

REPORT

OF

THE AD HOC ENQUIRY COMMITTEE

ON

GAMES AND SPORTS



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

1959



सत्यमेव जयते

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Appointment of the Committee

The Government of India appointed a committee consisting of :

1. H. H. the Maharajadhiraj of Patiala	Chairman
2. Shri Naval H. Tata	Member
3. Rajkumari Amrit Kaur	"
4. Shri S. M. Moinul Haq	"
5. Dr. P. Subbarayan	"
6. Shri Jaipal Singh	"
7. Gen. K. S. Thimayya	"
8. Shri M. S. Duleepsinhji	"
9. Shri N. N. Wanchoo	"
10. Shri P. N. Kirpal	"
11. Shri M. N. Masud	Member Secretary

to investigate the persistence of low standards in sports in India and the performance of Indian teams in international contests such as the Olympic and Asian Games and to recommend measures for improvement.

2. The Committee understood from the letter of their appointment that they were :

- (i) to enquire into the reasons for the poor performance of Indian competitors in International contests;
- (ii) to suggest measures to arrest the gradual decline in the level of performance; and
- (iii) to recommend steps for the improvement of standards.

Inauguration

3. In his inaugural address to the Committee on the 7th July 1958, the Minister of Education, Dr. K. L. Shrimali, referred to the criticism in the Press and among the Public of the poor performance of Indian teams in international competitions and the general decline of sports in the country. He stressed that it was necessary to ensure that full use was made of our human and material resources in the field of sports so that better results may follow in international competitions.

4. In outlining the policy of the Government in regard to sports and games, he pointed out that it was the Government's desire to see sports organizations functioning autonomously. There was no intention whatever on the part of Government to interfere. Government was, however, actively interested in the problem of the development and promotion of games and was anxious to render assistance to sports organizations in every way possible.

5. The Minister also gave a brief outline of the task before the Committee which was to examine : (i) whether the best players were selected to represent India in Olympic, Asian and other contests; (ii) the manner in which funds at the disposal of sports associations/federations were being utilised; (iii) whether our teams abroad maintained high standards of conduct and behaviour; (iv) whether educational institutions were producing players in sufficient number for selection; (v) what steps should be taken to encourage sports among youngmen, particularly in the rural areas and (vi) what steps, if any, were necessary to put an end to factions in sports organizations.

6. The Minister pointed out that there had been a continuous deterioration in standards and performance. Indian athletes had not yet been able to secure even the seventh or eighth position in Olympic competitions and, so far as the Asian Games were concerned, India's position was second in the Asian Games held in Delhi in 1951, fourth in Manila in 1954 and seventh in Tokyo in 1958.

7. While appreciating the efforts of sports organizations in the building up of sports and games in the country, the Minister pointed out the need for maintaining high standards in their administration and conduct.

Procedure of Work

8. After its inauguration, the Committee discussed its procedure of work. It decided to send a questionnaire to all National Sports Federations/Associations and specialised sports agencies calling for their views regarding the defects and shortcomings in sports and games at different levels and the measures that could be taken to overcome them. The questionnaire included, among other matters, queries regarding deficiency in the physical amenities and facilities for development of sports and games in Educational Institutions, impact of Coaching Schemes, requirements in regard to coaching, standardisation of equipment and organizational set-up of sports and games, atmosphere for development of sports and games and grant of special concessions to students who distinguish themselves in this sphere. In order to expedite this Report, the replies to the questionnaire were asked to be submitted within a fortnight. The views expressed in the replies received have assisted the Committee materially in its work.

BACKGROUND

The Olympic Games and their Origin

9. The Olympic Games provide the most important international competition in sports and games. They arrest the attention and admiration of the world. Originating in ancient Greece, they were revived in 1896 by Baron de Coubertin. Ever since, they have been celebrated every four years, with the exception of the period covered by the last two world wars. Only amateurs may participate in the games.

The International Olympic Committee and its Functions

10. The International Olympic Committee is the Governing Body for the Olympic Games. It draws up the general programme of the Games and lays down a code of amateurism and other qualifications for the competitors. It selects the venue for the celebration of each Olympiad.

National Olympic Committees and their Independence from all Influences

11. Every country sending competitors to the Olympic Games must have a National Olympic Committee recognised and approved by the International Olympic Committee. Under the Charter of the International Olympic Committee, the National Olympic Committees must be completely independent, autonomous and entirely removed from all political—including governmental—religious or commercial influences. In India, the Indian Olympic Association is the National Olympic Committee recognised and approved by the International Olympic Committee.

