IOC confirms India among seven countries bidding for the 2036 Olympics

Sports · 7 October 2026 · https://www.shanmugamiasacademy.in/current-affairs-english/2026/10/07



News

On 6 Oct 2026 the IOC confirmed that seven countries are in continuous dialogue to host the 2036 Summer Olympics and Paralympics: India, Qatar, South Africa, Germany, Hungary, Turkey and South Korea. India's proposed host city is Ahmedabad. The deadline to declare interest is 31 Oct 2026, and the IOC Executive Board will draw up a shortlist in March 2027.

Key facts

7 countries	India, Qatar, South Africa, Germany, Hungary, Turkey, South Korea
Indian city	Ahmedabad (Gujarat) – also hosts the 2030 Commonwealth Games
Timeline	31 Oct 2026 – interest deadline; Mar 2027 – shortlist
IOC President	Kirsty Coventry (Zimbabwe)
Next Games	2028 – Los Angeles; 2032 – Brisbane

Background

- IOC: founded by Pierre de Coubertin in Paris on 23 June 1894 (Olympic Day – 23 June); HQ Lausanne, Switzerland. Kirsty Coventry is the 10th president – the first woman and first African (June 2025).

- Major events India hosted: Asian Games 1951 and 1982 (Delhi); Commonwealth Games 2010 (Delhi); 2030 Commonwealth Games (Ahmedabad, centenary edition). The 141st IOC Session was in Mumbai (Oct 2023).
- India's Olympic story: first appearance 1900 (Norman Pritchard); 8 hockey golds; individual golds – Abhinav Bindra (2008) and Neeraj Chopra (2020). Six medals at Paris 2024.
- Ahmedabad has the world's largest cricket ground – the Narendra Modi Stadium (Motera) – on the Sabarmati, and the planned Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Sports Enclave.
- Olympic symbol: five rings (blue, yellow, black, green, red) for five continents; motto 'Citius, Altius, Fortius – Communiter' ('Together' added in 2021).

Tamil Nadu link: the 44th Chess Olympiad (2022) was held at Mamallapuram – the first in India ('Thambi' mascot). Chennai's Bhavani Devi was India's first Olympic fencer (Tokyo 2020). Chennai hosted the 1995 South Asian (SAF) Games.

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