

## In the news – International

## **World Transplant Games 2023**

Sunil Shroff, Sujatha Suriyamoorthi MOHAN Foundation, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India

The Transplant Games, which was first staged in 1978 in Portsmouth, United Kingdom, has developed into the largest awareness event in the world for the gift of life and a beacon for transplant recipients, their families, and supporters, donor families, and living donors. The 24<sup>th</sup> edition of the World Transplant Games (WTG) took place in Perth, Australia, from April 15 to 21, 2023. Athletes representing 45 nations competed in 17 distinct sporting disciplines.

Team India was represented by a group of 32 athletes, the highest number to ever represent India at the WTG. Notably, the Indian athletes achieved an unprecedented milestone by securing 35 medals, which stands as the highest tally ever attained by India in WTG.

During the Closing Celebration, the athletes' exceptional achievements throughout the Games were acknowledged and honoured with special awards established by the World Transplant Games Federation. The awards included

- The Greatest Gift Donor Family Award
- The Greatest Gift Living Donor Award
- The Inspiration of the Games Award

- Maurice Slapak Award
- The WTGF Outstanding Athlete & Outstanding Junior Athlete Award
- The WTGF Outstanding Team Award

The World Transplant Games presented the Outstanding Team Award to the team from the Islamic Republic of Iran, who achieved an incredible ratio of 5.36 medal points per athlete. This astonishing average equated to more than a gold and a silver medal for each athlete on their team.

Mr. Vijaybahadur Yadav from India was honored with the Greatest Gift Living Donor Award. This recognition was a result of his exceptional performance, including winning two gold medals in the 5K run and ball throw events, along with securing a silver medal in petanque.

> Corresponding Author: Dr. Sunil Shroff, MOHAN Foundation, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India Email: shroff@mohanfoundation.org

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