

A COMPARATIVE STUDY Performance of Indian Athletes Based on Medal Tally in 2010 & 2014 Asian Games

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of present study was to analyze the Indian medal winning performance and ranking in medal tally (overall and sport specific), with respect to other countries, in last two Asian Games i.e. 2010 and 2014.

For this, comparative performance of Indian athletes in the last two Asian Games of 2010 and 2014 was undertaken, on the basis of medals won at these games. The relevant data, in this regard, were obtained from the concerned websites, newspapers, news magazines and other sources.

Results revealed that number of sports and events were reduced from 42 to 36 in 2014 Asian games, with respect to previous games. India participated in 28 sports in 2014 Asian games as compared to 36 in 2010 Asian Games. Nine medals (1 Gold, 2 Silver, and 6 Bronze) in 2010 Asian games were from those four sports which were dropped in 2014 Asian games and almost same number of medals (8) were lacking in 2014 Asian Games, for Indians. Percentage of medal winning performance out of total medals was 4.12% and 3.92% in 2010 and 2014 Asian games, respectively (very small difference i.e. 0.20%). It was examined that change in ranking in medal tally depended not only on India's medal winning performance but also on the other countries, medal winning performance (mostly gold medals have played the key role to decide the ranking). In sports like Athletics and Shooting, India dropped in ranking but the medals are more with respect to previous Asian Games.. India's medal winning performance in 2014, with respect to 2010 Asian Games has recorded increases in Athletics (12 to 13), Shooting(8 to 9), Wrestling (3 to 5), Archery (3 to 4), Squash(3 to 4), Hockey (1 to 2), Badminton (0 to1); decrease in Boxing (9 to 5), Rowing(5 to 3) and no change in Kabaddi (2), Wushu(2), Sailing(1) and Swimming (1).

From this study, it was concluded that Indian athletes, coaches, supporting staff, sports federations and sport organizations should focus more on all sports to maintain its winning performance, in future.

KEYWORDS

Asian Games 2010 & 2014, Medal Tally, Indian Sports, Athletes

INTRODUCTION

Asian Games has always been in spotlight for the participation of the top athletes proving their mettle and excelling in wide range of sporting events. It holds a

special place for India, the first hosts of the Asian Games way back in 1951. Indians are looking forward to a successful campaign in Incheon, post satisfactory show in Glasgow Games.

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India has a rich history and connection when it comes to Asian Games. It was India who hosted the first ever Asian Games in the year 1951. Thanks to the efforts of India's Olympic Council and the Maharaja of Patiala, Asia's newly founded nations got a platform where they could showcase their sporting strength.

India, the founder of Asian Games, is a member of the South Asian Zone of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA), and has participated in the Asian Games since their inception in 1951. The Indian Olympic Association, established in 1927 and recognized in the same year by the International Olympic Committee, is the National Olympic Committee for India.

The 2010 and 2014 Asian Games, also known as the XVI and XVII Asiad, was a multi-sport event held in Guangzhou, China from 12 to 27 November 2010 and in Incheon, South Korea, from September 19 to October 4, 2014, respectively. The aim of this study was to find out the Indian performance based on medals and ranking position in medal tally, in 2010 and 2014

Asian Games and gives vital information to athletes, coaches and sporting staff for further planning, to achieve higher targets in future.

METHODOLOGY

The comparative performance of Indian athletes, at 2010 and 2014 Asian Games, has been assessed by the total number of medals that have been won at these two Asian Games. Perhaps, simply looking at the medal count won't be the best way to measure India success as the total number of sports and events, along with its participants, play major role to fetch the medals. Yet, ranking in the medal tally, based on medals, is the sole criteria to give laurels to the country placed higher on the merit. Therefore, the present comparative performance of Indian athletes, in the last two Asian Games of 2010 and 2014, was undertaken on the basis of medals won at these games. The relevant data, in this regard, were obtained from the concerned websites, newspapers, news magazines and other sources.

RESULTS & DISCUSSION

Tables 1 and 2 show the comparative study of Asian Games held in 2010 and 2014.

