in May 1958.

The ceremony, among other dignitaries and guests, included the Emperor of Japan Hirohito, crown prince Akiho and Shah of Iran Mohammad Reza Pahlavi.

The fourth edition of the Asian Games was held in Jakarta in August and September 1962. Politics were playing a big part behind the scenes as, succumbing to pressure from Arab countries and China, the Indonesian Government refused to issue visas to the delegations from Israel and Taiwan. The fifth edition of the Asian Games was held in Bangkok in December 1966. Taiwan and Israel returned to the Games and a total number of 1,945 athletes from 16 countries were involved in the event. Women's volleyball made its debut as one of 14 sports on the programme. The Asian Games returned to Bangkok in 1970 after original hosts Seoul dropped their bid in the wake of receiving security threats from North Korea. Thailand staged the Games in August and September with the help of South Korean funds. The seventh edition of the Asian Games was held in Tehran in September 1974 as the quadrennial event moved to the Middle East for the first time. The Azadi Sport Complex was purposely built for the Games, which saw Iran's capital play host to a record 3,010 athletes from 19 different countries. Fencing, gymnastics, and women's basketball were added to existing disciplines with 16 sports now on the programme. In addition to the use of state-of-the-art technology, from synthetic track to photo-finish cameras, the Games were known for strict security measures due to reported threats from Palestine and a Japanese militant sect. Politics played a major role as the action got underway with the Arab nations, China, North Korea, and Pakistan refusing to face Israel in basketball, fencing, football, and tennis. The eighth edition of the Asian Games was held in Bangkok in December 1978 - the third time in four editions they had been staged in Thailand's capital. Original hosts Singapore could not fulfil their obligations due to financial reasons. Pakistan's capital Islamabad was then chosen to stage the event but also pulled out due to conflicts with Bangladesh and India. It led to Bangkok stepping in and hosting the Games again. On the political front, Israel was expelled from the Asian Games.

The ninth edition of the Asian Games was held in New Delhi in November and December 1982. This marked a return to New Delhi, hosts of the inaugural edition of the Games in 1951. New Delhi thus joined Bangkok as the only cities to host multiple editions of the Asian Games. The 1982 edition was the first Asian Games to be backed by the Olympic Council of Asia. The Asian Games Federation, under whose jurisdiction the first eight Asian Games had been held, had been dissolved. By the 1980s, the Games were growing considerably in size. The 10th edition of the Asian Games took place in Seoul in September and October 1986. The venues and facilities were highly impressive as they were also going to be used for the 1988 Olympic and Paralympic Games in South Korea's capital. Considered a test event for the Olympics, a total of 4,839 athletes from 22 countries competed in 25 sports. Making their first appearances were women's cycling, judo, women's shooting, and taekwondo. Standards were high with as many as 83 Asian records and three world records broken, while two world records were equalled. Japanese hammer thrower Shigenobu Murofushi won Asian Games gold for the fifth successive time, a sequence stretching back to Bangkok 1970. Hodori, a tiger cub, was the official mascot of both the 1986 Asian Games and the 1988 Olympics. But the star of Seoul 1986 was India's P T Usha, who won four gold medals and one silver to make her the most successful track and field athlete at the Games. Ten socialist countries - Afghanistan, Brunei, Cambodia, Laos, Mongolia, Myanmar, North Korea, South Yemen, Syria and Vietnam - boycotted the Games due to political tensions.

The 11th edition of the Asian Games was held in Beijing in September and October 1990. This was the first large-scale international sports event to be hosted by China. The 12th edition of the Asian Games took place in Hiroshima in October 1994. The main theme of these Games was to promote peace and

harmony among Asian nations. This was emphasised by the Japanese hosts as the venue was the site of the first atomic bombings of 1945. The 13th edition of the Asian Games was held in Bangkok in December 1998. This was the first edition of the event for which a bidding process was held. Bangkok beat off competition from Taipei and Jakarta to win the hosting rights. It marked the fourth time Thailand's capital had played host, having already done so in 1966, 1970 and 1978. The Games were officially opened by the King of Thailand, Bhumibol Adulyadej, at the Rajamangala Stadium. The 14th edition of the Asian Games was held in Busan in September and October 2002. Busan thus became the second South Korean city to stage the Games, following in footsteps of 1986 hosts Seoul.

