



# Asian Games 2023

[Source: IE](#)

## Why in News?

Recently, the [19<sup>th</sup> Asian Games \(of 2022, held in 2023\)](#) came to a close at the **Hangzhou Olympic Sports Centre Stadium (also called Big Lotus) in China**. Hockey player PR Sreejesh was India's flagbearer at the parade of athletes.

- The **20<sup>th</sup> Asian Games** will be held in Japan in **2027**.

## What are the Key Highlights of Asian Games 2023?

- **India's Milestones:**
  - **India's Medals Tally:**
    - With an unprecedented haul of **107 medals (28 gold, 38 silvers and 41 bronze)**, India set a new benchmark for themselves at the Asian Games 2023 in **Hangzhou, the People's Republic of China**.
      - At the **2018 Asian Games in Jakarta**, India performed well and returned with **70 medals**, including a haul of **16 gold medals**.
    - It was the **first time in Asian Games** history that India's medals tally crossed the three-figure mark. By doing so, they became the **only fourth country after China (383), Japan (188) and the Republic of Korea (190)** to win 100 or more medals in a single edition of the Asian Games.
  - **Athletes Performance:**
    - Athletics turned out to be the **most productive sport** with a **total of 29 medals - six gold, 14 silver and nine bronze**.
  - **Hockey:**
    - **The India men's hockey team won an Asian Games gold** and booked a Paris Olympics berth with a 5-1 thrashing of Japan.
- **Introduction of New Sports:**
  - 2023 Games saw two medal sports make their debut: [e-Sports and Breakdancing](#).
  - Apart from them, **Cricket, and board games - Go, Xiangqi, and Chess** returned to Asian Games in this edition after **not featuring in the 2018 Asiad**.

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# Medal Standings

## The 19th Asian Games Hangzhou

Rank	Team/NOC				Total
1	People's Republic of China	201	111	71	383
2	Japan	52	67	69	188
3	Republic of Korea	42	59	89	190
4	India	28	38	41	107
5	Uzbekistan	22	18	31	71
6	Chinese Taipei	19	20	28	67
7	Islamic Republic of Iran	13	21	20	54
8	Thailand	12	14	32	58
9	Bahrain	12	3	5	20
10	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	11	18	10	39
11	Kazakhstan	10	22	48	80
12	Hong Kong, China	8	16	29	53



## What are the Asian Games ?

### ▪ About:

- The Asian Games is the **biggest sports competition in Asia**, held once every **four years**. The symbol for the Asian Games is the **rising sun with interlocking rings**.
  - It is recognised by the [International Olympic Committee](#).

### ▪ Background and Inauguration:

- After the [Second World War](#), many Asian countries gained independence and the Indian **International Olympic Committee proposed** the idea of Asian Games as a sporting event, where all Asian nations can be represented.
- The first-ever Asian Games were held in **New Delhi in 1951**.

### ▪ Regulation:

- Asian Games were regulated by the **Asian Games Federation from 1951 to 1978**. Since 1982, **the Olympic Council of Asia** has regulated the Asian Games.

### ▪ India as a Host:

- **India is a founder member of Asian Games** and also the **host of the first Asian Games**.
- The 9<sup>th</sup> edition of the Asian Games was also **held in New Delhi in November and December 1982**.
- **Appu, the Indian elephant**, was the first mascot to be used for the Asian Games.

## UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Question (PYQ)

### Q1. Consider the following statements in respect of the 32nd Summer Olympics: (2021)

1. The official motto for this Olympics is 'A New World'.
2. Sport Climbing, Surfing, Skateboarding, Karate and Baseball are included in this Olympics.

#### Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (b)

### Q. Consider the following statements in respect of the Laureus World Sports Award which was instituted in the year 2000: (2021)

1. American golfer Tiger Woods was the first winner of this award.
2. The award was received mostly by 'Formula One' players so far.
3. Roger Federer received this award the maximum number of times compared to others.

#### Which of the above statements are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans: (c)