Table-1 : Comparative Study of ASIAN Games of 2010 and 2014

	Asian Games-2010	Asian Games-2014
Host City, Country	Guangzhou China	Incheon South Korea
	th 16 Asian Games	th 17 Asian Games
Duration	th 12 - th 27 Nov.2010	th 19 Sep. to 4 Oct. 2014
Nations participated	45	45
Athletes Participated	9704	9,501 (203 less athletes)
Sports	42 (14 non-Olympic sports)	36 (8 non-Olympics sports removed)
Events	476	439 (37events shortlisted)
Money Spent by Host	20 billion Dollar	1.6 billion Dollar
Record Broken	03 World and 103 Asian records	14 World and 27 Asian records

Table-2 : Comparative Study of Indian participation in ASIAN Games of 2010 and 2014

	Asian Games -2010	Asian Games -2014	
	Guangzhou China	Incheon South Korea	Change in Indian Tally
Total Sports in Asian Games	42	36	6 (Less)
Sports in Which India Participated	36	28	8 (Less)
Total Competitor from India	625	541	84 (Less)
Medals win by India			
Gold	14	11	3(Less)
Silver	17	10	7(Less)
Bronze	34	36	2 (More)
Total	65	57	8 (Less)

Table 3 provides medal tally 2010 and 2014 Asian Games. Medal tally of different countries provides medal tally of top 10 countries of 2010 and 2014 Asian Games, respectively. This Table indicates that India's position in the medal tally dropped from 6th to 8th from 2010 Asian Games to 2014 Asian Games by losing 8 medals. However, it is further

apparent from the Table that the countries who were placed at first three ranking in 2010 Asian Games maintained their ranking in 2014 Asian Games also. India's position in 2010 Asian Games was at 6th place but in 2014 Asian Games, it moved to 8th position, due to better performance of Thailand and North Korea.

Table-3: Medal Tally of Top Ten Asian Nations in Asian Games 2010 and 2014

ASIAN GAMES -2010						ASIAN GAMES -2014					
Rank	NATIONS	G	S	B	Total	Rank	NATIONS	G	S	B	TOTAL
1	CHINA	199	119	98	416	1	CHINA	151	108	83	342
2	SOUTH KOREA	76	65	91	232	2	KOREA	79	71	84	234
3	JAPAN	48	74	94	216	3	JAPAN	47	76	77	200
4	IRAN	20	15	24	59	4	KAZAKHSTAN	28	23	33	84
5	KAZAKHSTAN	18	23	38	79	5	IRAN	21	18	18	57
6	INDIA	14	17	34	65	6	THAILAND	12	7	28	47
7	CHINESE-TAIPEI	13	16	38	67	7	DPR KOREA	11	11	14	36
8	UZBEKISTAN	11	22	23	56	8	INDIA	11	10	36	57
9	THAILAND	11	9	32	52	9	CHINESE-TAIPEI	10	18	23	51
10	MALAYSIA	9	18	14	41	10	QATAR	10	0	4	14
Total		477	479	621	1577	Total		436	436	575	1447

Table 4 shows number of gold, silver and bronze medals won by Indian athletes in different sports at 2010 and 2014 Asian Games. In Athletics, India though won 13 medals as compared to 12 in the 2014 Asian Games but the number of gold medals has been decreased to 2 from 5.

Similarly, in Boxing, number of medals has been decreased from 9 to 5. In other sports, from the statistics available in the Table, it is apparent that in 2010 Asian Games, India won 64 medals in 18 sports; whereas, in 2014 Asian Games, 57 medals won by India are from 14 sports only.

