



# ANNUAL REPORT

2019-20

**ATHLETICS FEDERATION OF INDIA**



**CK VALSON, AFI Secretary**

### **From the desk of AFI Secretary**

On behalf of the Executive Council of Athletics Federation of India have the privilege in presenting the Annual Report of Athletics Federation of India (AFI) in details for the period of 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020.

The AFI Council has focused on a lot of developmental activities such as organisation of District Meets, World Athletics CECS Level-1 Coaches Course, World Athletics Level-2 Coaches Course, various Coaches Seminars during the competitions, efforts to curb over age participation by introducing Bio Metric I.D. Card, bringing in new sponsors, negotiations for AFI permanent Head Quarters, direct state-wise meeting with districts, planning to conduct Marathons, up gradation of Technical Officials, conducting more competitions, Identification of Talent, participation and training abroad, bringing accountability for the District Athletics Associations and State units, ONLINE registration of Technical Officials, digitalization of AFI record, change in the format of competitions, participation of our coaches and AFI staff in the various international Seminars/Workshops, giving financial grant to districts, Model Constitution, live streaming of AFI competitions, participation of foreign athletes in AFI domestic competitions, introduction of Under 23 competition, transparency in the working of AFI and publishing all information on its website, active social media platforms and media outreach.

The involvement and active support from members of AFI as well as involvement of experts and specialists to improve the standard of Athletics in India is a good sign. The multiple developmental activities which AFI has undertaken will surely help us in the long run to improve Track & Field in our country. Let us continue this journey together to make Indian Athletics foster.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'C.K. Valson', written on a white background.

**C.K. Valson**

## 1. HIGHLIGHTS

Under the able leadership of Shri. Adille J. Sumariwalla, President AFI and meticulous guidance of Dr. Lalit K. Bhanot, Chairman, Planning, Monitoring and Coaching Committee AFI, the Federation took new initiatives for promotion, popularization and development of Athletics in the country.



Some of these are listed below:

- a) Online entry system for all AFI competitions.
- b) AFI events are now covered **“LIVE”** on website & social media platforms.
- c) Competition fees for all National Meets was received to ensure the entry of genuine athletes only and also to lessen the burden on the organizers.
- d) FTO & FSTO Examinations conducted during the year.
- e) Ensure that the Constitution of State Units is in accordance with the Model Constitution proposed by Athletics Federation of India.

- f) Ensure that the selection of athletes by State Units is made only after conducting their State Meet and not on the basis of trials.
- g) Ensure that the website of the Federation is updated on daily basis with the latest information/documents.
- h) Few outstanding District Athletics Associations were given Financial Grant/Aid.
- i) Ensure that dope samples are collected by National Anti-Doping Agency in all National & State Competitions and also in Competitions of affiliated Sports Boards and Marathon Races organized by various agencies.
- j) Non-performing State Unit were penalized.
- k) Stringent steps taken to curb tendency of age manipulation.
- l) Bio Metric Identity cards were issued to athletes during 35<sup>th</sup> National Junior Athletics Championships 2019 & 17<sup>th</sup> National Inter District Junior Athletics Meet 2019.
- m) Invited foreign athletes for participation in National Meets.
- n) Direct interaction with Presidents/Secretaries of District Units are initiated by President AFI & Chairman Planning, Monitoring and Coaching Committee AFI.
- o) Record number of athletes from over 500 districts participated in the 17<sup>th</sup> National Inter District Junior Athletics Meet 2019.
- p) More sponsors have been involved to improve financial status of the Federation.



## 2. INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPATION & TRAINING CAMPS

The details of International Competitions in which Indian athletes participated were sent for participation are as under:

### a) 23<sup>rd</sup> ASIAN ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS DOHA 2019

23<sup>rd</sup> edition of Asian Athletics Championships was held at Doha (Qatar) from 21-24 April 2019. A total number of 42 athletes i.e. 18 male and 25 female were sent for participation in this Championships. Indian athletes won 17 medals i.e. 03 Gold, 07 Silver and 07 Bronze. Majority of the athletes who could not win medals were the finalist. The overall performance of the team was quite satisfactory. 15 Officials-Coaches, Physiotherapist and Masseurs accompanied the team.

**b) 17<sup>th</sup> IAAF WORLD ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS DOHA 2019**

(Indian 4x400m Mixed Relay Team members pose after achieving Olympic qualification)

The 17<sup>th</sup> edition of IAAF World Athletics Championships was held at Doha (Qatar) from 27<sup>th</sup> September to 6<sup>th</sup> October 2019.

Twenty Eight Indian athletes qualified for participating in this prestigious World Athletics Championships. The team consisted of 17 Men and 11 Women athletes. However, one male and one female athlete could not make their presence in Doha. The team was accompanied by 14 officials – Indian & Foreign Coaches, Physiotherapists, Masseurs and Recovery experts. The performance of athletes was satisfactory.

**c) IAAF WORLD RELAYS 2019**

Both Men and Women 4X400 Relay Teams comprising a total number of 14 athletes and six Coaches/Physios/Masseurs made their way to Japan for participation in IAAF World Relays held in Japan on 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> May 2019. Our athletes performed quite creditably.

**d) INVITATIONAL INTERNATIONAL MEETING UNDER-20 (EURASIAN MEETING)**

Invitational International Meeting Under-20 (Eurasian Meeting) was held at Almaty, Kazakhstan from 29-30 May 2019. A total number of 23 athletes – 13

Men and 10 Women were sent for participation in this Invitational Competitions organized by Athletics Federation of Republic of Kazakhstan.

**e) XXII INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION OF TATYANA KOLPAKOVA**

On invitation from Athletics Federation of the Kyrgyz Republic, 26 Member team comprising 15 Men and 11 Women athletes were sent for participation in XXII International Competition of Tatyana Kolpakova which was held at Bishkek City of Kyrgyzstan on 13<sup>th</sup>& 14<sup>th</sup> July 2019. Indian athletes performed satisfactorily in this Invitational Competition.

