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Participation of sportsperson and number of sports disciplines in the Olympic Games: A survey

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Abstract

The purpose of this study was to collect the data of the participation of sportsperson and number of sports disciplines in the Olympic Games. Data was collected by Secondary sources. The study was based on magazines, newspapers, books, reports, journals, souvenirs and internet etc. The statistical technique used was "Percentage Method" to find out the participation of sportspersons and number of sports disciplines in Olympic Games has gradually increased. This is to conclude that the aim of the study was to shows the dimension of Olympic Games with respect to the number of events has increased from 10 events and 241 participants in 1896 Athens Olympic Games to 36events and 10, 500 participants in 2012 London Olympic Games. The result of the study also highlight that female participation has gradually increased.

Keywords: Olympic, History & Sport persons.

1. Introduction

"In order for a hundred people to take part in physical culture, it is necessary for fifty to take part in sport; in order for fifty to take part in sport, twenty must specialize; in order for twenty specialize, five must be capable of astonishing feats of prowess."- Pierre-de-Coubertin The Games, Sports, are the words, which is beyond any religion, caste, color, nation, Border and blood. The Olympic movement, likes port in general, by its very nature opposes the division of the world end promotes rapprochement and friendship among peoples of all continents. Neither distance nor differences in beliefs must or can prevent mankind from barring the way to the forces of insanity and war. The Frenchman, Baron Pierre de Coubertin. For years he campaigned for the setting up of international championships, and his moment came immediately after the final excavation of the old Olympic Site. Coubertin mounted a terrific publicity campaign. Olympic Games to big meeting of sportsmen in Paris in 1892. On 25th November, 1892, the union of French Athletics Sports Association celebrated the fifth anniversary of its foundation at Sorbonne. A large number people attended the celebrations, at which prominent people gave lectures on the importance of athletics, ancient and modern. Baron de Coubertin delivered one of the lectures and at the end announced his final determination to devote the best years of his life to the revival of the Olympic Games on international lines. The union strongly supported the proposal and it was decided to call an international congress of sports representatives from various part of the world so that rules and regulations could be framed. On June 16, 1894, the session of the international congress was held for eight days. This was attended by seventy-five delegates belonging to 12 different countries who represented various sports organization in their respective countries. The support was greater than Coubertin's wildest dreams. He insisted that the first games should be held in Athens in 1896. His proposal was approved and Athens was given the pride of place for a start. Thus after 1503 years the Olympic Games were revived and all credit for this must go to Baron Pierre de Coubertin.

The international Olympic Committee (IOC) was formed in 1894. Its headquarters is at Mon Repos, Lausanne, Switzerland. It is the supreme body as far as the modern Olympic Games are concerned. Since, 1980 its President is Juan Antonio Samaranch of Spain. The I.O.C. is a 'self-perpetuating' body and has its own set-up which is free from any outside influence. In 1920, the first nominated Indian for the IOC was Sir Dorabji Jamshedji Tata. The Olympic Games is a major international event featuring summer and winter sports, in

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which thousands of athletes participate in a variety of competition. The Olympic Games are considered to be the world's foremost sports competition and more than 200 nations participate. The Games are currently held biennially, with Summer and Winter Olympic Games alternating, meaning they each occur every four years. The ancient Olympic Games were held in Olympia, Greece, from the 8th century BC to the 4th century AD. Baron Pierre de Coubertin founded the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in 1894. The IOC has since become the governing body of the Olympic Movement, whose structure and actions are defined by the Olympic Charter. The evolution of the Olympic Movement during the 20th and 21st centuries has resulted in several changes to the Olympic Games. Some of these adjustments include the creation of the Winter Games for ice and winter sports, the Paralympics Games for athletes with a physical disability, and the Youth Olympic Games for teenage athletes. The IOC has had to adapt to the varying economic, political, and technological realities of the 20th century. As a result, the Olympics shifted away from pure amateurism, as envisioned by Coubertin, to allow participation of professional athletes. The growing importance of the mass media created the issue of corporate sponsorship and commercialization of the Games. The Olympic Movement consists of international sports federations (IFs), National Olympic Committees (NOCs), and organizing committees for each specific Olympic Games. As the decision-making body, the IOC is responsible for choosing the host city for each Olympic Games. The host city is responsible for organizing and funding a celebration of the Games consistent with the Olympic Charter. The Games have grown in scale to the point that nearly every nation is represented. Such growth has created numerous challenges, including boycotts, doping, bribery, and terrorism. Every two years, the Olympics and its media exposure provide unknown athletes with the chance to attain national, and in some cases, international fame. The Games also constitute a major opportunity for the host city and country to showcase themselves to the world.