Table-4: Indian Medal Tally Sports-Wise in 2010 and 2014 Asian Games

Sport	G	S	B	Total	vs 2006	Sport	G	S	B	Total
Athletics	5	2	5	12	↑	Athletics	2	4	7	13
Boxing	2	3	4	9	↑	Boxing	1	0	4	5
Tennis	2	1	2	5	↑	Tennis	1	1	3	5
Kabaddi	2	0	0	2	↑	Kabaddi	2	0	0	2
Shooting	1	3	4	8	↓	Shooting	1	1	7	9
Rowing	1	3	1	5	↑	Rowing	0	0	3	3
Cue Sports	1	1	2	4	↔	Cue Sports	--	--	--	--
Archery	0	1	2	3	↑	Archery	1	1	2	4
Wushu	0	1	1	2	↑	Wushu	0	0	2	2
Golf	0	1	0	1	↔	Golf	--	--	--	--
Sailing	0	1	0	1	↔	Sailing	0	0	1	1
Squash	0	0	3	3	↑	Squash	1	2	1	4
Wrestling	0	0	3	3	↓	Wrestling	1	1	3	5
Chess	0	0	2	2	↓	Chess	--	--	--	--
Roller Sports	0	0	2	2	♦	Roller Sports	--	--	--	--
Swimming	0	0	1	1	♦	Swimming	0	0	1	1
Gymnastics	0	0	1	1	♦	Gymnastics	0	0	1	1
Hockey	0	0	1	1	↔	Hockey	1	0	1	2
Total	14	17	34	64	↑	Total	11	10	36	57
First time medal in Roller Sports, Swimming & Gymnastics India won medal in 18 Sports						First time medal in Badminton, India won medal in 14 Sports				

Table-5: Athletics Medal Tally : Indian Position in Asian Games 2010 & 2014

ASIAN GAMES- 2010						ASIAN GAMES-2014					
Rank	Nations	G	S	B	Total	Rank	Nations	G	S	B	Total
1	China (CHN)	13	15	8	36	1	China (CHN)	15	13	11	39
2	India (IND)	5	2	5	12	2	Bahrain (BRN)	9	6	1	15
3	Bahrain (BRN)	5	0	4	9	3	Qatar (QAT)	6	0	3	9
4	Japan (JPN)	4	8	8	20	4	Japan (JPN)	3	12	8	23
5	Kazakhstan (KAZ)	4	4	3	11	5	Kazakhstan (KAZ)	3	1	2	6
6	South Korea (KOR)	4	3	3	10	6	India (IND)	2	3	8	13
	Total	47	48	49	144		Total	47	47	47	141

Table 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 provide ranking of Indian athletes in the medal tally of 2010 and 2014 Asian Games, with respect to different sports disciplines and viz a viz different Asian countries.

It is indicated that in Athletics, India gained one medal more than the previous Asian Games but due to less number of gold medals dropped from 2nd to 6th position, in the tally.

Table-6: Boxing Medal Tally Indian Position in Asian Games 2010 & 2014

ASIAN GAMES -2010						ASIAN GAMES -2014					
Rank	Nation	G	S	B	Total	Rank	Nation	G	S	B	Total
1	China (CHN)	5	3	2	10	1	Kazakhstan (KAZ)	6	2	2	10
2	India (IND)	2	3	4	9	2	South Korea (KOR)	2	3	1	6
3	Kazakhstan (KAZ)	2	2	2	6	3	China (CHN)	1	2	0	3
4	Uzbekistan (UZB)	1	2	2	5	4	India (IND)	1	0	4	5
5	Thailand (THA)	1	1	2	4	5	Mongolia (MGL)	1	0	1	2
	Total	11	11	12	34		Total	11	7	8	26

In Boxing, India lost 5 medals from previous Asian Games and dropped from 2nd to 4th position. However, the number of bronze medals remains the same.

In Shooting, India gained one

more medal but due to lesser number of silver medals in 2014 Asian Games, position of India, in medal tally of Shooting, when compared with other Asian countries, dropped from 5th to 8th position.