**f) INTERNATIONAL POLE VAULT MEETING**

On invitation from Korea Association of Athletics Federation (KAAF), three Pole Vaulters were sent for participation in International Pole Vault Meeting held at Busan on 17<sup>th</sup>& 18<sup>th</sup> May 2019.

**g) 13<sup>th</sup>SOUTH ASIAN GAMES KATHMANDU 2019**

13<sup>th</sup> Edition of South Asian Games was held at Kathmandu (Nepal) from 1-10 December 2019. Athletics Events were organized from 3-7 December 2019. A strong contingent of 74 Athletes comprising of 37 Men and 37 Women, accompanied by 16 Coaches/Support Staff were sent for participation. Many junior athletes were included in the team with a view to give them exposure and confidence. As such, our athletes could not win more medals restricting to the total medal tally of 48 including 12 Gold, 20 Silver and 16 Bronze. The performance on Indian team is not satisfactory.

**h) TRAINING ABROAD**

Twelve Athletes (12) comprising of 6 Men and 6 Women of 400m. event were sent for training in Spala. In addition, another group of athletes in Shot Put and Javelin Throw were also sent for participation.

**i) PREPARATION OF ATHLETES FOR INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS**

The Annual Calendar of Training and Competitions is prepared by the Federation with utmost care and submitted to the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports every year. All the International Competitions in which Indian athletes are proposed to be sent for participation are included in the ACTC. It is worth mentioning here that Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports have till now approved all proposals submitted by the Federation in its ACTC. Athletics Federation of India thanks and appreciate Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports / Sports Authority of India for their support to Indian Athletics.



### 3. PROGRESSION OF INDIAN ATHLETICS - NEW COMPETITIONS, NATIONAL RECORDS & PLANNING



**Some of the steps taken by the Federation for overall development of Athletics are as under:-**

- a) More emphasis on transparency in selection of athletes at state level.
- b) More effective and frequent monitoring of Coaching Camps.
- c) No athlete/Coaches in the Coaching could leave the Camp without the permission of AFI.
- d) Participation of athletes in more Invitational International Championships.
- e) Provided more opportunities to junior athletes to compete in International Competitions.

- f) More junior athletes included in the Coaching Camp with seniors. Three times preparations of the athletes for 2020, 2022 Asian Games / Commonwealth Games, 2024 and 2028 Olympic Games.
- g) Gave new shape & face to National Inter District Junior Athletics Meet.
- h) Monitoring of activities of the State Associations on a regular basis.
- i) Conduct of National Championships was made more impressive and of high standard.
- j) Introduction of Under-23 Athletics Championships to encourage junior athlete to remain in the mainstream.
- k) The day-wise results of all National Athletics Championships for Juniors & Seniors uploaded on AFI Website [www.indianathletics.in](http://www.indianathletics.in)



- l) Junior Programme was given more fillip.
- m) Strict entry standards so that genuine athletes only participate in both Junior & Senior Meets.

- n) More World Athletics CECS Level-I Courses were organized. World Athletics CECS Level-II Courses were also introduced.
- o) All pending elections of office bearers of State Units were conducted.
- p) Control on conduct of Marathon Races organized by private parties.
- q) Ensured that all important information/documents are put on AFI Website without delay even including the names of athletes selected for International Competition/Training-cum-Competition Programme.
- r) There has been lot of improvement in technical conduct of Meets.
- s) Decided that all Affiliated State Units will have two votes.
- t) All records of AFI are to be digitalized.

### **WHAT NEXT**

- Ensure podium finish in Olympics & World Championships.
- To re-jig the functioning of the Federation by involving more experienced and world class Coaches to uplift the standard of Indian Athletics.
- To ensure that qualified Level-I/II Coaches are available even at district level so that talented youngsters are trained systematically and give their best performance at National Level Meets.
- To lay special emphasis on National Inter District Athletics Meet (NIDJAM) so as to take Athletics in villages and towns of the country.
- To ensure fair play by fighting tooth and nail against age fraud and doping.
- To put more and more information and documents in Website so that more youngsters get attracted towards Athletics which is the mother of all Games.
- To ensure that all the District Athletics Associations :-

- i. Organize District Level Meets and send athletes for participation in NIDJAM.
- ii. Appoint Chief Coaches in the states.
- iii. Technical and Selection Committees are constituted at the state level. iv. No overage athlete is selected for NIDJAM.

- To bring total transparency in the functioning of District and State Association.
  - To ensure that reigns of District and State Athletics Associations remain in the hands of really genuine and Athletics loving individuals.

### **PROGRESSION OF INDIAN ATHLETICS**

Athletics Federation of India came into existence in the year 1962 when it got registered with Registrar of Societies. Prior to 1962, only two editions of National Inter State Senior and National Open Athletics Championships had been organized by the then custodians of Athletics. Besides, these two track and field National Competitions, one National Cross Country Championships also used to be conducted.



AFI felt that that Indian Athletics could grow only if:

- i. There are more and more Competitions.
- ii. Programme for Juniors which is the backbone of all sports, is made with utmost care and wisdom.
- iii. Continuity in training.
- iv. State Units became more active and started organising State Meets.
- v) Eradication of the evil of age fraud.
- vi) Better facilities for athletes in the Coaching Camps.
- vii) There is involvement of foreign coaches.

