



P-ISSN: 2394-1685
E-ISSN: 2394-1693
Impact Factor (ISRA): 5.38
IJPESH 2020; 7(6): 34-37
© 2020 IJPESH
www.kheljournal.com
Received: 22-09-2020
Accepted: 24-10-2020

Laishangbam Reena Devi
Research Scholar, Department of
Library and Information
Science, Manipur University,
Canchipur- Imphal, Manipur,
India

Status of library facility in sports authority of India (SAI) centres in Manipur: An assessment

Laishangbam Reena Devi

Abstract

Library plays a crucial role in many affairs of human endeavours. Games and Sports is also not an exception to this. In many centres of the Sports Authority of India (SAI), such special types of libraries are in existence. They are supposed to play an important role in promoting sports activities of a region. It is in this context the present study attempts to assess the status of the library facilities available in three select SAI centres of Manipur. While there is high expectation from the library services in Sports activities, the findings tell us a different story about the land in this regard.

Keywords: Sports authority of India centres, library facility, Manipur

Introduction

As the World moves in an accelerated pace, almost everything in all walks of life adapt or attempt to cope up with the changing speed. Sports today has reached such a level that to excel it requires a tremendous and extraordinary effort to inculcate the inevitable basic components starting right from the food habits to providing best trainings to the players. The core components like Sports Coaching, Performance, Training and Practice, Dedication, Sports Science, Sports Psychology, Sports Equipments and Sports Education etc. also requires in its entirety a formal learning, sharing and imparting from the learned scholars and the researchers. Countries like USA, China, U.K and Germany among others have invested tremendously in the field of Sports and its related components. They have developed a rich sports culture that gets assimilated into the young minds born out of their Sports loving Society that would become Sports stars in the future. India is also not a country which shies away from investing or devoting towards Sports. It has a rich and variegated Sports Culture scattered in its huge and varied landscapes. Games and Sports have been an integral part of the lives in *Bharat* since time immemorial and these are evident in the world famous myths and legends like *Mahabharata* and *Ramayana*. The proposition here in this article is to analyse the factors why India with a huge population cannot occupy a highly commendable place in the top Competitions like Olympic and other World Sports events. Narrowing down a bit, this article attempts to place a case study of the use of advanced researched materials, sports literatures, handbooks, leaflets, journals, books and references etc. by the Coaches, Instructors, Managers, Nutritionists, in three SAI Centres in Imphal. The existence of a well equipped modern Library in these centres would certainly help in enhancing the level of knowledge and research to the Coaches, teachers and the Players to an International level. The history of sports in India can be traced back to the Vedic era. We also find origins of the Guru Shishya Parampara in mention of the Ashrams, where renowned Masters of the day taught their students Martial skills but also engrained them with qualities required of a good human being and a leader. The high esteemed in which these Gurus were held, and the skills of Arjuna in Archery, of Yudhisthir in Javelin throwing and the strength of Bhima are now part of Indian folk lore. The history of sports in Manipur can also be found way back since time immemorial. Mention may be made of the story of *Nongban* who was unbeatable in race, wrestling and foot hockey (Khong Kangjei) for a long a time as narrated in the *Epic* of the state of Manipur. It was only when the protagonist *Khamba* of the *Epic Khamba Thoibi* came that *Nongban* was defeated. The remarkable events of *Khambana Kao Faaba* (taming of the furious bull) and the killing of the tiger to win the hands of *Moirang Thoibi* in the epic itself are worth quoting.

Corresponding Author:
Laishangbam Reena Devi
Research Scholar, Department of
Library and Information
Science, Manipur University,
Canchipur- Imphal, Manipur,
India

India has endeavoured to keep alive its ancient sporting traditions through indigenous games and martial arts, which are displayed in their full glory at festivals and martial arts.

The department of Sports, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports directly, and through its implementing wing, the Sports Authority of India, is working tirelessly to promote modern competitive games, support States in promoting Sports infrastructures and to produce excellent Sports. The department's objective is to cast a wider net to scout sports talent and nurture them to achieve excellence at national and International levels. When Indian Sportspersons go abroad to participate in international events, they go there as ambassadors of brand India and representatives of a country on the move.