The 15th edition of the Asian Games was held in Doha in December 2006. Qatar's capital became only the second city in West Asia, following Tehran in 1974, to host the Games. It was the first time that all 45 member nations of the Olympic Council of Asia took part in the event. *Eurosport* broadcast the Games, marking the first time that the event could be watched in Europe. The 16th edition of the Asian Games took place in Guangzhou in November 2010. Guangzhou thus became the second city in China to host the Games, following in the foot step's of 1990 hosts Beijing.

The 17th edition of the Asian Games took place in Incheon in September and October 2014. It was the third time South Korea had staged the Olympic Council of Asia's showpiece event, following in the foot step's of 1986 hosts Seoul and 2002 hosts Busan. The eighteen edition of the Asian Games was held in Jakarta in August and September 2018. Politics were playing a big part behind the scenes as, succumbing to pressure from Arab countries and China, the Indonesian Government refused to issue visas to the delegations from Israel and Taiwan. The 2022 Asian Games, officially the 19th Asian Games and known as Hangzhou 2022, was a continental multi-sport event which was held from 23 September to 8 October 2023 in Hangzhou, China. The games marked the 110th anniversary since the creation of the first continental event, starting with the 1913 Far Eastern Championship Games.

Originally scheduled to take place from 10 to 25 September 2022, on 6 May 2022 the Games were postponed to 2023 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The new dates were announced on 19 July 2022. Hangzhou was the third Chinese city to host the Asian Games, after Beijing in 1990 and Guangzhou in 2010. The opening ceremony was held on 23 September 2023 evening in Hangzhou Sports Park Stadium in Hangzhou, China. The ceremony was directed by Sha Xiaolan, one of assistant directors of the Opening and Closing Ceremonies of the 2022 Winter Olympics in Beijing. It was attended

by the Chinese President Xi Jinping, some Asian foreign leaders including Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, and the President of the International Olympic Committee, Thomas Bach. The closing ceremony was held on 8 October 2023 in Hangzhou Sports Park Stadium; it included a cultural presentation, closing remarks, and the formal handover to feature, in Japan as hosts of next edition in 2026.

Lyngdoh D. & Prince M. M. (2024) emphasizes that sports can promote unity and national pride while talking about the effects of India's Asian Games accomplishments. This study prepares the ground for future opportunities in international sports by combining past successes with present trends, offering insightful information about India's continuous efforts to succeed at the Asian Games. **Singh A. & Singh A. (2015)** established and clear from the data that, from the Asian Games till 2014, 12.81% of Indian male athletes competed in track and field events, resulting in 1108 medals being distributed overall and 142 medals won by Indian competitors. **Ali F. (2022)** India's overall success rate of 4.39% from 1951 to 2018, it is not good when compared to other top five ranked countries, it is still satisfactory as it ranks fifth in

the Asian Games and matches their level of training and coaching program. In each Asian Games, the performance and success rate of Indian athletes are not satisfactory expected in one or two Games. Indian athletes have won 672 out of 15276 medals at the Asian Games through 2018, which indicates that their success percentage is barely 4.39%.

Research Objectives

In the previous part of this article, various aspects of monitoring the issue of the Asian Games, as well as certain extent, Asian Games medalists, were shown. In this present study, however, the researchers will not focus of a performance evaluation of countries based on long-term statistics, but instead try to look at Asian Game medalists as specific individuals who have successfully centered the statistics of Asian Games medalists. The evaluation of the Asian Games status. These exclusive athletics act as role model admired by generation of people, quickly becoming an inspiration for young promising athletics. The aim of our contribution is an effort to map Asian games medalists regarding sport, gender, the value of the medal obtained, and the period in which they received it. The researchers will try present the database of all Asian Games medal winners in the form of a map (Main Map), as well as on a website created by the authors of the paper. The research objective of this web page is to display specific medalists for individual countries and sports because the specific names are not identifiable from the map. This provides a summary projection of the number of medalists for each country; however, in our case, the key element of success is represented by specific athletes and their precise identification, which is therefore necessary in terms of the research objectives of the article.