With all these factors in mind, AFI started many new National Championships for both Juniors and Seniors and also Zonal Level Meets. The details of the meets introduced are enumerated below:

<b>S.No.</b>	<b>NAME OF CHAMPIONSHIPS</b>	<b>SINCE WHEN UPTO</b>	
1	National Inter State Senior Athletics Championships	1960	Till date
2	National Open Athletics Championships	1960	Till date
3	Federation Cup National Senior Athletics Championships	1995	Till date
4	National Cross Country Championships	1966	Till date
5	Federation Cup National Cross Country Championships	1996	2007
6	Domestic Circuits/IGP	1996	Till date
			(3-4 every years)
7	National Junior Athletics Championships	1985	Till date
8	National Inter Zonal Junior Athletics Championships	1989	2013
9	National (Under-22) Athletics Championships	1993	2003
10	Federation Cup National Junior Athletics Championships	2001	Till date
11	Zonal Meets	1989	Till date
12	National Inter District Junior Athletics Meet	2003	Till date
13	National Youth Athletics Championships	2004	Till date
14	National Open Race Walking Championships	2013	Till date
15	National Javelin Throw Open Championships	2018	Till date
16	National 400m Open Championships	2018	Till date

**OTHER COMPETITIONS ORGANIZED**

<b>S.No.</b>	<b>NAME OF CHAMPIONSHIPS</b>	<b>YEAR(S)</b>
1	Salwan International Athletics Meet	1999 & 2000
2	Raja Bhalendra Singh International Competition	1996 to 1999
3	National Athletics Meet, Mumbai	7th October 1999
4	AAFI National Athletics Meet, Travancore	2-3 August 1999
5	1st AAFI International Circuit Meet, Bhopal	23rd February 2020
6	2nd AAFI International Circuit Meet, New Delhi	25th February 2020
7	3rd AAFI International Athletics Meet, Hisar	3rd March 2020
8	1st National Athletics Championships, New Delhi	1st May 2002
9	2nd National Athletics Championships, Bangalore	5th May 2002
10	3rd National Athletics Championships, Chennai	7th May 2002
11	4th National Athletics Championship, New Delhi	26th August 2002
12	5th National Athletics Championships, Ludhiana	28th August 2002
13	National Sprints Meet	18-19 September 2009
15	National Combined Events Competition	2005-2009

The beginning of National Inter District Junior Athletics Meet in 2003 was to take Athletics in villages and towns so that more and more youngsters could be involved in Athletics which has now emerged as one of the top most factor for promotion of any sports in the country. The emergence of this sports leader as the Secretary General of Commonwealth Games New Delhi 2010 is a testimony to the fact that he is the one who has vision and capability in promoting sports in general and Athletics in particular in India.

### **FOCUSSED PLANNING FOR BETTER RESULTS**

The continuity in training, participation in more and more Competitions, involvement of foreign Coaches, monitoring of Coaching Camps on regular intervals, better facilities in Coaching Camps for athletes and Coaches and above all availability of required number of support staff are the main factors which can enhance the performance of campers. Movement of athletes from one place to another by air is considered to be pre-requisites of continuity in training. The availability of supplements is also of paramount importance to avoid injury to the athletes. The Federation has ensured that all these requirements are fully met and as such we have seen much better results over the years. Winning of record number of medals in Asian Games 2018 and qualification of more number of athletes for IAAF World Championships and Olympic Games 2020 are testimony to this fact.

Transparency in the functioning of the Federations has also been main agenda for the last many years. The renowned international former athletes-majority of them being Padmashree, Arjuna Awardees were included in Selection Committees for Juniors and Seniors so that no injustice was done to any deserving athlete in selection for the Coaching Camp and participation in various International Athletics Championships. Not only this, the Committees constituted by the Federation for recommending athletes for Arjuna Award, Dhyanchand Award and Rajiv Gandhi KhelRatna Award comprises of eminent outstanding athletes of yesteryears. So, is the case of Committee constituted for recommending names for Dronacharya Award.

The State Units are now required to send its Competition Calendar to the Federation. The State Competition Calendar is now sent to Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports

and also to National Anti-Doping Agency. Noting, number of dope samples were collected by National Anti Doping Agency during State Meets at our instance.

The efforts were made to ensure perfect technical conduct of National Meets. It enabled the athlete to give their best performance. Quite often, technical officials were advised to be polite, sympathetic with the athletes to keep up their morale high. The technical officials are told in clear terms that any sort of misbehavior with the athlete would not be tolerated and such technical officials would remain debarred from officiating in National Meets. It may not be out of place to mention here that we have now a large number of qualified technical officials almost in all the States including about 250 Level-I/NTO Technical Officials. This has improved the technical conduct of State Meets too.

All the State Units are required to send the names of members of Selection Committee, Technical Committee and also that of Chief Coach. Not only the federation issued instructions to District Athletics Associations to constitute Selection Committee and also have a Chief Coach so that there athletes could give better performance in National Inter District Junior Meet.

The Federation has ensured that only capable and well experienced Coaches are engaged in National Coaching Camps. The appointment of reputed foreign Coaches in the Coaching Camps has been the main objective of the Federation.



## ACCOLADES

The following athlete/officials were bestowed upon the Awards in the year 2019:

### ARJUNA AWARD

1. Tejinder Pal Singh Toor
2. Mohammed Anas
3. Ms. SwapnaBurman



### DRONACHARYA AWARD

Mr. Mohinder Singh Dhillon

## **COMPETITION CALENDAR**

The Competition Calendar for the year 2019-20 was completed with great success except the National Inter State Senior Athletics Championship and National Open Athletics Championships for which venues had to be changed due to damaged synthetic tracks which could not be re-surfaced in time. North Zone Junior Athletics Championships which was to be held at Jammu could not be organized due to the disturbances in the State. This Championships was shifted to Sangrur (Punjab) and Punjab Athletics Association organized this Meet at a short notice. The venue of the South Zone Junior Athletics Championships was also changed from Mysore to Udupi.

An extensive training plan of athletes in India and abroad was meticulously prepared and elite athletes were sent for the World famous training centres in view of Olympics Games Tokyo 2020 .

## **FOREIGN COACHES**

Indian Athletes has grown with the involvement of both foreign coaches of repute as well as Indian coaches have also enormously contributed alongwith the foreign coaches to achieve better results. The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports/Sports Authority of India need to be commended for appointment of foreign coaches as per recommendations of the Federation. The foreign coaches also help the Indian Coaches to update their knowledge. The present lot of foreign coaches have indeed done a great job in enhancing the performance of the Indian athletes.