In Manipur, the ability and the talent of the born sportspersons of state are also self-evidenced by the numerous medals they won in several National games within India and in many other international events like Olympic Games, Asian games, and Commonwealth Games etc. The boon of success that the players from Manipur enjoy today is the cumulative result of the contributions that our forefathers made in sustaining the sports movement in the state from generation to generation. The people of Manipur are naturally blessed with muscular and responsive bodies fed with nutritious and good food in an excellent climate. These have also contributed in making Manipuris shine out in many sport competitions.

The Olympic movement in Manipur began with the formation of the Manipur Olympic Association in 1947 with Shri R.K Modhuryajit Singh and Shri N. Bijoy Singh as the founder President and Secretary respectively. The association conducted Olympic Games regularly up to 1954. With the amalgamation of the Manipur Olympic Association and the Manipur Sports Association (Estd. 1948) under a new name, All Manipur Sports Association (AMSA) under a new name 'Manipur State Games' then continued the annual Olympic games since 1955. (Source: www.e-pao.net).

An Assessment of the library facilities available within these Centres located in Manipur is being made in this study. The assessment has been made through the players and the coaches

Sports Authority of India (SAI) Centres

Sports Authority of India (SAI) was established in the form of a society in the year 1984 registered under the Registration of Societies Act, 1860. It was established as a successor organisation of the ninth Asian Games which were held in the year 1982. Some of the objectives of SAI are as follows:

1. Promoting sports and improving the standard of sports in India.
2. To sponsor and encourage people to conduct various kinds of research works which are being done with the objective of bringing developments in the sports and games.
3. To construct and utilise various kinds of residential facilities for players and other persons who are engaged with sports in one way or the other.
4. To make provisions of various kinds of essential assistance which are required to organise championships or tournaments of various levels.
5. To take various steps to help people participate in events of Sports.
6. Organisation of Seminars and Conferences in which various aspects relating to sports activity can be aroused.
7. To make arrangements for funds with the help of which

various tournaments or competitions can be organised.

In Manipur, there are three SAI centres namely:

1. SAI centre Utlou, Bishnupur District
2. SAI centre Takyelpat, Imphal West District
3. SAI centre Khuman Lampak, Imphal East District

At these centres, various schemes like Centre of Excellence Scheme (COE), SAI Training Centre (STC) Scheme and Special Area Games (SAG) are implemented, in which their respective library systems are expected to play a crucial role.

Library in Sports Sector

Ideas in the form of information are basically required by the players as well as coaches, to cope up with the past, present and the future trends in the field of sports. As library is the store house of knowledge where one can find or access to the various academic and advanced scientific knowledge resources related with sports. Coaches, Players, Nutritionists, Managers, Physiotherapists, Instructors, etc. can refer to several essential knowledge resources whenever required through a modern library. In today's world of sports, players as well as the coaches are ought to be well equipped with the best and the latest developments in their respective games. They need to frequently refer to various well researched sources whether it may be books, magazines, journals, articles both offline and online written by different experts/doctors/sports scientists from all over the world. They too need an all round constant up dating with regards to whatsoever materials, machines and techniques related to their disciplines concerned. Finally, they all require moving forward with the present trends followed internationally so that they can compete at par with the players of other best Countries. All these required aspects put forward can only be properly addressed when we have a well equipped modern library in the SAI settings. Such a library would serve as the beating heart of all the affairs of the centres.

Objectives, Scope and Methodology

The present study has been taken up to assess the availability of library facilities in three SAI Centres located at Bishnupur, Imphal West and Imphal East districts of Manipur. For the same, 120 respondents comprising of 100 players of state, national and international levels and 20 Coaches have been included in the sample of respondents. Secondary sources as annual reports, audited accounts statements of these Centres have been referred in collecting useful information about the centres. A semi-structurally designed questionnaire has been administered to the players and coaches for collecting information which has been supplemented by interview techniques further. Data so collected has been analysed using tables and charts to make interpretation more empirical. Simple mathematical techniques are also used in the process.