National Federations—Members of the Indian Olympic Association

12. The National Olympic Committees must have as members National Federation of Games included in the Olympic Games programme. The National Federations must be affiliated to the International Federation of the game concerned recognised as such by the International Olympic Committee. The following National Federations are recognised by and affiliated to the appropriate International Federation and are members of the National Olympic Committee, *viz.*, the Indian Olympic Association.

1. The Indian Hockey Federation
2. The All-India Football Federation
3. Swimming Federation of India
4. Amateur Athletic Federation of India
5. Wrestling Federation of India
6. Volleyball Federation of India
7. Basketball Federation of India

8. Gymnastic Federation of India
9. National Rifle Association of India
10. Indian Amateur Boxing Federation
11. Indian Weight-Lifting Federation

State Olympic Associations and S.S.C.B. Members of the Indian Olympic Association

The Indian Olympic Association also has as its member State Olympic Associations, each State in India having a State Olympic Association of its own. The State Olympic Associations also have to conform to the same principles of autonomy, freedom from political, governmental, religious or commercial influences etc. These State Olympic Associations are formed of Sports Associations and organizations representing different games within the State. This pattern varies, at the moment, from State to State. The Services Sport Control Board is also a member of the Indian Olympic Association.

Asian Games

13. The Asian Games are celebrated, like the Olympic Games, every four years, two years after the Olympic Games in a series and two years before the next, under the auspices of the Asian Games Federation, founded in New Delhi in 1949 by His Highness the Maharajah of Patiala. They were first celebrated in New Delhi in 1951 and, ever since, they have been gaining in popularity and stature. The Federation consists of twenty Asian countries and more are expected to join it. The Asian Games are conducted on the lines of the Olympic Games, except for the fact that the number of events open to competition is smaller. So far only three Games in the Asian Games series have been held, the first in New Delhi in 1951, the second in Manila in 1954 and the third in Tokyo in 1958.

Games other than those included in the Olympic Programme

14. Besides the games included in the Olympic programme, there are several others which are practised in the country. For instance, cricket, lawn tennis, badminton, table tennis are played widely; though they are not included in the Olympic Games. In the Third Asian Games, Lawn Tennis and Table Tennis were, however, included. All these games have their national associations or federations which control them and organise or control international competitions. Teams from India have, from time to time, participated in such international competitions including the British Empire and Commonwealth Games.

National Organisations

15. At the national level, the supreme authority for all Olympic matters, including the preparation for Olympic Games, equipment of selected competitors, their transportation, and their conduct, is the Indian Olympic Association—the National Olympic Committee—which was founded in 1927 and recognised and approved by the

International Olympic Committee. It is governed by the Charter of the International Olympic Committee. The State Olympic Associations, the National Sports Federations and the Services Sports Control Board are members of the Indian Olympic Association.

National Games

16. As already stated, the Indian Olympic Association through its member National Federations, is responsible for the development of amateur sport controlled by the National Federations. Sports which do not come within the purview of the Indian Olympic Association have, each of them, their own National Associations to promote their activities. Cricket, for instance, is under the Board of Control for Cricket in India, Lawn Tennis under the All-India Lawn Tennis Association, Badminton under the All-India Badminton Association and Table Tennis under the Table Tennis Federation of India. Each of them has its own organisational set-up which follows, by and large, the organization in other games. Each also has an association to control activities in the State which is affiliated to the National Federation/Association. For international competitions in these games, selection, training, transportation and other arrangements are in the hands of the respective national organizations and not of the Indian Olympic Association.

Standards of Performance

17. The Committee have tried to assess the standards of performance in the various games practised in the country. Athletics, the most important sport in the Olympic and Asian Games, have claimed their prior attention. In athletics it is easier to compare the present standards with the past as the performances are mathematically comparable. In other sports and games such a comparison cannot but be inexact and misleading, except for certain aquatic events. While much can be achieved by organization, training and the like, it should be borne in mind that stars are not born every day and no one country can expect to be in the lead for ever. It is, therefore, difficult to compare standards, past and present, in respect of games like Hockey, Football, and others. What can be done is to assess our own ability at a certain time as against that of other countries in the same game and thus measure our own world position. We must remember that, excepting Hockey where we have maintained an uninterrupted reputation, we have taken the field in other games late and are still much behind others.

