



New Hub for India's Champion Women Shuttlers

Why in News?

Haryana boasts a significant contribution to **India's Olympians and Olympic medalists**. At **Paris 2024**, nearly **one-fourth of the country's Olympians hailed from the state**, along with four out of five individual medalists.

Key Points

- **Growth of Badminton:**
 - Haryana has witnessed **increasing grassroots participation in various sports**, with badminton becoming the latest discipline to gain significant traction.
- **Rising Badminton Stars:**
 - **Saina Nehwal**, a **London Olympics 2012** bronze medalist, **hails from Haryana** but trained in Hyderabad.
 - Players like **Anmol Kharb**, who helped India clinch their first **Badminton Asia title in 2024** at just 17, and **Unnati Hooda** have honed their skills in Haryana.
 - Haryana's women's team won their first-ever **Senior National badminton championship** gold, with Devika Sihag claiming the women's singles title, marking a hat-trick after Anmol (2023) and Anupama Upadhyaya (2022).
- **Shifting Focus from Traditional Sports:**
 - Areas like Rohtak and Sonapat, traditionally known for **kabaddi** and **wrestling**, are now seeing parents encourage badminton due to its non-contact nature and compatibility with education.
 - **Increased ranking tournaments in North India** have **provided more opportunities** for local players.
- **Future Goals:**
 - Coaches emphasized the need to **translate national-level victories into international success**.
 - Haryana continues to prioritize performance over commercial interests, **aiming to replicate its wrestling dominance in badminton**.

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OLYMPICS

Ancient History

- ↳ Originated - Olympia, Greece (776 BC)
- ↳ Connected to Greek culture and religion
- ↳ Events - Running, wrestling, and chariot racing
- ↳ Abolished - 393 AD by Emperor Theodosius I

Modern History

- ↳ Revived - Late 19th century by Pierre de Coubertin (Founding member of IOC)
- ↳ First modern Olympics - Athens, Greece (1896)

Upcoming Events

- ↳ **Winter Olympics 2026:** Milan-Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy
- ↳ **Summer Olympics 2028:** Los Angeles, USA
- ↳ **Summer Olympics 2032:** Brisbane, Australia
- ↳ India intends to host Olympic Games 2036

Logo and Motto

- ↳ **Logo:** 5 interlocking rings of blue, yellow, black, green, and red colors on a white background (**represents union of 5 continents and meeting of world athletes**)
- ↳ **Motto:** *Citius, Altius, Fortius – Communiter* (Faster, Higher, Stronger – Together) ('Communiter' was added in 2021)



International Olympic Committee (IOC)

- ↳ Estd - 1894
- ↳ Guardian of the Olympic Games
- ↳ HQ - Lausanne, Switzerland

5 new sports added in Tokyo 2020 Olympics: Surfing, Skateboarding, Sport Climbing, Karate and Baseball/Softball

PARIS OLYMPICS 2024

India at 71st place in the medal tally; a decline from 48th place in Tokyo 2020)

Indian Sportspersons /Team	Medal	Event
Neeraj Chopra	Silver	Men's Javelin Throw
Manu Bhaker and Sarabjot Singh	Bronze	10m air pistol mixed team event
Swapnil Kusale	Bronze	Men's 50m rifle 3 positions
Indian Hockey team	Bronze	Men's hockey
Manu Bhaker	Bronze	Women's 10m air pistol event
Aman Sehrawat	Bronze	Wrestling Men's 57kg freestyle event

Indian Olympic Association (IOA)

- ↳ Founded - **1927**
- ↳ Selects athletes to represent India at Olympics, Asian Games and CWG



Drishti IAS