Performance Analysis of Indian Athletes

Here the researchers had been collected some previous year’s relevant data of Asian Games & analysis these data statically.

Table 1 Represented years, Venue, Hosting Country, Total Participants of Asia and Total Participants of India of Asian Games

SL No.	Year	Venue	Country Name (Host)	No of nations participate	No of participants (Asia)	No of participants (India)
1	1951	New Delhi	India	11	489	151
2	1954	Manila	Philippines	18	970	69
3	1958	Tokyo	Japan	16	1820	79
4	1962	Jakarta	Indonesia	12	1460	74
5	1966	Bangkok	Thailand	16	1945	259
6	1970	Bangkok	Thailand	18	2400	177
7	1974	Teheran	Iran	19	3010	155
8	1978	Bangkok	Thailand	19	3842	283
9	1982	New Delhi	India	23	4411	828
10	1986	Seol	South Korea	22	4839	300
11	1990	Beijing	China	31	6122	195
12	1994	Hiroshima	Japan	42	6828	146
13	1998	Bangkok	Thailand	41	6554	328

14	2002	Busan	South Korea	44	7711	356
15	2006	Doha	Qatar	45	9520	387
16	2010	Guangzhou	China	45	9704	625
17	2014	Incheon	South Korea	45	9501	541
18	2018	Jakarta	Indonesia	45	11300	572
19	2022	Hangzhou	China	45	11935	655

In the table – 1 observed that Asian Games were held on total 19 times from 1951 to 2022. In the year 1951 first Asian games were organized. Total of 489 athletes from 11 National Olympic Committees competed in 12 sports. A total of 970 athletes from 19 Nations participated in 8 sports. The 3rd Asian Games was held in Tokyo, Japan, in May 1958. A total of 1,820 athletes from 20 Nations competed in 13 sports. 4th Asian games was organised by Jakarta, Indonesia in 1962. A total of 1,460 athletes from 12 countries competed, with badminton making its debut as one of 13 sports. The Games were officially opened by Indonesian President Sukarno at the Gelora Bung Karno Stadium. 5th Asian Games was organised by Bangkok, Thailand in 1966, a total of 1945 athletes from 16 countries were involved in the event. The Games were given royal approval as they were officially opened by the King of Thailand, Bhumibol Adulyadej, at the National Stadium. Again, the next Asian games also held in Bangkok in 1970, with 2400 athletes from 18 nations competing in 13 sports. The next edition 7th edition of Asian Games was held in Tehran, Iran in September 1974 with a record 3010 number of athletes from 19 countries. Again, the eight edition of Asian games was held in Bangkok, Thailand in 1978, total 3842 athletes participated in the event from 19 countries. After that the ninth Asian games held in New Delhi in 1982 total 4411 athletes from 23 different nations participated in this event. Then the next Asian games were held in Seoul, South Korea in 1986, a number of 4839 athletes present in the event for participation from 22 countries. In 1990 Beijing Olympic 6122 participated from 31 nations. In the year 1994 Asian games were held in Hiroshima Japan and total 6828 people participate from 42 nations. In 1998 Asian games were held in Bangkok where 6554 athletes taken part from 41 countries. Then the Busan were organised the next Asian games in 2002, a number of 7711 athletes participated from 44 countries. Then after 2006 Doha Asian games was completed with 9520 from 45 nations. In 2010 Guangzhou Asian games total 9704 peoples participating from 45 different countries. In 2014 Incheon, South Korea, total of 9501 participated from 445 countries. In 2018 Jakarta Indonesia were the host of this Asian games. Total 11300 athletes taken part from 45 nations. In 2022 next Asian games were organised by Hangzhou, China and 11935 athletes were participated from 45 nations.