The purpose of the study was a survey of participation of sports person and number of sports disciplines in the Olympic Games.

2. Methodology

The data for the study were collected from various methods:

- Primary Source: Discussion with the Olympian,
- Secondary Sources: Books, Journals, magazines, internet etc.
- Collection of data done by reviewing and analyzing literature available in the library in the form of Books, Journals, Magazines etc.
- Data was also collected by using Internet.

2.1 Statistical Procedure

The analysis of the study was done by applying percentage method.

2.2 Findings

After reviewing the resources both primary and secondary, it was evident that Participation of women and men has gradually increased. Also the number of events has gone up. This may be due to Olympic Movement initiated by International Olympic Committee.

At present number of participating countries are more than numbers of United Nations. Due to more awareness number of participants and number of events has increased

dramatically.

It was also evident that women participation had multiplied the first edition of Olympic held in 1896 Athens saw no women participation but in recently included Olympic Games at London the participation of men and women is almost equal.

3. Discussion of Findings

Women took part in physical activities throughout the antiquity, and particularly in the competitions of the Hera Games, staged specifically for women. Historical documents also show that Roman women engaged in horse-riding and swimming. In Asia, women are also pictured taking part in sport in the 10th and 12th centuries. During the middle Ages and Renaissance, women put leisure activities aside, as did men. But the following centuries were marked by renewed interest. Until at the end of the 19th century women became more involved in sporting activities by establishing their own clubs and taking up new sports. It is true that the first Olympic Games of the modern era in 1896 were not open to women. Baron Pierre de Coubertin, who revived the Games, was very much a man of his time and believed that the Games should traditionally remain a "eulogy to male sport" however, Coubertin's reservations did not completely stop women from participating, since they took part in the Tennis and Golf events at the 1900 Olympic Games and in increasing number of following years.

4. Conclusion

This is to conclude that the aim of the study was to shows the dimension of Olympic Games with respect to the number of events has increased from 10 events and 241 participants in 1896 Athens Olympic Games to 36events and 10, 500 participants in 2012 London Olympic Games. The result of the study also highlight that female participation has gradually increased.

Moreover, the increasing number of performances by female athletes in this century, women continue to see their athletic accomplishments distorted. Developing women's participation in sport calls for collaboration and effort. The social benefits of community sport and recreation, including social cohesion and social skills and increased of sense of well-being. Awareness towards sports has dynamically increased and to encourage and support measures protecting the health benefits of increased physical activity and lifelong physical fitness.

5. Recommendations

In the light of conclusions drawn, the following recommendations are made:

- From the present study it may be recommended that further research in other major events viz., Cricket World Cup, Football World Cup, Hockey World Cup, Wimbledon, Common Wealth Games etc. can be conducted in order to create awareness and further enhance the knowledge about the concerned areas.
- It may further be recommended that, as the Olympic movement has increased the participation and brought about international integration through sports thus it can be used to promote peace and humanity in other international events as well.
- We have seen the intent of Games Doping Control Programmes in Olympic Games, testing for prohibited substances it can be also run by other major events in sport.

- The most important thing in the Olympic Games is not to win but to take part, just as

6. References

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