Need for the study

There are many potential sportspersons in Manipur. It is mainly through them that the state is popularly known as the Power House of Sports in India. In order to make them excel in their own disciplines they need to seriously focus on what facilities they are getting. Efficient support and supervision from the government to the sportsperson will help them in achieving best results in their performance. SAI today stands out as an apex body for sports excellence and promotion in the country. Initiating and encouraging research projects related to various sports sciences for up gradation of sports,

sportspersons, and Coaches which is also one of the most important objectives of the Sports Authority of India are supposed to be the prime concern of today. It is because excellence in a field requires an in-depth research.

Researchers undertake research when they wish to explore an idea, probe an issue, solve a problem, or make an argument in relation to what others have written or performed. It is necessary to find out whether the SAI centres are well equipped with library facilities and enquire about the

functioning of the libraries or collection of books that they have. Findings of such study will throw light on these aspects.

Data Analysis

A sample of 100 players and 20 coaches were collected. 100 questionnaires were distributed among players and 100 were filled by them. 30 questionnaires were distributed among the coaches but only 20 have responded.

Table 1: The characteristics of the data sample are seen from the table below

Sl. No	SAI Centres	Questionnaire distributed		Questionnaire Received		Response Percentage	
		Players	Coaches	Players	Coaches	Players	Coaches
1	Takyelpat (Imphal West)	40	10	35	7	87.50%	70.00%
2	Utlou (Bishnupur district)	40	10	30	6	75.00%	60.00%
3	Khuman Lampak (Imphal East)	40	10	35	7	87.50%	70.00%
Total	3	120	30	100	20	83.33%	66.67%

It is understood from the above table that of the 120 questionnaires distributed to three SAI centres (40 questionnaires each), 100 duly filled in questionnaires could be received making 83.33% response rate in respect of the players. On the other hand out of 30 questionnaires distributed to 30 coaches of these centres, such duly filled in questionnaires accounted to be 20 making response rates of

66.67% only. The response rates of players and coaches in respect of SAI centres of Imphal West and Imphal East are 87.50% and 70% each, while it is 75% and 60% in case of SAI Bishnupur District.

The Players attached in the SAI centres are found to be in three categories as table 2 below shows:

Table 2: Players at the SAI Centres

Sl.no	Category	No. of Players	Percentage
1	State Level Players	3	3%
2	National Level Players	84	84%
3	International Level Players	13	13%
Total		100	

As the above table indicates, 84% of the players are of the national level players followed by international level players

(13%) and state level players (3%) respectively.

Table 3: Players and their age

Total	Age Group	11-15	16-20	21-30
100%	No. Of Players	53 (53%)	38 (38%)	9 (9%)

The Players covered in the study are found to be in the three age groups as table 3 above indicates. It is observed that maximum number of the Players is in the group of 11-15

years (53%) followed by the group 16-20 years (38%) and 21-30 years (9%) respectively.

Table 4: Views on reference to literatures

Sl. No	Category	No. of positive respondent	No. of negative respondent	Percentage of positive respondents	Percentage of negative respondents
1	Players	0	100	0%	100%
2	Coaches	15	5	80%	20%

The table given above indicates the response of Players and Coaches with regards to references to literatures. 100% players gave negative response. For Coaches, 20% said that

they don't refer to books related to Sports. 80% gave the feedback that they refer to books related with Sports.

Table 5: Views on availability of Library

Sl. No	Category	No. of positive respondent	No. of negative respondent	Percentage of positive respondents	Percentage of negative respondents
1	Players	0	100	0%	100%
2	Coaches	5	15	20%	80%

The table given above indicates the feedback given by the players and coaches about the availability of library facilities at the SAI centres in Manipur. 100% of the Players said that there are no library facilities provided to them. For Coaches,

80% of the Coaches said that there is no library facility at the Centres. Only 20% said that library facilities are provided to them.

