



# GoodSport



S R I L A N K A O L Y M P I C W E E K L Y N E W S B U L L E T I N

19<sup>th</sup> Asian Games Hangzhou 2022



## MAKE HANGZHOU THE PROMISED LAND

It's heartening to note that after a rather a prolonged medal drought in the athletics realm at the 19<sup>th</sup> Asian Games in Hangzhou, China, the Lankans could look on with more than a ray of hope in the 2022 version.

The Games will take place from 23 September to 8 October, 2023.

As a matter of fact, in 2014 the Lankans did break the hoodoo – courtesy of Cricket in Incheon, South Korea, but, this island nation could live more conviction rather than speculation while ascertaining the talent at hand this time around.

Besides having two talented and professional cricketing ensembles –

men and women, the track also boasts of -the fastest man in South Asia in Yupun Abeykoon and as of 8<sup>th</sup> August 2023 World Athletics; Na-deesha Ramanayake rank No 5 in the 400metres, Gayanthika Abeyratne and Tharushi Karunarathna ranked second and 4<sup>th</sup> respectively in 800metres and at the same time Gayathika Abeyratne rank number 3 in the women's 1500metres event.

In as much to say this is definitely the most opportune juncture for a medal hope after the 90's exploits of Olympic Silver medalist who was also a star performer in the Asian Games Susanthika Jayasinghe and others in the calibre of Damayanthi Dharsha and Sugath Tillekeratne to name a few.



In this competition, 481 gold will be at stake to be shared between 12,500 competitors from 45 National Olympic Committees.

Sri Lanka will be represented by 97 athletes and 57 officials which includes 21 different sports.

However, the competition will begin, in reality, on September 15 with the advent of the women's cricket competition.

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Commenting on the much-heralded event Chef-de-Mission Nishanthe Piyasena said, “Knowing the exact length and breadth of the challenge at hand, the Lankan Asian Games control unit left no stone unturned to make the flow as smooth as possible for competitors, so that they could put their mind on to their mission at hand – winning ‘gold’ for Sri Lanka.

“In a new turn of events, our lot of officials and the medical team visited all available athletes to their spots and venues of training and gave them all medical and logistical support, to give them a much-needed morale booster and make them feel that each of them were special.”

*“Knowing the exact length and breadth of the challenge at hand, the Lankan Asian Games control unit left no stone unturned to make the flow as smooth as possible for competitors, so that they could put their mind on to their mission at hand – winning ‘gold’ for Sri Lanka. At the same time, we also made it a point to convince all officials that the Hangzhou event is not a holiday, and it would be a task at hand to deliver”*

**Nishanthe Piyasena**  
**Chef-de-Mission - Team Sri Lanka**  
**19<sup>th</sup> Asian Games Hangzhou 2022**

“At the same time, we also made it a point to convince all officials that the Hangzhou event is not a holiday, and it would be a task at hand to deliver.

“If we are able to act with example, this practice would be an automatic feature in future Games.”

“We are grateful to DSI Samson Group (Pvt) Ltd - known as DSI or AVI, who shall be the official partner for Team Sri Lanka’s uniform including tracksuit, t-shirts, shoes, bag and cap to the contingent and LOVI Ceylon shall be the official partner for Team Sri Lanka’s opening ceremony attire.”



## Official Partners of Team Sri Lanka

**DSI**  
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# TEAM SRI LANKA'S HANGZHOU MISSION '22



The 19th Asian Games in Hangzhou, China, are just around the corner, and the excitement is building up across the continent. On the 28<sup>th</sup> of August 2023, 19th Asian Games Hangzhou 2022 – Awareness Programme and Uniform Unveiling Ceremony took place at the Sri Lanka Olympic House.

The event commenced with a warm welcome address by Mr. Suresh Subramaniam - President, National Olympic Committee of Sri Lanka. Following the welcome address, Dr. Shemal Fernando, Director General of the Department of Sports Development, and Mr. Kanapathipallei Mahesan, Secretary of the Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs also addressed the gathering.

