



## Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Awardee Indian Sport Shooter Vijay Kumar: A Case Study

### KEYWORDS

Case study, Vijay Kumar, Shooting.

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**ABSTRACT** *The paper is an attempt to have an insight into the contributions of Indian sport shooter Vijay Kumar and his achievements. This study is helpful to know his qualities as a sport shooter. This study also finds out his socio-economic and motivation factors. To attain the purpose of the present study the investigator has adopted the direct interview method and opinion rating questionnaires consist on Vijay Kumar contribution towards sports and physical education, his contribution for promotion of shooting in particular and sports in general in the country.*

### INTRODUCTION

A shooting sport is a competitive sport involving tests of proficiency (accuracy and speed) using various types of guns. The shooting sports are categorized by the type of firearm, target and distances at which targets are shot at. A person who specializes in shooting is a marksman. Shooting can take place in a shooting range or in the field in hunting, in shooting sports, or in combat. Shooting is an important Olympic sport in India. Of India's 26 Olympic medals, 4 have come from Shooting including Gold by Abhinav Bindra in the 2008 Olympics. Indian shooters who have excelled at the world stage include Abhinav Bindra, Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore, Vijay Kumar and Gagan Narang.

Vijay Kumar is a sport shooter from India. He had born in 19 August 1985. He won the silver medal in the individual 25 metre rapid fire pistol event at the 2012 Summer Olympics. Vijay Kumar hails from Barsar village of Hamirpur district of Himachal Pradesh and is presently a serving Subedar Major in the Dogra Regiment (16th Battalion) Indian Army. Vijay Kumar is currently supported by the Olympic Gold Quest initiative. He has been posted at Army Marksmanship Unit (AMU) Mhow since 2003 where he is being coached by the Russian Pavel Smirnov. He became India's second medallist in the London Olympics and in fact bettered Gagan Narang's bronze. While it is a phenomenal success for the shooter, he is known for his focus and determination. He first showcased his talent in the USA World Cup in Fort Benning. A Silver medal in the 25m Rapid fire pistol event ensured an Olympic quota. At the Commonwealth Games too, he brought glory to the nation, bagging 3 Gold and a Silver for his efforts. This was followed by a couple of Bronze medals at the Asian Games, Guangzhou. A regular in the World's top 10, he has been ever consistent and thus reaping the benefits. The recognition at the World stage started in the 2006 Commonwealth Games after winning both the pairs and the individual 25 metre rapid fire pistol competition. The following year, he finished second at the Asian Championship in the 25 metre centre-fire pistol. The 2009 ISSF World Cup in Beijing was probably his biggest achievement. He missed the Gold by 0.1 point in the rapid fire pistol event. The next year he won 4 Gold and 1 Silver at the Commonwealth Shooting championships. He received the Arjuna Award in 2007.

### Awards

- Padma Shri - announced in the Republic Day 2013 award list.
- Arjuna Award, 2007.
- Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award, 2011-12.

### Military Decorations

- Ati Vishisht Seva Medal (AVSM) - announced in the Republic Day 2013 award list.
- Sean Medal (SM)

### REVIEW OF LITERATURE

A well-structured literature review is characterized by a logical flow of ideas; current and relevant references with consistent, appropriate referencing style; proper use of terminology; and an unbiased and comprehensive view of the previous research on the topic.

Singh (2000)<sup>1</sup> in his doctoral thesis "Dronacharya Prof. Karan Singh, Eminent Physical Educationalist and Sport Promoter: A Case Study", has been studied his biography, educational and professional qualifications, his contributions in the field of physical education and sports. Prof. Karan Singh's personal performance as well as the performance and achievements of his trainees have been highlighted. Prof. Karan Singh had the rare combination of being outstanding sportsman and an excellent academician. "Hero of Rajasthan" represented India in the first Asian Games, 1951 held in New Delhi and won a gold medal in 400 × 4 m. relay. Academically Master degree holder, professionally M. Ed. (Physical Education) and Diploma in Coaching (Athletics) from the National Institute of Sports, Patiala made his a distinctive personality among physical educationists, coaches and sportsmen of the country. Till date he is the only male athlete in the country who won a gold medal in athletics in the Asian Games as a 'Student'.

Singh (2004)<sup>2</sup> in this doctoral thesis "Padma Shree Milkha Singh Legendary Athlete Sports Administrator and Sports Promoter - A Case Study" has studied his biography, sports career and his contribution in the field of sports. A standardized opinion rating questionnaire was developed and mailed to his contemporaries, colleagues and other eminent sportspersons and coaches to assess the personality traits of S. Milkha Singh, his philosophy and abilities as an administrator and sports promoter. Interview with S. Milkha Singh, his family members, friends, colleagues and relatives was also conducted. Padma Shree Milkha Singh was among the world records brokers in 400 mt race at Rome Olympics in 1960. He won Gold Medal in Asian Games and Commonwealth Games also. After his retirement as an athlete Mr. Milkha Singh worked as Director in Punjab Sports Department. The study also reveals the contribution and achievement of Padma Shree Milkha Singh towards the promotion of sports in the country, professional career, sports achievements as an athlete. His contribution as a sports promoter, important assignment and achievements as an administrator, his service experience and his viewpoint on different issues of sports in India were also presented.