Findings and Discussions

100% of the Players in my study staying at the SAI centres in Manipur gave a negative feedback about reference to literatures related to Sports Research and they also said that there are no library facilities provided to them. 5 Coaches in the present study had given the feedback that they don't refer to books related to Sports Research. 15 of them replied that they refer to different books related to Sports Research. Few Coaches further informed that activities like refresher courses or training programmes are sometimes organised in other states and they participate there rarely. 80% of the Coaches said that there are no library facilities provided to them and 20% of the Coaches informed that there are very limited collection of books and magazines which they refer. The 20% further wanted a well equipped modern Library facility.

100 players expressed the requirements of a library in their respective SAI centres. They were also feeling a vacuum without a library or information source at times when they think of referring to books, journal or magazines, etc. for any matter related to their disciplines. 80% of the Coaches gave a negative feedback about the presence of library in the SAI centres and wanted to establish a well equipped modern library at the earliest. The 20% wanted an increase in the collection of books.

While visiting the SAI centres of Manipur some senior as well as junior coaches from within the state as well as from outside the state were interacted, it was found out that they used to refer to some books personally collected by them while they visit other institutes like Netaji Subhash National Institute of Sports, Patiala, Lakshmi Bai National College of Physical Education, Thiruvananthapuram, etc. in relation to their refresher, degree, diploma courses. It is not that they don't refer to the latest techniques and developments happening around the world. They, of course do to certain possible level but at their own personal cost and in very few numbers. Those are obviously personal collections and are very limited. After the preliminary research work was completed it was noticed that Coaches and players are constantly in need of the various kinds of knowledge resources to which they can refer anytime to keep them updated and advanced with the most sophisticated techniques. Having experienced all the above mentioned facts it would be suggested that the SAI centres should have a depository of knowledge sources that would help the players and the coaches get the information they want without any wastages of time as library is the place where the information related to sports research can be accessed. A modern library especially with the collection focussed on sports and various related researches can solve the problems and shortcomings faced by the players and the coaches.

Conclusion

SAI is the apex authority of sports in India. It has been undertaking several steps for the betterment and excellence of the players for the country. We cannot deny that SAI had several players of repute all these years. But, at the end the overall poor performance of the Indians in Olympics and other international sports events is worth selected as the core of research and investigation. Lack of scientific research and development in the field of sports may be one of the reasons for the overall poor performance of the Indians in the Olympic Games. Advanced research in sports is ought to be conducted by the expert researchers of these fields. Sports research activities are lagging behind in Manipur as compared to other advanced nations. Sports Authority of India in order to inculcate its players and coaches to the best and top

positions in the world arena should formulate a strategy to establish a special library each enriched with plenty of resources in the esteemed SAI centres in Manipur in particular and all over India in general. Only this kind of a library can provide the knowledge and knowhow of the state of the art techniques, norms, methods so that the born sportspersons can compete with the players from the rest of the world. Acknowledging the overall performances of the players from the state of Manipur in the national and international sports events, the government of India has sanctioned a much coveted specialised National Sports University with world class infrastructure, smart class rooms, modern laboratories, Library, Sports and residential facilities with excellent academic ambience and the first of its kind in the country to be constructed in our state. It will certainly help in providing a learning institution for sports innovation, research and leadership in our country.

References

1. Biswas B. History of the National Games. 31st January 2011. Retrieved from www.sportskeeda.com/generalsports/history-of-the-national-games.
2. <http://www.nsu.ac.in>. 9 May 2020.
3. Kothari CR. Research Methodology. New Delhi: Vishwa Prakashan 1990.
4. Kumar PSG. Research Method and Statistical Technique. B.R. Publishing Corporation, New Delhi 2004.
5. Modern Language Association. MLA Handbook for Writers of research Papers. New Delhi 2009.
6. Narang Bhuvan. The state of Sports in India. Retrieved from <http://theviewpaper.net/the-state-of-sports-in-India> 2009.
7. Sharma V. Sports History. New Delhi: Sports publication 2013.
8. Singh SL. Sports Movement in Manipur. May 2015. E-pao. www.e-pao.net
9. Sports Authority of India. Annual Report and Audited Accounts, 2010-11, 2011-12. New Delhi: Sports Authority of India 2012.
10. Thiyam S. Manipur at the Olympic Games. Saklon 2012, 61-62.