Athletics

18. In regard to athletics, the Committee have found that our present athletic performances are an improvement on the past. In the past, distances were measured in yards and a comparison with the timings over metric distances of today is not strictly possible. But the

records of 1936, when for the first time distances were measured in metres, can be compared with those of 1958 as under :

Event					Year	
	MEN				1936	1958
100 Meters	10.6	10.6
200 Meters	22.6	21.5
400 Meters	50.2	47.5
800 Meters	1 : 59.3	1 : 52.5
1500 Meters	4 : 59.4	3 : 56.3
5000 Meters	15 : 23.0	14 : 57.2
10000 Meters	32 : 23.0	31 : 18.2
Marathon	2 : 59 : 17.0	2 : 23 : 58.4
110 Hurdles	15.6	14.5
3000 Steeplechase	10 : 46.4	9 : 24.0
High Jump	5' 10.5"	6' 5"
Long Jump	22' 8 1/2"	24' 4 1/4"
Hop, Step & Jump	46' 1.7/8"	50' 2"
Pole Vault	11' 7.7/8"	12' 5"
Javelin Throw	164' 4 1/4"	199' 4"
Discus Throw	113' 9 1/4"	153' 6 1/2"
Shot Put	42' 2 1/2"	48' 10 1/2"
Hammer Throw	120' 11"	166' 9"
4 X 100 Meter Relay	43.0	42.6
4 X 400 Meter Relay	3 : 27.4 (1942)	3 : 15.1
Decathlon	5615"
WOMEN						
100 Meter	12.9	12.3
200 Meter	25.7
80 Meter Hurdles	15.5	11.5
4 X 100 Meter Relay	53.0	49.9
High Jump	4' 5"	5' 1"
Long Jump	14' 11 1/2"	17' 10 1/2"
Shot Put	26' 4 1/4"	35' 7 1/4"
Discus Throw	77' 3 1/4"	114'
Javelin Throw	91' 8"	129' 7 1/4"

The above figures clearly show that there has been a steady improvement. We have, however, to step up the rate of improvement and

to accelerate it so as to enable us to catch up with those who have been and are ahead.

Performance in Other Games : Hockey

19. The Committee have examined the position in regard to other games. Hockey enjoys a special niche in the sports life of this country because it is the one game where we have been supreme since 1928. We won the Olympic Hockey title in our very first appearance in 1928 and have continued to win it ever since. It cannot, however, be said that we have been able to maintain the same high standard throughout. Our supremacy in the game is being challenged now and our performances at Melbourne and Tokyo were discouraging. A sustained effort to keep up our standards will be necessary if we are to maintain our world position in this game.

Football

20. Football is, comparatively, the most popular game in the country. The Indian Football Association of Bengal, which did the pioneering work for Football in this country, celebrated its Diamond Jubilee in 1953. The first big international competition, however, for which we entered was as late as 1948 when an Indian team competed in the Olympic Games held that year in London. We played bare-foot then. In 1952 again, when the team went to the Helsinki Olympiad, the team played without boots. It was after Helsinki that our players took to boots and they have as yet to get accustomed to them. The team at the Melbourne Olympiad in 1956 did well though, at the Asian Games at Tokyo, it failed to reproduce its Melbourne form because it was not trained to play for an international football match the duration of which is forty-five minutes each way. The practice in this country to play only thirty-five minutes each way should be altered.

Boxing

21. Indian boxers competed, for the first time, in the Olympic Games in London in 1948 and later in Helsinki in 1952. On each occasion, the selection of the team and other arrangements for it were made by an *ad hoc* committee of persons interested and knowledgeable in boxing, as the Boxing Federation had not then come into being. We entered a team of three for boxing in the Third Asian Games at Tokyo. One of them secured a Silver Medal and another a Bronze. These results cannot be called bad considering that the Indian Amateur Boxing Federation was only recently affiliated to the Indian Olympic Association and, therefore, has had little time to organize the sport. We are not new to this sport as it had been practised for some time in parts of the country. With the establishment of the Indian Amateur Boxing Federation it is hoped that Boxing will be practised as a sport on a wider scale.

