

Report on Khelo India Para Athletics Games 2025

Introduction:

The Khelo India Para Athletics Games 2025 were held from March 21 to March 27, 2025, showcasing the remarkable talent and spirit of para-athletes from across the nation. Organized under the Khelo India initiative, the event aimed to promote and encourage the participation of differently-abled athletes in various athletic disciplines. The games were made accessible and inclusive, thanks to the collaboration with Swayam—the official accessibility partner for para-athletics.

I had the privilege of volunteering at this grand event as one of the 150 general volunteers selected through the NSS unit of our college. From our college, the volunteering team included *Ravikant Tiwari, Nauman Raza, Rinanshi and Myself(Prisha John)*. Our volunteer duties began on March 18, 2025, three days before the commencement of the games. This report elaborates on our experiences and contributions as volunteers throughout the event.

18 March 2025: Training and Orientation

Our journey as volunteers began on March 18 with an extensive training session. The training aimed to familiarize us with our roles and responsibilities during the games. We received detailed information about Khelo India, the disciplines involved in para-athletics, and the various venues designated for the events.

One of the key highlights of the day was learning about Swayam, the accessibility partner, which played a vital role in making the event inclusive for para-athletes. The training also included fun and interactive games designed to teach us teamwork and communication skills, making the session enjoyable and insightful.

After lunch, we were deployed to our assigned areas and acquainted ourselves with our specific duties. This early preparation ensured that we were well-prepared to handle the tasks that awaited us in the days to come.

19 March 2025: Venue Familiarization and Team Coordination

We reported to the Jawaharlal Nehru (JLN) Stadium early in the morning. The day began with a session conducted by the head officials and Points of Contact (POCs), where we were briefed about the stadium layout, venues, and our specific roles.

Following the session, we embarked on a reconnaissance tour of the venue, familiarizing ourselves with key locations such as the athletic tracks, spectator seating areas, and medical and media zones. We also met with the Venue Operations Team, who guided us on the specific tasks related to managing and maintaining the venue throughout the event.

Later in the day, we received our volunteer kits, which included uniforms, ID cards, and essential accessories. The distribution of kits marked the final step of our preparations, making us ready to take on the responsibilities that awaited us.

20 March 2025: Commencement of Athletics and Venue Operations

The athletics events commenced in the evening, and with that, our active volunteering began. I was assigned to the Venue Operations team, responsible for ensuring that each venue received its necessary resources and maintained proper functionality throughout the events.

Venue Operations involved a wide range of tasks, including:

Coordinating with officials to address any logistical needs.

Ensuring the cleanliness and maintenance of the venues.

Supervising the distribution of equipment and supplies.

Assisting with the arrangement of food and water for athletes and staff.

Monitoring the flow of spectators to avoid congestion and ensuring proper seating arrangements.

The day ended with a meal shared among volunteers, reflecting on the productive start to the games.

21 March to 25 March 2025: Multi-Department Volunteering

21 March 2025: NADA and Venue Operations

During these days, we were primarily assigned to the National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) area within the athletics zone. Our main responsibility was to supervise housekeepers and ensure that cleanliness and hygiene standards were maintained consistently.

22 March 2025: Preparing the Powerlifting Venue

After March 22, we shifted focus to the powerlifting venue, transforming the auditorium into a competition-ready space. Tasks included:

Setting up the equipment and ensuring the safety standards.

Conducting spot inspections to maintain venue readiness.

Meeting with POCs, officials, and athletes to address any venue-related concerns.

23 March to 25 March 2025: Diverse Volunteering Roles

Apart from venue operations, we got opportunities to assist in other areas, including:

Medical Assistance: Coordinating with medical teams to ensure prompt assistance during athletic events.

Media and Branding: Assisting the media team with coverage arrangements and managing branding placements.

Spectator Management: Guiding spectators to their designated areas and addressing any concerns.

We also had moments of leisure, enjoying the exhilarating powerlifting competitions and relishing the food provided at the venue.

26 March 2025: The Final Day of Volunteering

The final day marked the conclusion of powerlifting events and our volunteering journey. Our primary focus was on venue operations to ensure the smooth closure of the games. Tasks involved:

Ensuring the auditorium was thoroughly cleaned and prepared for the final ceremonies.

Managing spectator flow and addressing their needs for food, water, and seating.

Coordinating with the branding team to ensure that all displays were intact and presentable.

Assisting athletes with their requirements and guiding them to the post-event zones.

The event concluded with the presentation of trophies and awards. The Field of Play (FoP) was transformed into a dance floor, where volunteers and athletes celebrated together, reflecting on the memorable week we had spent.

Conclusion:

Volunteering at the Khelo India Para Athletics Games 2025 was a transformative experience. It not only gave us a chance to contribute to a

significant national event but also taught us valuable lessons in teamwork, dedication, and the spirit of sportsmanship. The memories and friendships forged during the event will remain cherished for a lifetime.

This experience has left a lasting impact on all of us, instilling a sense of pride and responsibility. We feel honored to have played a part in making the event successful and inclusive.

Prisha John

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Prisha John', with a stylized flourish at the end.