



The Nineteenth Commonwealth Games began at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in New Delhi on 3 October 2010 in a colourful and spectacular Opening Ceremony. The Games were declared open by Prince Charles of Britain and President Pratibha Patil of India. Minister of Sports C B Ratnayake represented the Government of Sri Lanka at the Opening Ceremony.

Ninety four sportspersons from Sri Lanka representing fourteen 14 sports are amongst over 7000 athletes participating in this Game. Minister Ratnayake accompanied by the High Commissioner Prasad Kariyawasam visited the Games Village on 5 October to meet and encourage the Sri Lankan sportspersons. Minister Ratnayake also participated at the Fifth Commonwealth Sports Ministers' Meeting that was held in New Delhi on the sidelines of the Commonwealth Games.

The Government and other well-wishers in India are conducting several events to celebrate the spirit of the Commonwealth Games and cultural events to showcase India and participating Commonwealth nations as well. The renowned Chitrasena Vajira dance troupe of Sri Lanka has been invited by Indian authorities to perform at one such event 'International Festival of Dance and Music' at Dilli Haat, Pitampura, New Delhi.