Fig: 1 Graphical presentation of Total Asian Participants and Total Indian Participants

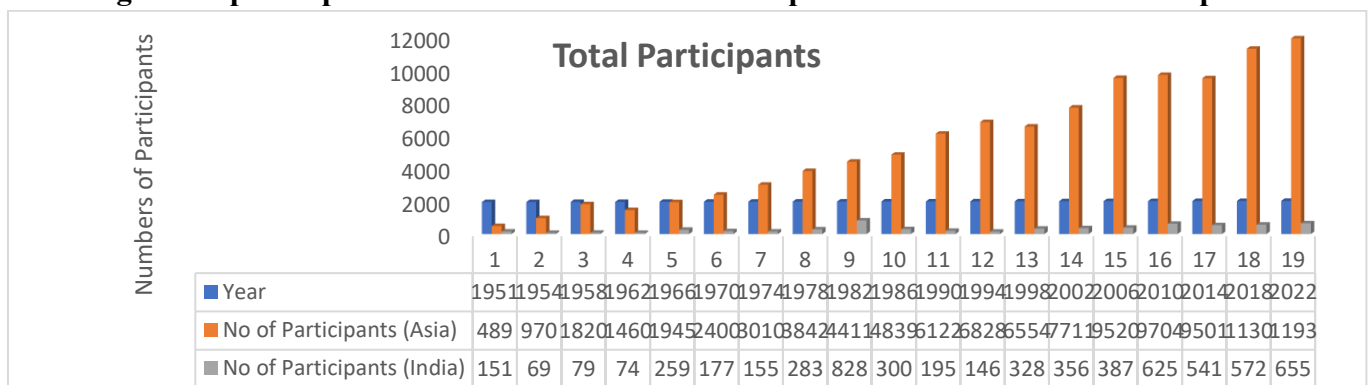


Table 2 Represented Total Medals in Asian Games and Total Indian’s Medal of Asian Games

Sl No.	Year	Total Medals in Asian Games	Indian’s Medal	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Position
1	1951	169	51	15	16	20	2 nd
2	1954	229	17	5	4	8	5 th
3	1958	350	13	5	4	4	7 th
4	1962	372	33	10	13	10	3 rd
5	1966	450	21	7	3	11	5 th
6	1970	423	25	6	9	10	5 th
7	1974	609	28	4	12	12	7 th
8	1978	626	28	11	11	6	6 th
9	1982	614	57	13	19	25	5 th
10	1986	848	37	5	9	23	5 th
11	1990	976	23	1	8	14	11 th
12	1994	1079	23	4	3	16	8 th
13	1998	1225	35	7	11	17	9 th
14	2002	1350	36	11	12	13	7 th
15	2006	1393	53	10	17	26	8 th
16	2010	1577	65	14	17	34	6 th
17	2014	1454	57	11	9	37	8 th
18	2018	1553	70	16	23	31	8 th
19	2022	1593	107	28	38	41	4 th

From the table no 2 observed that in 1951 India had been won 30.17% medal out of total medals in Asian games held on the 2nd position. In 1954 India won 2.18% medals out of total medals in Asian games held the 5th position. In 1958 Asian Games India won 1.42% medals out of total medals also secured 7th position. In 1962 India had been won 8.87% medal out of total medals in Asian games held the 3rd position. After the year 1966 India won 4.66% medal and in 1970 India had been won 5.91% medal out of total medals in Asian games both years held the 5th position. Next in the year of 1974 Asian Games India had been won- 4.59% medal out of total medals in held the 7th position. In 1978 India had been won- 4.47% medal out of total medals in Asian games and the position was also decrease to 6th. Then 5th position occupied by the players in 1982 Asian Games with 9.28% medal out of total medals. In 1986 India had been won 4.36% medal out of total medals in Asian games held the 5th position. In 1990 India had been won 23 medals with 2.35% out of total medals in Asian games held the 11th position. In 1994 India had been won 2.13% medal out of total medals in Asian games held the 8th position. In 1998 India had been won 2.85% medal out of total medals in Asian games held the 9th position. In 2002 India had been won- 2.66% medal out of total medals in Asian games held the 7th position. In 2006 Asian Games India won 3.80% medals and also secured 8th position. In 2010 Asian Games India won 4.12% medals secured 6th position. In 2014 Asian Games India won 3.92% medals out of total medals and in 2018 Asian Games India won 4.50% medals, in both years secured 8th position. In 2022 India had been won 6.71% medal out of total medals in Asian games held the 4th position.