Volleyball

22. Volleyball is a comparatively new sport, not only here but in other countries also. It has been approved as an Olympic event. It has been included in our National Games, since 1950. Volleyball teams have had some international experience and an Indian Volleyball team which competed in Moscow in 1952 was placed eighth in the ranking list. A Russian Volleyball Club team visited India in 1955 and played four 'test' matches, three of which were won by India. Later, the Indian Volleyball team which was invited to China in 1955 played ten matches there, winning four and losing five, with one match remaining undecided. In 1956 our Volleyball team participated in the World Championship at Paris. Our team at Tokyo, however, did not live up to expectations. It won two matches and lost two, the tournament having been played on the league system. It secured the Bronze Medal.

Wrestling

23. No other teams were sent to Tokyo though we have had international competition in several other sports. We sent a wrestling team to the Olympic Games as far back as 1936. Again, in 1948, a wrestling team took part in the Olympic Games in London and one of our wrestlers made his mark by obtaining the sixth place in the ranking list. Four years later, another wrestling team took part in the Olympic Games at Helsinki with greater success. One of the wrestlers secured a Bronze Medal and another was placed fourth in the ranking list. This Bronze Medal, incidentally, is the only medal, apart from the Gold Medal in hockey, won by us so far in the Olympic Games. The next team took part in the Olympic Games in Melbourne and failed to secure any place in the ranking list. Though this sport has an old tradition in this country and Indians may be considered to take naturally to it, international wrestling is different in style from indigenous wrestling and has to be learnt and practised in the country.

Weight-Lifting

24. Another sport for which we have been competing in the Olympic games is Weight-lifting. There are not many practitioners of this discipline but there are a few good ones. Weight-lifting teams competed in the Olympic Games in 1948, 1952 and 1956 but failed to impress against other powerful lifters.

Swimming

25. Swimming is another sport which has been practised for many years in this country. Indian swimmers competed in the Olympic Games of 1932 and the First Western Asiatic Aquatics held at Patiala in 1934. The first All-India Swimming Competition organized by the Swimming Federation of India which was formed in 1940 took place in 1941. Since then our swimmers have competed in the Olympic

Games of 1948, 1952 and 1956 and the Asian Games of 1951 and 1954. Most of our swimmers have come from Bengal and Bombay, though swimming as a sport is becoming popular in other parts of the country also. The construction of swimming pools in places where natural facilities for swimming do not exist has helped in the development of the sport in such places. The following is a comparative statement of Swimming Records in 1941 and 1958.

			MEN	1941	1958
1500 Meter Free Style	23 : 26.5	20 : 49.5
400 Meter Free Style	5 : 35.3	5 : 10.3
200 Meter Free Style	2 : 34.3 (1952)	2 : 20.0
100 Meter Free Style	1 : 4.1	1 : 0.3
200 Meter Breast Stroke	3 : 6.2	2 : 49.7
100 Meter Breast Stroke	1 : 24.4	1 : 18.8
200 Meter Butterfly Stroke	3 : 14.6 (1952)	2 : 51.0
100 Meter Butterfly Stroke	1 : 21.0	1 : 13.5
200 Meter Back Stroke	2 : 51.2	2 : 42.3
100 Meter Back Stroke	1 : 16.3	1 : 11.8
4 X 100 Meter Free Style Relay	4 : 31.3	4 : 29.0
4 X 200 Meter Free Style Relay	10 : 31.2 (1952)	10 : 10.8
WOMEN					
100 Meter Free Style	1 : 39.0	1 : 18.6
200 Meter Free Style	3 : 47.2	3 : 1.9
400 Meter Free Style	7 : 47.0 (1952)	6 : 30.6
100 Meter Breast Stroke	2 : 12.2	1 : 38.0
200 Meter Breast Stroke	3 : 29.7 (1952)	3 : 26.2
100 Meter Back Stroke	2 : 31.0	1 : 29.5

In this connection we feel we must mention Mihir Sen's creditable performance in having swum the English Channel from England to France.

Cycling

26. Cycling is a popular sport. Indian Cycling teams competed in 1948 and 1952 in the Olympic Games as also in the First Asian Games in New Delhi.

Basketball

27. Basketball is another sport which we have been playing for a decade or so. We entered a basketball team for the First Asian Games in 1951. The team did not do too well. It was the first effort of a newly-formed National Organization to enter a team. Since then,

efforts have been made to make the game more popular and it is now being played in more parts of the country. It is too early to say how good Indian Basketball is.