Table-7: Shooting Medal Tally Indian Position in Asian Games 2010 & 2014

ASIAN GAMES -2010						ASIAN GAMES -2014					
Rank	Nations	G	S	B	Total	Rank	Nation s	G	S	B	Total
1	China (CHN)	21	13	11	45	1	China (CHN)	27	17	6	50
2	South Korea (KOR)	13	8	7	28	2	South Korea (KOR)	8	11	8	27
3	North Korea (PRK)	3	4	5	12	3	Kazakhstan (KAZ)	2	0	5	7
4	Athletes from Kuwait (IOC)	3	3	0	6	4	Qatar (QAT)	2	0	1	3
5	India (IND)	1	3	4	8	5	Kuwait (KUW)	1	4	1	6
6	Kazakhstan (KAZ)	1	3	2	6	6	North Korea (PRK)	1	3	1	5
7	Japan (JPN)	1	1	4	6	7	Iran (IRI)	1	2	0	3
8	Qatar (QAT)	1	1	2	4	8	India (IND)	1	1	7	9
	Total	44	44	44	132		Total	44	44	44	132

In Tennis, though there is no change in the number of medals, as won by India in 2010 and 2014, but still, due to lesser number of gold medals, ranking of India in Tennis shifted from 2nd to 3rd position.

In Wrestling, India has shown improvement in 2014 Asian Games

and by gaining more gold and silver medals upgraded its position from 11th to 7th in the medal tally.

In Archery, India improved performance by gaining one gold medal but no change in ranking.

Table-8: Tennis Medal Tally Indian Position in Asian Games 2010 & 2014

ASIAN GAMES -2010						ASIAN GAMES -2014					
Rank	Nations	G	S	B	Total	Rank	Nations	G	S	B	Total
1	Chinese Taipei (TPE)	3	2	1	6	1	Chinese Taipei	1	3	1	5
2	India (IND)	2	1	2	5	2	China	1	2	1	4
3	China (CHN)	2	1	1	4	3	India	1	1	3	5
4	Uzbekistan (UZB)	0	3	0	3	4	Thailand	1	1	1	3
5	Japan (JPN)	0	0	6	6	5	Japan	1	0	6	7
Total		7	7	14	28	Total		7	7	14	28

Table-9: Wrestling Medal Tally Indian Position in Asian Games 2010 & 2014

ASIAN GAMES -2010						ASIAN GAMES -2014					
Rank	Nations	G	S	B	Total	Rank	Nations	G	S	B	Total
1	Iran (IRI)	7	1	2	10	1	Iran (IRI)	6	1	5	12
2	Japan (JPN)	3	3	6	12	2	Japan (JPN)	4	3	4	11
3	Kazakhstan (KAZ)	2	2	7	11	3	South Korea (KOR)	3	3	6	12
4	Mongolia (MGL)	2	2	2	6	4	Uzbekistan (UZB)	3	1	3	7
5	Uzbekistan (UZB)	2	1	1	4	5	Kazakhstan (KAZ)	1	4	5	10
6	North Korea (PRK)	1	1	2	4	6	China (CHN)	1	3	5	9
7	Kyrgyzstan (KGZ)	1	1	1	3	7	India (IND)	1	1	3	5
8	South Korea (KOR)	0	3	6	9	8	North Korea (PRK)	1	1	1	3
9	China (CHN)	0	3	4	7	9	Mongolia (MGL)	0	1	4	5
10	Vietnam (VIE)	0	1	0	1	10	Kyrgyzstan (KGZ)	0	1	3	4
11	India (IND)	0	0	3	3	11	Tajikistan (TJK)	0	1	0	1
Total		18	18	36	72	Total		20	20	20	40

Table-10: Archery Medal Tally Indian Position in Asian Games 2010 & 2014

Asian Games -2010						Asian Games -2014					
Rank	Nations	G	S	B	Total	Rank	Nations	G	S	B	Total
1	South Korea (KOR)	4	0	0	4	1	South Korea (KOR)	5	3	1	9
2	China (CHN)	0	3	0	3	2	China (CHN)	1	2	1	4
3	India (IND)	0	1	2	3	3	India (IND)	1	1	2	4
Total		4	4	4	12	Total		8	8	8	24

Similarly in Squash also, India significantly improved its position, in the medal tally by upgrading from 4th to 2nd position.