Fig: 2 Graphical presentation of Total medals and Indian medals of Asian Game

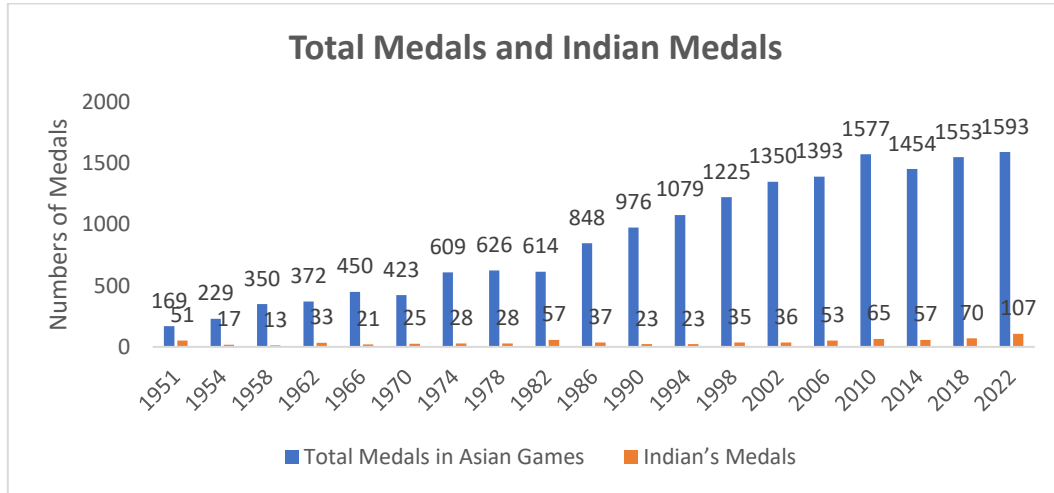


Fig: 3 Graphical presentation of Indian Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals of Asian Games

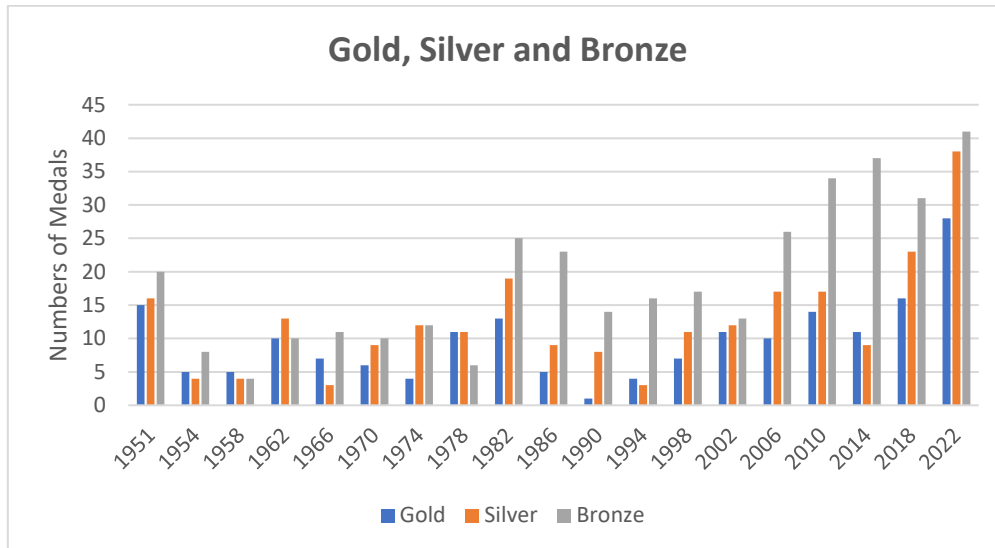
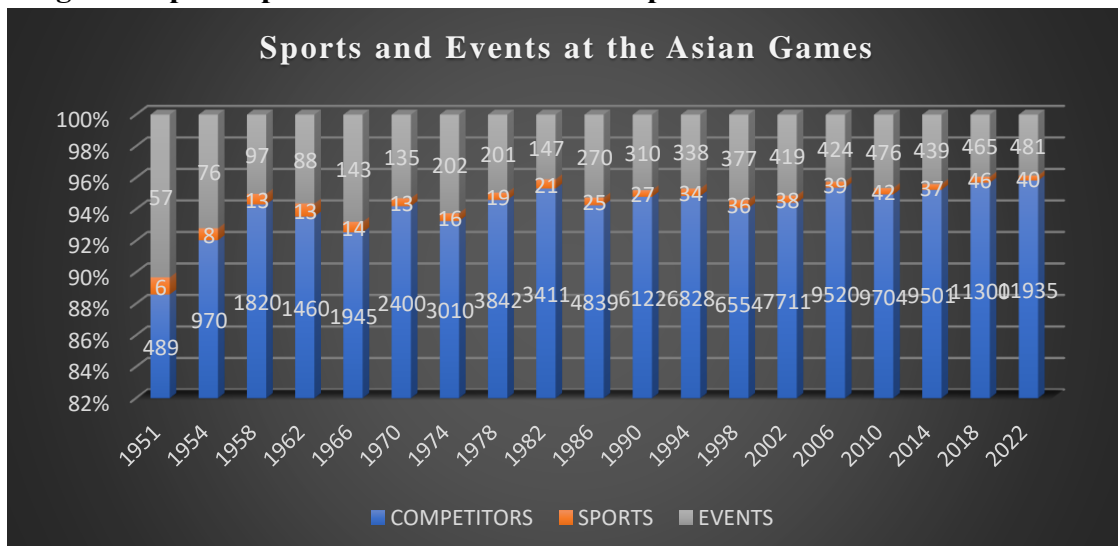