## **COACHING CAMPS**

There has been total continuity in training of athletes in the Coaching Camps at NS, NIS Patiala, SAI South Centre, Bengaluru, SAI East Centre, Kolkata, PT Usha School of Athletics, LNCPE Trivandrum and Dharamshala. It has been ensured that the athletes get the best possible food and other facilities. The monitoring of Coaching Camps was regularly done by the Chairman, Planning, Coaching and Monitoring Committee, AFI during the year. The performance of athletes in the Coaching Camps was monitored more frequently. It was ensured that no athlete left the Coaching Camp even for a short period without the prior permission of the Federation. There have been frequent additions and deletions in the Coaching Camps. In other words, new athletes were replaced by athletes who either did not attend the Camps regularly or whose performance had not improved.

## **FOCUS ON YOUTH DEVELOPMENTAL PROGRAMS**

Juniors are the backbone of any sports. It is, therefore, of paramount importance that programme and policies for Juniors are made with utmost care and effective planning. Athletics Federation of India has been very cautious in this regard and paid lot of attention to the junior programme. It is ensured that Juniors are given the opportunity to participate in more and more International Competitions to enhance their performance. It has, therefore, made mandatory for State Units that they should organize State Level Meets and send the results to the office of the Federation and also send its athletes for participation particularly in all National Junior Championships. As on date, States in the North East Region, Andaman & Nicobar, Sikkim, Lakshadweep are now participating in Zonal and National Meets.

The Federation launched its well planned Junior programme about two decades ago, which is now giving excellent results as our junior athletes are performing quite creditably in Asian and other International Competitions.

In the year 2019, Indian Youth Athletes won 17 medals in Asian Youth Athletics Championships. The number of junior being selected for International Athletics Championships has tremendously increased over the years. This is a testimony to the fact that the junior programme prepared by the Federation is moving in the right direction. What is more important that there should not be any laxity in implementing the programme for juniors. The introduction of National Inter District Junior Athletics Meet has given fillip to the junior programme. NIDJAM was introduced with a view to involve youngsters in Indian Athletics, particularly from remote Tribal & Hilly areas, with a fact that lot of talent is available in these areas.

The Federation plans to achieve its target of involving 500 districts of the country in NIDJAM during coming years.

In order to achieve more and more success in junior programme, it is necessary that State and District Units give wide publicity to its Meets so that maximum number of junior athletes participate on District level Athletics Meets. It cannot be denied that people residing in remote areas are not even familiar with Athletics what to talk of its 47 events for Men & Women. This gives wide opportunity to the youngsters to pick up event of his/her choice and aptitude and physical parameters.

There has been matter of concern for the Federation about the fact that majority of District Units do not give wide publicity to its district Meet and entry is restricted to a particular area only. There have been instances where majority of athletes of a few districts belonged either to a particular school and family. The District Units are

advised to interact with village heads and school authorities before Organizing District Level Meets. This will definitely help in involving more talented youngsters in the age group of 14 & 16 years.

The Federation has improved the food, lodging and transportation of athletes participating in National Inter District Junior Athletics Meet.

#### **4. NIDJAM 2019 - DISTRICT OUTREACH PROGRAM**



## NIDJAM – A UNIQUE PROGRAMME

It was in 1998 that AFI's **"Think Tank"** decided to organize more Competitions and bring continuity in training with a view to enhance the performance of athletes and to uplift the standard of Athletics. The Federation, therefore, introduced more competitions i.e. Circuit Meets, later named as Indian Grand Prix, Under-22 Athletics Championships and managed to organize International Athletics Competitions from time to time in India apart from focussing more seriously on Junior Programme by introducing Zonal and Inter Zonal Championships.

In the process, the Federation subsequently prepared a Master Plan in 2002 and placed it before the Committee of experts and stalwarts of Athletics. The Committee unanimously and whole-heartedly accepted the proposal and it was decided by the Federation to start National Inter District Junior Athletics Meet. The inaugural edition of National Inter District Junior Athletics Meet for Boys & Girls Under-14 & 16 years was held at BHEL Sports Complex, Haridwar.



The aim of NIDJAM was to take Athletics to villages, towns and cities so as to identify talent at the grass root level. It was also aimed to involve at least 500 districts of the country in this ambitious programme. In the year 2003, 1187 athletes from 155 districts of the country participated. Although, it was made mandatory for District Athletics Association to organize District Level Meets and send athletes for participation in National Inter District Athletics Meet. However, the results and outcome of this Meet was much below expectations. It was observed that majority of District Athletics Association did not organize District Meets and send athlete belonging to one particular place or school. Apparently, the talented youngsters

remained ignored as they did not get the opportunity to involve themselves with Athletics. To make this Event more successful, the Federation impressed upon State Units to monitor the activities of their district units and to ensure that they organize the District Meet. Individual circulars were also sent to District Association to make this meet successful. Year after year, lot of progress was witnessed as the number of districts which participated in National Inter District Athletics Meet, went on increasing. The efforts made by the Federation by way of interacting directly with the District Secretaries made it possible and 503 districts sent 4626 entries for National Inter District Athletics Meet in 2019.

Another hallmark of this Meet is that cash payment towards re-imbusement of rail fare has been stopped and the Travelling Allowance is now made through Bank transfer system by the Federation to the accounts of District Athletics Association. The participating athletes are made aware through repeated announcements that they should get both their rail-fare from the Secretary of the District. Distribution of T. Shirts and introduction of cash award to the winners are another major steps taken by the Federation for involvement of more and more youngsters. Involvement of sponsors for this big Meet is another step forward to popularize

Athletics, particularly amongst youngsters, in the country. Not only this, Government of Andhra Pradesh has been giving helping hand to the Federation by providing various facilities like accommodation, transport and other logistics, earmarking liaison officers with the District teams during the last three years. This has boosted the morale of the young athletes as they are being treated well during the Meet.

It is fervently hoped that actual number of districts which will participate in National Inter District Athletics Meet 2020, will cross 600.