Successively, Mr. Maxwell de Silva - Secretary General, National Olympic Committee of Sri Lanka, introduced Team Sri Lanka.

The awareness programme began with Mr. Nishanthe Piyasena, Chef-de-Mission for Team Sri Lanka, discussing the mission and goals for the Asian Games.

It was a chance for everyone involved to understand the significance of the games and the commitment required to excel.

Safety is a priority, and two crucial aspects of it were covered during the event.

Ms. Reshika Udugampola OLY - Member of the Gender Equity Committee and Deputy Chef-de-Mission for the 19<sup>th</sup> Asian Games, delivered a comprehensive presentation on the prevention of sexual harassment and abuse.

Following this, Mr. Gobinath Sivaramajah spoke about the prevention of manipulation of competition, emphasizing the importance of fair play and integrity in sports.

The event saw the participation of the Team Sri Lanka athletes, officials, coaches and the Headquarters team.

The highlight of the programme was the unveiling of Team Sri Lanka's attire for the 19<sup>th</sup> Asian Games.

The vibrant and stylish uniforms were presented during a captivating opening ceremony, which ignited a sense of pride among the athletes and attendees.

A special moment during the event was the recognition of the winners of the Team Sri Lanka Attire Design competition.

The winners were:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Pablo Design Studios led by Mr. Sugath Sanjeewa
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Jinendra Lakmini Hewagama
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Minthaki De Silva

The judging panel, consisting of Dr. Ayesha Wickramasinghe - Senior Lecturer, Department of Textile and Apparel Engineering, University of Moratuwa; Dr. Sumith Gopura - Senior Lecturer, Department of Textile and Apparel Engineering, University of Moratuwa and Ms. Prathibhani Manthirratne - Lecturer, Department of Textile and Clothing Technology, University of Moratuwa, were also felicitated for their invaluable contribution.

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Team Sri Lanka's journey to the 19th Asian Games would not be possible without the generous support of sponsors. LOVI Ceylon represented by Mr. Asanka de Mel - Managing Director and DSI/AVI represented by Mr. Thusitha Rajapaksha - Managing Director and Ms. Kumerini Candappah, Head of Marketing, were honored with plaques for their invaluable contributions to Sri Lankan sports.

As the event drew to a close, Air Cdre. Erandika Gunawardena delivered a closing remark that encapsulated the spirit of the programme.

Following this event, a press conference with media representatives was at the same venue.



*Suresh Subramaniam - President  
NOC Sri Lanka*



*Maxwell de Silva - Secretary General  
NOC Sri Lanka*



*Winners of the Team Sri Lanka Attire Design competition: 3rd Place: Minthaki De Silva (3rd from left), 2nd Place: Jinendra Lakmini Hewagama (2nd from left), 1st Place: Pablo Design Studios led by Mr. Sugath Sanjeewa (1st from right)*



*Nishanthe Piyasena - Chef-de-Mission  
Team Sri Lanka*



*Gobinath Sivarajah*



*Reshika Udugampola - Deputy Chef De Mission  
Team Sri Lanka*



*Felicitation to DSI/AVI presented to Mr. Thusitha Rajapaksha - Managing Director and Ms. Kumerini Candappah, Head of Marketing of D. Samson Industries (Pvt) Ltd.*



*Felicitation to LOVI Ceylon presented to Mr. Asanka de Mel - Managing Director, LOVI Ceylon*

# OLYMPISM MADE VISIBLE



***While the Olympic spirit comes to life in the magic of each edition of the Olympic Games, it also lives well beyond the great sporting event, thanks to the work of global organisations supported by the IOC and independent individuals and programs that share a common goal: to create a better world through sport.***

Olympism Made Visible is an international photography initiative led by the Olympic Museum that looks beyond professional sporting competition to trace the Olympic values and their impact when sport is placed at the service of humankind through community-based activities around the world.