Rowing has brought disappointment for India, in 2014 Asian Games, as India lost gold and silver medals and got only bronze and thereby

dropping its position from 3rd to 9th in the ranking of medal tally.

In Hockey, India showed great performance, in 2014 Asian Games, and secured first position in the medal tally, by winning gold in men and bronze medal in women sections, respectively (as shown in Table-13).

Table-11: Squash Medal Tally Indian Position in Asian Games 2010 & 2014

Asian Games -2010						Asian Games -2014					
Rank	Nations	G	S	B	Total	Rank	Nations	G	S	B	Total
1	Malaysia (MAS)	3	1	2	6	1	Malaysia (MAS)	2	2	1	5
2	Pakistan (PAK)	1	1	0	2	2	India (IND)	1	2	1	4
3	Hong Kong (HKG)	0	2	2	4	3	Kuwait (KUW)	1	0	1	2
4	India (IND)	0	0	3	3	4	Hong Kong (HKG)	0	0	4	4
5	South Korea (KOR)	0	0	1	1	5	South Korea (KOR)	0	0	1	1
Total		4	4	8	16	Total		4	4	8	16

Table-12: Rowing Medal Tally Indian Position in Asian Games 2010 & 2014

Asian games -2010						Asian Games -2014					
Rank	Nations	G	S	B	Total	Rank	Nations	G	S	B	Total
1	China (CHN)	10	0	0	10	1	China (CHN)	9	0	1	10
2	Japan (JPN)	2	2	1	5	2	South Korea (KOR)	2	5	0	7
3	India (IND)	1	3	1	5	3	Hong Kong (HKG)	1	4	0	5
4	Iran (IRI)	1	0	1	2	4	Japan (JPN)	1	2	0	3
5	South Korea (KOR)	0	3	3	6	5	Iran (IRI)	1	0	3	4
6	Vietnam (VIE)	0	2	0	2	6	Kazakhstan (KAZ)	0	1	2	3
7	Uzbekistan (UZB)	0	1	4	5		Vietnam (VIE)	0	1	2	3
8	Hong Kong (HKG)	0	1	1	2	8	Chinese Taipei (TPE)	0	1	0	1
	Kazakhstan (KAZ)	0	1	1	2	9	India (IND)	0	0	3	3
Total		14	14	14	42	Total		14	14	14	42

Table-13: Hockey Medal Tally Indian Position in Asian Games 2010 & 2014

Rank	Nations Asian Games -2010	G	S	B	Total	Nation	G	S	B	Total
1	China (CHN)	1	0	0	1	South Korea (KOR)	1	0	1	2
	Pakistan (PAK)	1	0	0	1	India (IND)	1	0	1	2
3	Malaysia (MAS)	0	1	0	1	China (CHN)	0	1	0	1
	South Korea (KOR)	0	1	0	1	Pakistan (PAK)	0	1	0	1
5	India (IND)	0	0	1	1					
	Japan (JPN)	0	0	1	1					
Total		2	2	2	6	Total	2	2	2	6

Table-14: Overall Indian Medal Performance in Asian Games

Games	Rank	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total	Total Event Medals	India's % out Total
1951 Asian Games	2	15	16	20	51	169	30.18
1954 Asian Games	5	5	4	8	17	229	7.42
1958 Asian Games	7	5	4	4	13	350	3.71
1962 Asian Games	3	10	13	10	33	372	8.87
1966 Asian Games	5	10	3	11	21	460	4.57
1970 Asian Games	5	6	9	10	25	423	5.91
1974 Asian Games	7	4	12	12	28	609	4.6
1978 Asian Games	6	11	11	6	28	626	4.47
1982 Asian Games	5	13	19	25	57	614	9.28
1986 Asian Games	5	5	9	23	37	848	4.36
1990 Asian Games	11	1	8	14	23	976	2.36
1994 Asian Games	8	4	3	16	23	1079	2.13
1998 Asian Games	9	7	11	17	35	1225	2.86
2002 Asian Games	8	11	12	13	36	1350	2.67
2006 Asian Games	8	10	17	26	53	1393	3.8
2010 Asian Games	6	14	17	34	65	1577	4.12
2014 Asian Games	8	11	9	37	57	1454	3.92
Total		135	176	281	592		