## **5. ACTIVITIES & RESPONSIBILITIES OF STATE UNITS & AFI COMMITTEES**

### **RESPONSIBILITIES OF STATE UNITS**

- To prepare Competition Calendar in line with that of Federation.
- To organize State Meets for Juniors and Seniors in the slot allotted by the Federation.
- To appoint Chief Coach.
- To constitute Technical Committee and nominate the Chairman.
- To constitute Selection Committees for ensuring that only genuine athletes are selected for participation in National Meets.
- To send the Minutes of the Selection Committee to Athletics Federation of India indicating the criteria adopted for selection.
- To send entry “**ONLINE**” of athlete who meet the entry standards.
- To ensure that district associations organize District Meets.
- To send Audited Statement of Accounts.
- To constitute Age Verification Committee for ensuring that no overage athlete is entered in National Championships.
- To maintain data base of athletes which will help in stopping overage participation.
- Merit Certificates to be handed over to the athletes immediately on receipt.
- To advise the Manager of the Team to ensure that Participation Certificates are handed over to the athletes at the venue itself after collecting from the officials of Athletics Federation of India. Strict instructions need to be issued to the Managers that they must collect the Participation Certificates at the venue itself.



- To ensure that no athlete who is found overage and banned for doping, is entered.
- To convene Annual General Meetings specially meant for election of office bearers in accordance with their Constitution / Bye-Laws.
- To create website and keep it updated.
- To ensure that Observer from the Federation is invited for the election meetings.
- To put the Constitution of the Association on its website to ensure transparency in the functioning of the State.
- To ensure that only Federation approved Equipment/Implements are used in the Athletics Championships.
- To activate District Athletics Associations for ensuring that they organize District Meets before sending athletes for participation in National Inter District Junior Athletics Meet.

### **ACTIVITIES REPORTS OF AFFILIATED UNITS**

Activity Report of the Affiliated Units become part of the Annual Activity Report of the Federation which is placed before the General House every year. It is experienced that majority of the units send the Activity Reports only after repeated reminders. The Activity Reports of the Units reflects the following factors –

- a) Details of Athletics Meets for Juniors and Seniors organized by the Unit.
- b) Non-Participation of the State Athletes in National Championships.

- c) Details of Coaching Camps organized with venue and dates. It has been found that many State Units mention the dates of the Coaching Camps without indicating the name of the venue.
- d) Details of District Athletics Association affiliated to the Units.
- e) Details of Last election of office bearers.
- f) Other details regarding overage participation, doping etc.

The State Units are also required to do power point presentation in the Annual General Assembly Meeting of the Federation every year.

It is, therefore, requested that the State Units send the Activity Report on the prescribed format by the target date.

## MEETINGS



- Selection Committee (Juniors) Meeting was held on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2019 in the office of Federation to select athlete for Under-20 International Meeting held at Almaty City, Republic of Kazakhstan.
- Meeting of Selection Committee (Seniors) was held for selection of athletes for Busan International Pole Vault Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2019.
- Meeting of Selection Committee (Seniors) was held in the office of Federation on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2019 for selection of athletes to participate in IAAF World Championships held at Doha from 27<sup>th</sup> September to 6<sup>th</sup> October 2019.
- Meeting of Selection Committee (Seniors) was held on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2019 for selection of athletes for Invitation Meetings held in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan from 9-10 July 2019 and 12-14 July 2019 respectively.
- Executive Council Meeting of the Federation was held at Agra on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2019.
- Annual General Meeting of the Assembly of Federation was held at Agra from 19-20 July 2019.

- Equipment Purchase Meeting of Athletics Federation of India was held on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2020.
- Meeting of Selection Committee was held in the office of Federation on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2020 for selection of athletes for Asian Race Walking Championships to be held in Nomi City, Japan on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2020.
- Technical Committee Meeting was held in the office of Federation on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2020.

### **Functioning of the Committees**

The Federation constituted various Committees over the years to ensure total transparency and to ensure that no injustice is being done to any athlete and also for the smooth functioning of the Federation. Following Committees exist in the Federation for various Functional Areas:

- a) Planning, Coaching & Monitoring Committee
- b) Selection Committee (Seniors)
- c) Selection Committee (Juniors)
- d) Technical Committee
- e) Medical & Doping Commission
- f) Examination Committee
- g) Age Verification Committee
- h) Women Committee
- i) Women Anti-Harassment Committee
- j) Disciplinary Committee
- k) Marketing and Sponsorship Committee
- l) Complaints Committee
- m) Grievances Redressal Committee
- n) Anti-Doping Committee
- o) Competition Management Committee
- p) Constitutional Committee
- q) Athletes Commission

- r) Finance Committee
- s) Arbitration Committee
- t) Purchase and Procurement Committee (As and when required)

The Planning, Coaching and Monitoring Committee is working regularly, resulting in most effective improvement of the Coaching Camps. The other Committee viz., Selection Committees for Juniors & Seniors, Medical and Doping Committee, Examination Committee are doing extremely good job for the Federation.

### **PARTICIPATION AND MERIT CERTIFICATES**

The Participation Certificates are issued by the Athletics Federation of India officials at the venue of the Championships. It has, however, been observed that Managers/Coaches of some of the States do not care to collect the Participation Certificate. There have also been instances where Certificates collected by the Managers/Coaches are not delivered to the athletes. This bring hardships to the athletes and they in turn, have no option but to approach the office of the Federation telephonically or through Email for issue of Certificates. This is not only a big harassment to the athletes but also increases the unnecessary work load in the office of the Federation.

Merit Certificates are prepared in the office of the Federation only after getting clearance from National Anti-Doping Agency for doping. Normally, these

Certificates are issued after three months of the conclusion of the Championships.

In this case also, it has been observed that majority of the Secretaries of State Athletics Associations are not prompt enough to deliver the Merit Certificates to the athletes. Both the Participation and Merit Certificates help the athletes to get admission, to apply for jobs and getting incentive from the various department. It is, therefore, the need of the hour to ensure that Merit Certificates are made available to the athletes soon after receipt from the Federations. In our opinion, it is the sacred

duty of the State Secretary to see that the athletes are in possession of the Certificates observing that both State Associations and the Federation are there for **“Athletes”** only. Athletes happiness is our happiness, should be our motto.

May I, therefore, appeal to my colleagues in States and Boards that they should kindly ensure that both Participation and Merit Certificate are made available to the athletes without any delay.