Rifle Shooting

28. Rifle Shooting has been lately introduced. The National Rifle Association of India made a modest beginning and, in a short time, has made the sport better known. In 1952 a pioneering effort by the West Bengal Rifle Association was responsible for the sending of a Rifle Shooting team to Helsinki. The Shooting Team put up a fairly good performance, the results being as follows :

Free Rifle	Points
24th place Small Bore Rifle Prone	994/1200
29th place Small Bore Rifle Three Positions	394/400
36th place	1095/1200

Another Rifle Shooting team was sent to the Olympic Games in Melbourne under the aegis of the National Rifle Association of India which is the National Controlling Body for Rifle Shooting in the country. The team's performance was :

Small Bore Rifle Three Positions	
35th place	111/1200

29. The performance of the team in 1956 showed no marked improvement over that of the team in 1952. It is obvious that considerable stimulation of interest is needed.

Gymnastics

30. The Gymnastic Federation of India sent a team of two to the Olympic Games in 1952 and a team of three to the Olympic Games in 1956 to compete in the twelve exercise competition for individuals. The performances were :

1952

Total points for Compulsory Exercises	..	17.50	out of a possible 60.
Total points for Voluntary Exercises	..	28.00	out of a possible 60.
Total for the two forms combined	..	45.50	

1956

Total points for Compulsory Exercises	..	39.75	out of a possible 60.
Total points for Voluntary Exercises	..	37.60	out of a possible 60.
Total for the two forms combined	..	77.35	

31. Both in 1952 and 1956 these were the lowest points scored in the competition. The highest in 1952 was 107.90 and that in 1956, 110.75.

32. In fairness to the Gymnasts it should be mentioned that in 1952 organised gymnastics had just begun and the 1952 team was a maiden effort of the new Federation. There was improvement in 1956 though here also, as in other forms of sport, we have to accelerate the rate of improvement in order to catch up with others.

What Statistics Show ?

33. Statistics show that there has not really been any lowering of standards in our performances. The patent fact, however, is that as compared to us other countries have improved their performances very much more. We have to overcome the handicap of a late start, to make up much leeway and to hasten the rate of improvement. More facilities and better opportunities for training and competition and administrative efficiency will accelerate the process. In the non-Olympic Games, we have a fairly good international standing in Badminton, Table Tennis, Lawn Tennis and Polo.

Educational Institutions' Contribution

34. We have to consider the place universities, colleges and schools have in the development of sports and games in the country. We have asked ourselves what contribution these institutions are making to their progress. The question is pertinent for these institutions should be the nurseries of intellectual, spiritual and physical progress. The contribution they make to the development of sports and games in other countries of the World is well-known. In the U.S.A., which is to the fore in athletics, the record-breakers come mostly from the universities and colleges which take a very intense interest in encouraging sports and games. The Japanese, too, realise the importance of spreading the cult of sport in their universities, and, at the last Asian Games, their competitors, some of whom won Gold Medals, came from their universities. We give an interesting break up of figures showing the strength of university and college students as against others in the Japanese and the Indian teams in the Third Asian Games.

A Comparison with Japan

JAPAN				
Athletics	...	..	..	21 ex-University company employees, 18 students, 6 University staff members, 1 Government official.
Swimming and Water Polo		..	..	19 students, 13 ex-University company employees.
Football	..	..	..	16 ex-University company employees, 3 students.
Hockey	..	..	..	9 ex-University company employees, 2 students.
Volleyball		..	..	10 ex-University company employees, 2 students.
Badminton	...	..	..	5 students, 2 ex-University company employees, 1 University staff member, 4 others.

Boxing	6 students, 2 ex-University company employees, 2 government officials.
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TOTAL				..	78 ex-University company employees, 60 students, 8 University teaching and other staff, 3 government officials and 4 others.
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INDIA

Athletics			9 Armed Forces, 5 Police (including 1 University man), 3 Railways (including 1 ex-University man) and 1 student.
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Hockey	5 Police (including 1 ex-University man), 3 Railways (including 1 ex-University man) 1 student, 2 Armed forces and 6 others.
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Volleyball	5 ex-University men, 4 students, 2 Armed Forces, 1 Police.
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Boxing					3 Armed Forces.
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Football	Details not available
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TOTAL				..	15 Armed Forces, 11 Police (including 1 ex-University man), 6 Railways (including 2 ex-University men), 5 other ex-University men, 4 students and 6 others.
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We thus had a preponderance of non-students, the ratio being 3 to 1. The disparity becomes more marked if the football figures are added. The fact is obvious that only a very feeble trickle flows from the universities and colleges into the sporting stream of the country. Were the question asked, as it has been, whether we receive a good quota of athletes and sportsmen for our national games from universities and colleges, the answers would be an unequivocal 'No'.