Parul (2007)<sup>3</sup> undertook a case study of Mamta Kharab a renowned international Hockey player. The study was stated as "Arjuna awardee Mamta Kharab a Golden Girl-A case study. The study was confined to the contributions and achievement of Mamta Kharab in the field of sports. The purpose

of this study was to reveal tremendous impact of Mamta Kharab on Indian Boxing Player. The investigator conducted interview with Mamta Kharab, her family members, teachers, friend's relatives and trainees. The information was collected through primary and secondary sources to enlist leadership qualities. She was honoured Bhim Award and Arjuna Award for her contribution in the field of sports as an Hockey Players. She was an 11th World Cup Hockey participation. She represented Indian in Asian Games Doha (Quarter). Her team won Bronze Medal and many international tournaments.

### Objective of the Study

The objective is to study the performance of Indian sport shooter Vijay Kumar in international competitions.

### Research Methodology

In the study the following research methodology is used:

### Research Design

To investigate the contribution and achievements of Vijay Kumar towards the promotion of shooting and sports in the country a case study was designed in which historical biographical, analytical and interpretive techniques will utilize.

### Data Collection

The required secondary data will be collected through personal records (degree, honours, books and articles), published material (books, pamphlets, articles, newspapers and reports on Vijay Kumar), pictorial records and official record.

### Statistical Techniques

Data was analysed, interpreted and evaluated with required statistical tools like tabulation, graphic presentation, and percentage.

## RESULT AND INTERPRETATIONS

Table 1

### Olympic Games and ISSF World Shooting Championship

Year	Event	Venue	Medal
Olympic Games			
2012	25m Rapid Fire Pistol	London	Silver
ISSF World Shooting Championship			
2009	25m Rapid Fire Pistol	Beijing	Silver
2011	25m Rapid Fire Pistol	Fort Binning	Silver

Source: Secondary data collected.

Table 2

### Commonwealth Games

Year	Event	Venue	Medal
2006	Men's 25m Rapid Fire Pistol (Singles)	Melbourne	Gold

2006	Men's 25m Rapid Fire Pistol (Pairs)	Melbourne	Gold
2010	Men's 25m Rapid Fire Pistol (Pairs)	Delhi	Gold
2010	Men's 25m Rapid Fire Pistol (Singles)	Delhi	Gold
2010	Men's 25m Rapid Fire Pistol (Pairs)	Delhi	Gold
2010	Men's 25m Rapid Fire Pistol (Singles)	Delhi	Silver

Source: Secondary data collected.

Table 3

### Asian Games

Year	Event	Venue	Medal
2006	25m Rapid Fire Pistol	Doha	Bronze
2010	25m Rapid Fire Pistol	Guangzhou	Bronze

Source: Secondary data collected.

All the four analytical Table exhibited that at the 2006 Commonwealth Games, he had won 2 gold medals, the individual 25 meter rapid fire pistol competition and the pairs competition in the same event together with Pemba Tamang. The same year, he won a bronze medal in the Asian Games despite actually finishing fourth because of a rule that prevented China from winning all three medals. The next year, he finished second at the Asian Championship in 25 metre centre-fire pistol. He also won a silver medal at the 2009 ISSF World Cup Beijing in rapid fire pistol, where he was defeated by Keith Sanderson by 0.1 points. In the 2010 Commonwealth Games, held in the capital of his home country, he won 3 gold medals and one Silver. Giving a stupendous performance, Vijay Kumar won 3 gold medals and a silver medal in the 2010 Commonwealth Games. Vijay Kumar won the Silver Medal in the 25 m rapid fire pistol event at 2012 London Olympics. He finished with an average score of 9.767.

## CONCLUSION

On the basis of analysis and it can be realized that He first showcased his talent in the USA World Cup in Fort Benning. A Silver medal in the 25m Rapid fire pistol event ensured an Olympic quota. At the Commonwealth Games too, he brought glory to the nation, bagging 3 Gold and 1 Silver for his efforts. This was followed by a couple of Bronze medals at the Asian Games, Guangzhou. He also won a silver medal at the 2009 ISSF World Cup Beijing in rapid fire pistol, where he was defeated by Keith Sanderson by 0.1 points. In the 2010 Commonwealth Games, held in the capital of his home country, he won 3 gold medals and Silver. Giving a stupendous performance, Vijay Kumar won 3 gold medals and a silver medal in the 2010 Commonwealth Games. Vijay Kumar won the Silver Medal in the 25 m rapid fire pistol event at 2012 London Olympics.

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