

QUALIFICATION GUIDELINES FOR SELECTION OF THE INDIAN TEAM FOR ASIAN GAMES 2026, NAGOYA CITY, JAPAN

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The Athletics Federation of India (AFI) is the apex body for controlling, promoting and managing the sport of Athletics in India and is affiliated with the World Athletics, Asian Athletics Association (AAA), Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (MYAS) and Indian Olympic Association (IOA). As declared in the Memorandum of Association of AFI, AFI is responsible to select and control the Indian Athletics Contingent for the Olympics, Asian Games, Commonwealth Games & SAF Games and various other international competitions under the patronage of World Athletics, Asian Athletics Association, South Asian Athletics Federation.

RULES & REGULATIONS FOR SELECTION OF THE INDIAN TEAM FOR ASIAN GAMES 2026, NAGOYA CITY, JAPAN

1. Only Selection Trials

The 65th National Inter-State Senior Athletics Championships, scheduled to be held at Bhubaneswar, Odisha, from 24th to 28th June 2026, shall serve as the only selection trials for the Asian Games 2026.

2. Exemption in Exceptional Circumstances

In exceptional cases, such as participation in top-tier international competitions (e.g., Diamond League events) or where an athlete is officially allowed by AFI, the Selection Committee may grant an exemption to such athletes. Such exemption shall be considered only with prior written permission, which must be obtained well in advance.

3. Accreditation and Whereabouts Responsibility

It shall be the sole responsibility of the athlete and/or coach to duly declare their whereabouts, place of training/coaching, and to coordinate with AFI (through the AFI Office or the National Chief Coach) well in advance. All documents required for accreditation must be submitted within the stipulated timelines.

AFI shall not be responsible for any omission or negligence on the part of the athlete/coach. An athlete may not be able to travel to the competitions with the Indian team even after achieving Qualification Standards and being selected by the Selection Committee, if he/she is not accredited by the Organizing Committee.

4. Number of Athletes per Event

Ordinarily, one athlete per event attaining the AFI-prescribed qualifying standard shall be selected. Where more than one athlete achieves the qualifying standard, inclusion of an additional athlete shall be at the sole discretion of the Selection Committee. In cases where it is deemed tactically or technically necessary, or where there exists a reasonable probability of

winning more than one medal in the same event, the Selection Committee may select more than one athlete. The decision of the Selection Committee shall be final and binding.

5. Relay Team Selection

As approved in the AFI Annual General Meeting held on 20–21 October 2018, Relay Teams (Men & Women: 4×100m, 4×400m; Mixed: 4×100m, 4×400m) shall be selected only from athletes attending the AFI recognized centres.

6. Post-Selection Medical Disclosure

Once selected and until the conclusion of the competition, athletes must immediately report any injury, illness, or change in training status that may adversely affect performance. Failure to disclose such information may result in removal from the team.

7. No Needle Policy

AFI strictly follows a No Needle Policy, and all athletes are required to comply fully with the same. Any violation shall attract appropriate disciplinary action in accordance with AFI rules.

8. SRY Gene Test

Female athletes must undergo the SRY Gene Test at the AFI-approved laboratory and submit their reports to AFI.