Table 12 shows overall performance of India in the so far held Asian Games by depicting India's rank number of gold, silver and bronze medals. It further elaborates, the total number of medals won so far by India in the designated events of different Asian Games by working out India's medal winning percentage. It is observed that India's best winning medal percentage was recorded in 1951 followed by 1982, 1962 and 1954 Asian Games, respectively. It is pertinent to mention here that in 2010 Asian Games, the medal winning percentage of India out of total designated medals was 4.12% which has been decreased to 3.90% in the 2014 Asian Games.

India won fewer medals in 2014 Asian games (57) as compared to 2010 Asian games (65) because nine medals (1Gold, 2Silver, 6Bronze) were coming in 2010 Asian games from those four sports which were dropped in 2014 Asian games. Indian ranking in medal tally dropped from 6th place to 8th place because Thailand and DPR Korea performed better, in medal tally, with respect to India, as compared to previous Asian Games. Gold medal

number dropped from 14 to 11, Silver medal from 17 to 10 and bronze medal gained from 34 to 36. In 2010 Asian games, percentage of medal winning, out of total medals, was slightly higher (4.12%) with respect to 2014 Asian games (3.92%) i.e. very small difference (0.20%). India dropped in ranking based on medal tally of 2010 and 2014 Asian Games, with respect to other countries in Athletics (from 2 to 6), Shooting (5 to 8), Boxing (2 to 4), Tennis (2 to 3), Rowing (3 to 9). Indian Medal tally ranking found good improvement in Wrestling (11 to 7), Squash (4 to 2) and Hockey (5 to 1). India was maintained its medal tally ranking in Archery (third position) and Kabaddi (First Position). India's Medal winning performance in 2014 with respect to 2010 Asian Games was recorded increases in Athletics (12 to 13), shooting (8 to 9), wrestling (3 to 5), Archery (3 to 4), Squash (3 to 4), Hockey (1 to 2), Badminton (0 to 1). India's Medal winning performance in 2014, with respect to 2010 Asian Games, decreased in Boxing (9 to 5), Rowing (5 to 3). No change in Indian medal tally was observed in Kabaddi (2), Wushu (2), Sailing (1) and Swimming (1) sports.

CONCLUSION

It is concluded from the present study that

1. Number of sports and events were reduced from 42 to 36 in 2014 Asian games with respect to previous games.
2. India participated in 28 sports in 2014 Asian games as compared to 36 in 2010 Asian Games
3. 9 medals (1Gold, 2Silver, 6Bronze) were won in 2010 Asian games from those four sports which are dropped in 2014 Asian games and almost same number of medals (8) lacking in 2014 Asian Games.
4. Percentage of medal winning performance out of total medals, was 4.12% in 2010 Asian games and 3.92% respect to 2014 Asian Games. The difference is very small, i.e., 0.20%.
5. It was observed that change in ranking, in medal tally, depends not only on India's medal winning performance but also on the other countries medal winning performance (mostly gold, silver and bronze medals have played the key role to decide the ranking).
6. In sports like Athletics and Shooting, India dropped in ranking; but the medals are more with respect to previous Asian games, that are due to

good medal winning performance of other countries which effected Indian ranking.

RECOMMENDATIONS / SUGGESTIONS

1. Athlete's selection, talent identification, monitoring training should be based on sports specific scientific methods to achieve high performance in international events.
2. India should participate in all sports and its related events played in Asian games. For this proper infra structure, qualified coaches and sporting staff should be arranged to excel in those sports in which India lags.
3. India should work out the reasons due to which its sports performance declines.
4. India should work out to assemble data of all elite athletes for all sports.
5. India should give more exposure to its athletes, coaches and scientists to high technology used in top performing sports nations, by organizing foreign training camps, coaching and scientific courses and research projects.
6. India should also emphasis on those sports in which we are best to maintain our position by producing good bench strength to replace old and injured athletes in future.

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