## 6. EDUCATION PROGRAMS

### IAAF CECS LEVEL-I & LEVEL-II COACHES COURSE IN INDIA



It cannot be denied that standard of any game or sport cannot be raised without the qualified Coaches who remain abreast with the latest techniques of coaching. The Federation knew very well that the dearth of qualified coaches in the country was hindering the growth of athletics in the country. Therefore, with the specific aim to ensure that sufficient number of IAAF qualified Coaches are available in almost all parts of the country, the Federation launched in 2018 Mission, 1000 IAAF Certified Coaches during the next five years in India.



In the first phase, Athletics Federation of India organized four courses in April/May 2018 and in the second phase five IAAF Level-I Courses were organized. Two courses were conducted in November and December 2018. The candidates were provided course material by the Federation.

In each course, a maximum of 24 participants are allowed. The details of the IAAF Level-I and Level-II IAAF CECS Coaching courses organized so far are given below :

<u>Date</u>	<u>Venue</u>
1. 15 <sup>th</sup> February 2019 to 26 <sup>th</sup> February 2019	Gwalior, Trivandrum
2. 28 <sup>th</sup> February 2019 to 11 <sup>th</sup> March 2019	Patiala
3. 15 <sup>th</sup> March 2019 to 26 <sup>th</sup> March 2019	Patiala, Ranchi
4. 15 <sup>th</sup> October 2019 to 26 <sup>th</sup> October 2019	Trivandrum, Patiala
5. 1 <sup>st</sup> November 2019 to 12 <sup>th</sup> November 2019	Trivandrum, Gwalior, Patiala
6. 10 <sup>th</sup> December 2019 to 21 <sup>st</sup> December 2019	Guwahati



## SEMINARS & INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPATIONS



- Coaches Seminar was held at Lucknow on 28-29 August 2019 during 59<sup>th</sup> National Inter State Senior Athletics Championships 2019.
- Ms. Navpreet Kaur Coach (Combined Events) and Mr. Atinder Singh, (Coach, Throws) were sent to attend CECS Level-II Course at Jakarta (Indonesia) from 11-19 December 2019.
- Mr. Chetan Gulati, Manager Events & Operations, attended 59<sup>th</sup> Young Participants Session at Olympia in Greece organised by International Olympic Academy in June 2019; he also attended Sports Marketing Seminar organised by Asian Athletics Association in Jakarta in December 2019

### **FSTO/FTO EXAMINATIONS**

- Federation State Technical Officials (FSTO) Examination was held from 5-7 July 2019 at the following Centres :

**Nagpur**

**Punjab**

**Vadodara**

**Hyderabad**

**Lucknow**

**Goa**

- Federation State Technical Officials (FSTO) Examination was held in Puducherry from 16-17 August 2019.
- Federation Technical Officials (FTO) Examination was held from 6-8 September 2019 at Kolkata, Pune, Lucknow and Trivandrum.

## **7. FIGHT AGAINST DOPING MENACE & OVERAGE**

### **DOPING – A MENACE**

Doping is fundamentally contrary to the spirit of Sports. Doping has been a matter of serious concern and the Federation is committed to eliminate doping in Athletics. The Federation has zero tolerance for those using banned substances for enhancing their performance.

The Federation is taking all sorts of measures to bring awareness amongst athletes, coaches and support staff emphasizing the adverse effects of doping. The Federation is providing updated information viz. list of prohibited substance, doping control procedures, liaising with NADA for In-Competition and Out of Competition testing, reinstatement procedure of athletes on whom sanctions are imposed by Anti Doping Disciplinary Panel of NADA. The information is also decimated to State Units and

Departmental Sports Boards to emphasize upon them for inviting NADA officials to collect Dope samples.

The year 2019 has been special for the Federation as far as Doping is concerned. It is worth mentioning here that during this year, the details of all the State Meets were also sent to NADA for collection of dope samples. It has revealed that offenders of doping have been caught by NADA in State Meets too.

The Federation also ensured that Dope samples were collected in all the Departmental Athletics Championships of the affiliated Boards. Not only this, dope samples were also collected in various Marathons for which the Federation had given the permission/recognition. We are very optimistic that Doping Menace will be eradicated very soon from Indian Athletics.

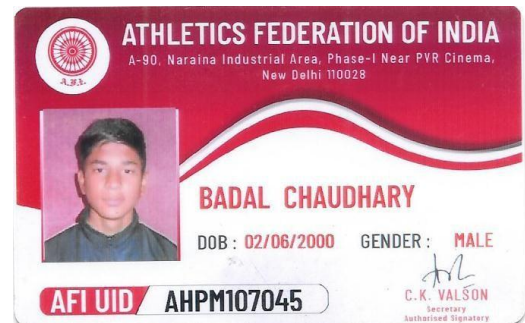
### **MEDICAL COMMISSION**

The Medical Commission of the Federation is headed by Dr. Arun K. Mendiratta. There is no doubt that the Medical Commission has performed exceedingly well during the year 2019 and in earlier years too. The cases of athletes found positive in Competitions and out of Competition are referred to him by National Anti Doping Agency and the Commission in turn corresponds with such athletes. Cases of athletes for reinstatement after expiry of the period of sanctions imposed on the athletes is another responsibility of the Medical Commission. Besides this the Chairman Medical Commission is present in all National Junior Championships including National Inter District Junior Athletics Meet and heads the panel of Age Verification Committee. Both age verification and doping come under the ambit of responsibilities of the Chairman, Medical Commission. An additional responsibility regarding procurement of supplements for the campers has also been given to the

Chairman, Medical Commission. This job was earlier handled by SAI itself. Undoubtedly, the Medical Commission has performed quite commendably during the period of the report.