Fig: 4 Graphical presentation of Number of Sports and Events of Asian Games.



Discussion

In the present study, after analyzing the data, the researchers found the result of Indian athletes satisfactory. The researchers studied Indian athletes' performance on Asian games from the very early beginning, from athletics to Basketball, Hockey to Volleyball, Indian player got the 4th place in overall ranking of last Asian games in Hangzhou 2023 instead of 2022. That is a good indication for the progression of sports in this country. But it also analyzed that the authority needs to develop in every sector in the field of games and sports, scientific and systematic training program, appoint talented and professional coaches, more focus on talent identification program etc. other developed countries

Previous study shows that **Lyngdoh D. & Prince M. M. (2024)** found stresses the importance of sports in promoting togetherness and national pride, while discussing the impact of India's Asian Games achievements. This report lays the groundwork for future prospects in international sports by integrating historical accomplishments and current trends, providing relevant information about India's ongoing efforts to succeed at the Asian Games. **Singh A & Singh A. (2015)** The figure show that, the success rate of Indian male athletes was 12.81% from the Asian Games till 2014, Indian male athletes competed in track and field sports, resulting in 1108 medals distributed overall participants and 142 medals won by Indian competitors. **Ali F. (2022)** Indian overall success rate of 4.39% from 1951 to 2018 is not high as the other top 5 listed countries, but it is still satisfactory because it ranks 5th. In the Asian Games their level of training and coaching program in each Asian games Indian competitors' performance and success rate are below expectation in one or two games through 2018, Indian competitors earned 672 of 15276 medals at the Asian games for a success rate of only 4.39%.

Conclusion

1. In the present study, it was concluded that from the start to the last Asian Games, the performance, number of medals, and number of athletes increased. The level of competition increased day by day.
2. The Asian game, originally a product of cultural imperialism, aimed to reconstruct Asia through sports and establish national and regional identity. India should focus on improving players' performance, encouraging participation in rural, urban, and remote areas, improving infrastructure, and preventing nepotism and favoritism. The government should implement principles of equality, fair play, and non-discrimination to make the Asian Games a distinctive event for Asian society.
3. The outcome of the research recommended that the findings be sent to the Ministry of Sports, Government of India, for necessary action on identifying talent and sports infrastructure for the game of athletics, as well as the appoint professional trainers and coaches in sports to systematize athlete training programs.

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