How does the practice of sport make a difference in people's lives, from young girls and women in the favelas of Rio de Janeiro, to refugees at a camp in Rwanda, to ordinary citizens in urban centres across the globe?

Olympism Made Visible explores the power of sport as a tool for social development and change through the eyes of acclaimed photographers who work at the intersection of fine art and social documentary.

Since the project's launch in 2018, twelve international artists have been invited by the Olympic Museum to each contribute a set of 15-20 original photographs on a given topic relating to the role of sport and Olympic values in society, in such areas as gender equality, conflict resolution through sport, and health and active communities.

Their creative perspectives have shaped a unique photography collection that today comprises more than 200 museum-quality prints, a powerful and lasting contribution to the legacy and patrimony of the Olympic Movement.

## Projects and artists

Poulomi Basu - Bhubaneswar, India

*What is the Joy of the Future?*  
Rinko Kawauchi - Fukushima Prefecture, Japan,

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## *Protecting Young Refugees Through Sport*

Nico Krijno - Kigeme, Mugombwa, and Mahama Refugee Camps, Rwanda

## *Sport for Social Cohesion*

Wayne Lawrence - Kakuma (Turkana County), Kenya

## *Peace Building Through Dialogue and Play*

Dana Lixenberg - Amman, Jordan

## *Fight for Peace & One Win Leads to Another: Resolving Conflict Peacefully and Promoting Gender Equality Through Sport*

Alex Majoli - Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

## *Sport for Empowerment of Young Female Athletes*

Fabrice Monteiro Dakar and Thies, Senegal

## *Water-Based Physical Activity in the South Pacific*

Max Pinckers - Ngerulmud, Palau

## *Protecting Young Refugees from Violence*

Luis Alberto Rodriguez Tenosique and Tapachula, Mexico

## *Social Integration Through Sports in the City*

Ambroise Tézenas and Frédéric Delangle - Paris Metropolitan Area, France

## *Skateistan: Empowering Youth Through Skateboarding and Education*

Lorenzo Vitturi - Phnom Penh, Cambodia

## *Global Active City - Healthy Living for All*

Vanessa Winship, Liverpool, UK

## Exhibitions and special projects

Photographs from Olympism Made Visible are shared with the general public through exhibitions and special installations realised by the Olympic Museum in collaboration with cultural partners including photography festivals, museums, and city agencies, to bring visibility and positive recognition to organisations and individuals around the world who put Olympism into action by helping to change people's lives for the better through sport, in often challenging circumstances.

Exhibitions of selected works from Olympism Made Visible realised to date include presentations at:

- Kolga Tbilisi Photo, Tbilisi, Georgia (May 5-29, 2023)
- SPRINT Photography Festival, Albi, France (April 29-May 14, 2023)
- Milan Image Art Fair, Milano, Italy (April 28-May 1, 2022)
- Thailand Biennale, Korat, Thailand (December 18, 2021 – March 31, 2022)
- Olympic Agora, Tokyo, Japan (July 1-August 15, 2021)
- Olympism in Action Forum, Buenos Aires, Argentina (October 5-6, 2018)

[olympics.com](https://olympics.com)



# TWO LANKAN STICKERS EXPOSED IN ITALY COURTESY NOC SRI LANKA



Two Lankan women's hockey players -- Pethum Nimmi Sathsarani Silva and Chandani Dilhara Perera had the opportunity to have short professional stint in Italy courtesy the National Olympic Committee of Sri Lanka.

They took part in an all-Italian tournament where they invite players from other countries also to be a part of.

Speaking to the GoodSport Sathsarani said "This is a very rare opportunity that the two of us received.

"The National Olympic Committee had got this offer to expose the talent of Lankan hockey for the first time in Italy and the NOC SL in turn requested the Sri Lanka Army Sports Board to name two players.

"We learned a lot from this opportunity and we hope to share our knowledge with the rest of our players"