### **BIO METRIC CARDS TO STOP AGE FRAUD**

Age Manipulation is an offence that needs to be curbed with iron hands. In spite of the fact that Federation has all along been deputing the Chairman, AFI Medical Commission and other officials for all the National Athletics Championships of Juniors, it has not been possible to control overage participation. In fact, there has been very less cooperation from the Host States due to non-availability of local doctors. There is no denying the fact that overage participation is a big hindrance and in fact a stumbling block in the overall development of Athletics. It is very important that the State Units should have data bank of all the athletes and send entries only after viewing the data bank. The verification of age proof Certificates of new entrants should be meticulously and carefully checked before sending their entries. Time has come that the doubtful cases even if they are in possession of age proof Certificates should be examined for bone tests.



The Federation has been very strict in tackling overage participation during last 2-3 years and have referred many cases for bone tests at the Govt. approved hospitals. The year 2019 has been of special significance as the Federation has not only gone for bone tests of doubtful cases but also have started issuing Bio Metric identity cards. Additionally, the athlete participating in all the National & Zonal Athletics Championships are required to get themselves registered before they are allowed to participate.

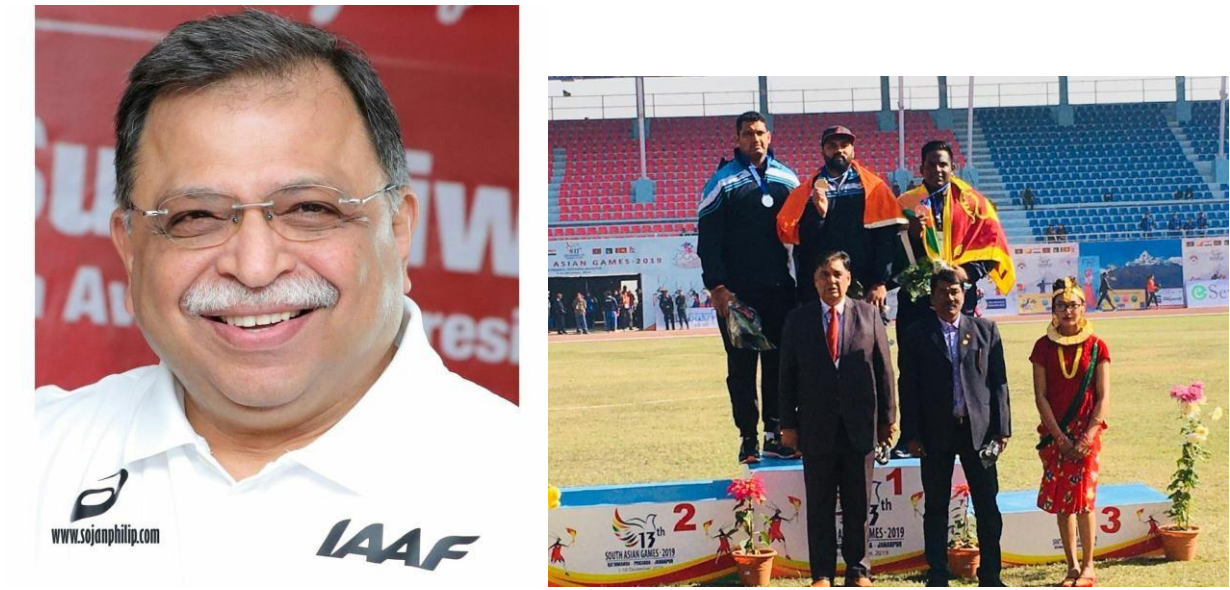
## **8. TECHNICAL CONDUCT**

The perfect technical conduct of the Meets is very essential as it helps the athletes in a big way to perform to the best of his ability. The technical officials also play a very important role in taking out the best performance from the athletes by way of his behavior, noble gestures, soft attitude, of course, without compromising with the rules of the event.

There is no denying the fact that technical conduct of the Meets has tremendously improved over the years. This is due to the fact that the basic essentials for the perfect technical conduct viz., photo finish, EDM, Wing gauge, display boards etc. are always in place. The technical delegates who are nominated for the Meets are supposed to adhere to the guidelines for the technical conduct of Meets and sent their reports indicating inter-alia the TSR and equipment used during the Championships. Another factor which has helped in improvement of technical conduct is the availability of sufficient number of local qualified technical officials. It is pertinent to mention here that the Examination Committee is regularly conducting FSTO and FTO Examination every year in which sufficient number of candidates appear for the examination.

It may not be out of place to mention that all the officials who have passed the FSTO/FTO/NTO/Level-I/Race Walking Seminars-cum-Examination etc. have been asked to register with the Federation. The important part of this exercise is that the concerned State Secretaries did not deliver the Certificates to a few officials and hence they are finding difficult to register themselves. However, such officials have been advised to mention the date, year & venue of the Examinations based on which they will be registered observing that results of the Examinations are available in Athletics Federation of India website [www.indianathletics.in](http://www.indianathletics.in)

## 9-INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATION



On the administrative front, AFI president Adille J Sumariwalla was re-elected as the member of the IAAF Council for a second four-year term during the 52nd Congress of the sport's world governing body held at Doha in 2019. AFI President received 121 votes to get elected as one of the 13 individual members of the IAAF Council.

The relationships between IAAF and AFI has become tremendously strong in the last 8 years and is now based on friendship between IAAF President Lord Sebastian Coe, AFI President Adille J Sumariwalla and Dr. Lalit K Bhanot, who is also the President of South Asian Athletics Association.

## **10. ONLINE ENTRY SYSTEM, WEBSITE, SOCIAL MEDIA & LIVE STREAMING**

### **ONLINE ENTRY SYSTEM**

The Federation has introduced the system of “**ONLINE**” entry for all the National as well as Zonal Meets. This system helps the Federation to know the exact number of entries which are received by the target date. Additionally, the complete details of the athlete viz., name, father’s name, date of birth, his past profile making him eligible to enter in that particular Meet, Postal address, Mobile Number etc become available which becomes part of our data bank. This procedure of “**ONLINE**” entry system has disciplined the State Units and Boards also as they know that in no case their athletes could be entered after the target date. On receipt of entries, confirmation is sent to athlete/units that his/her entry has been taken on record. This procedure will help the Federation to a great extent to curb the tendency of age fraud. Not only this, ONLINE entry system will stop entry of sub-standard athletes resulting in better performance of the genuine athletes. It will also lessen the burden on the organizing Units as number of participating athletes will be reduced.

The Affiliated Units deserve appreciation for their cooperation in the introduction of “**ONLINE**” entry system.

The Federation launched its website in the year 2001. The Federation’s website is very active, attractive and full of complete information about the activities of the Federation. Twitter, Facebook and You Tube on social media platform are the important aspects of Federation’s Website. As on date the following information is available on AFI Website:



- Athletics Federation of India Constitution.
- Athletics Federation of India Office Bearers.
- All circulars including Circular of National and Zonal Meets.
- Competition Calendar.
- Details about selection of athletes for participation in International Athletics Championships.
- Names of athletes, Coaches, Physiotherapist and Masseurs in the Coaching Camps at various Centres.
- Details of athletes sent on training abroad at various Centres.
- Daily results of National Championships are also posted on Federation's website [www.indianathletics.in](http://www.indianathletics.in)
- Member of Selection Committee for Juniors and Seniors.
- Committee constituted for recommending names for various Awards.
- List of athletes found positive from time to time.
- Administrative and Financial Guidelines.
- Names of officials who have passed Federation State Technical Official, Federation Technical Official, National Technical Officials, Level-I Official, Race Walking Judges.
- Names of Arjuna Awardees, Dhyanchand Awardees, Dronacharya Awardees and Rajiv Gandhi KhelRatna Awardees.
- Names of athletes who won medals in Asian Games and Commonwealth Games.
- Indian Athletics Competition Manual.
- All other information about other activities of the Federation.
- LIVE STREAMING of AFI Competitions on website, YouTube and Facebook

## **11. SPONSORS & PARTNERS**

Sponsorship plays a very big role in popularizing any sport and Athletics in particular – which is the mother of all Games. Sponsorship helps to a great extent in improvement of conduct of the National Level Championships. To some extent, it is beneficial for the athletes by way of Cash Prizes, better food and accommodation on some occasions. Live coverage through sponsorships not only helps in popularizing sport rapidly but also acts as a morale booster for the athletes, junior athletes, in particular. To keep this in mind, the Federation has been successful in involving sponsors during the last 4-5 years with more active support during the period of the report. The Federation sincerely values the role of corporates who have joined hands with us to popularize and promote Athletics in the country. Live telecast of some of the events in the past has been of great value for the Federation. The following are the corporates which are presently linked with the Federation.



- Shiv Naresh
- MILO
- Procam
- Sporting India
- Spice Jet
- Vinex
- Nelco
- ATE
- NEB Sports
- Meraki
- Reliance Foundation Youth Sports
- ONGC
- Richie Sports



I am extremely happy to mention here that relationship of the Federation with its affiliated units including Departmental Sports Boards have been cordial and trustworthy. This has helped the Federation in implementing its policies and programmes more effectively. The cooperation rendered by the Affiliated Units has played a big role in enhancing the overall standard of Athletics besides popularizing Athletics in the remote areas of the country thus involving more and more youngsters. The State Units voluntarily came forward to organize Various National Athletics Championships. The year 2019 saw participation of a few athletes from other countries in National Meets both Juniors and Seniors. This shows that the State Units are with us for upliftment of standard of athletes. Unfortunately, the Departmental Sports have not shown any interest for organizing National Athletics Championships with the exception of ONGC Sports Promotion Board which did help the Federation on few occasions.

In order to give further boost to National Inter District Junior Athletics Meet, the Federation has started interacting directly with the District Athletics Associations so

that Athletics takes its roots in villages, towns, cities and other remote areas of the country. This will add another feather in the cap of our flagship programme - National Inter District Junior Athletics Meet in the coming years and, hence, identification of large number of talented youngsters in the age group of 14 years and 16 years.

The Federation has extremely good relations with athletes, coaches, Indian Olympics Association, Sports Authority of India, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports.

Athletics Federation of India expresses its sincere gratitude to Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports/Sports Authority of India for its excellent cooperation and support in organizing the Coaching Camps, sending athletes for training-cum-Competition abroad and also for participation of athletes in various International Competitions including Invitational Athletics Competitions. There is no doubt that it is with the cooperation of Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports/Sports Authority of India that the Federation has been able to uplift the standard of Athletics and performance of athletes to such an extent.

The year 2019 is a significant year for the Sports fraternity of India as Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports/Sports Authority of India have made availability of their Stadiums for conducting National and even State Meets free of cost for the recognized National Sports Federations and State Associations. The training for athletes in Sports Authority of India Stadiums has also been made free. These steps will definitely give big boost to sports and games in India.

## **11. THANKS**

Our sincere thanks to Mr. JS Saini for his guidance and advice from time to time. The legendary Gurbachan Singh Randhawa, Chairman, Selection Committee (Seniors), Dr. Kripal Singh, Ms. Anusuiya Bai, deserve my big thanks for the contribution in the working of the Federation.

I shall be failing in my duties if I do not convey my sincere thanks to Dr. BK Sinha, IPS (Retd) for his involvement in the affairs of the Federation for many long years and rendering helping hand in different capacities to the Federation. My warm regard to him and wish he continues with us for many more years.

I do not find suitable words to express my respectful and sincere thanks to the architect of Indian Athletics – Dr. Lalit K. Bhanot. It is under his advice and guidance that Indian Athletics has risen sky high. His meticulous and well thought of planning has helped in achieving much better results in International Championships. He is a renowned personality in Asian and, in fact, in the World also as a great sports administrator having in depth knowledge in Athletics in particular. I also express my sincere thanks to all the sponsors who have immensely helped the Federation for better conduct of the Championships and for overall support for development of Athletics.

I also express my sincere thanks to Mr. Adille J. Sumariwalla, President, AFI for spearheading the activities of the Federation. It has been with his cooperation that I have been able to perform my duties in befitting manner.

In the end, I would like to convey my sincere thanks to all those who have rendered help to the Federation in one way or the other. Athletics Federation of India staff too deserves my commendation for their support.



**C.K. VALSON**  
Secretary, AFI