Lack of Favourable Atmosphere in Educational Institutions

35. Those who know the handicaps of educational institutions, universities and colleges and secondary schools are not surprised at the poor representation of the universities and colleges in our national teams. In Educational Institutions where sports and games should naturally flourish, there is lacking, by and large, an atmosphere favourable to their practice. The urge to play should be at its strongest in schools and colleges. There the students have the leisure and the opportunity to satisfy this urge and yet, for reasons which we discuss in the following paragraphs, the urge either does not seem to be there at all or is not strong or persistent enough.

36. A handicap from which our educational institutions suffer is that many of them have no playgrounds worth the name; some have no playgrounds at all. This is true not only of schools in outlying places but also of colleges and universities. We know of a university with an enrolment of about eight thousand students in its ten constituent colleges which has only three playgrounds. And this is not an

isolated case. In addition, most of our educational institutions suffer from an insufficiency of funds for games. Ordinarily, every student contributes a few rupees every year to the sports fund to which the university may make an equal contribution. Thus, the average amount available per year per student hardly exceeds five or six rupees. In such circumstances, it is impossible for the authorities to organise games and sports for all or even for a large number. They are satisfied if a small number takes part in games in an endeavour to keep the sports traditions of the university alive. Besides lack of playgrounds and paucity of funds, there is the problem of equipment which also arises from the shortage of resources.

Absence of Incentives

37. Admission to colleges is generally governed by the marks obtained in examinations. A candidate securing less marks than others is rejected, though he may have been a good sportsman. The average student, therefore, cannot afford to sacrifice his chances of admission to higher studies for the sake of proficiency in sports and games as this, he knows, will not pay. Besides, the teaching staff is generally recruited from among those who have done well in their academic career. Little credit is given to achievements in sport. Such teachers naturally do not fully appreciate the value of sport in the life of a student. For them time spent on sport is time wasted. No sporting atmosphere is possible when teachers frown on sports' activities or are apathetic to them.

38. The situation in schools is not very different. If anything, things are a shade worse. Whereas in a college or a university there may be found here and there a few teachers taking an active interest in games, in schools even this is not so. Their games teacher may be a drill-master and no more. The games fund is generally poor. Most schools do not have the means to make their own contribution to the games fund. In such circumstances, the arrangements and facilities for sports and games in schools cannot but be very unsatisfactory indeed. It is possible that a few pupils may play and satisfy their natural urge to play; others, because of the non-fulfilment of the urge, lose all interest in sports and games. The picture that emerges is dismal and gloomy, but having diagnosed the disease, we have to prescribe the appropriate remedies. These have been suggested in subsequent chapters.

Assessment of Effort and Existing Standards

39. Any examination of our achievements and performances will be incomplete without a consideration of whether the results achieved have been in proportion to the effort put in. Simple as the question may appear, it is not easy to answer it. We have no data to assess the amount of organised effort that has been made so far nor do we know how much has been spent on the promotion and development of

sports and games. We know our sporting life, in the modern sense, is young. The Indian Olympic Association came into being only 30 years ago. National Federations, with the exception of the Indian Hockey Federation which is as old as the Indian Olympic Association, were formed later. The All India Football Federation was established in 1937; the Amateur Athletic Federation of India a few years later, followed by other national sports bodies, one of which, the Amateur Boxing Federation was affiliated to the Indian Olympic Association only last year. Organization of Sports and Games on a national scale is a long term affair and it cannot be done in a few years. We need to be patient if we find that progress is not as rapid as we would like it to be. As regards finances, there is less money available to the Federations now than before. The Princes who used to patronise sports and games can no longer extend their patronage to the same extent, and it is getting ever more difficult to raise money by public subscriptions. Sports and games all over the country have yet to become popular enough to draw good gates. There is at present a tendency to lean more and more on the State. The adjustment of the new relationship between Government and the Sports Federations, which have to function effectively without loss of their autonomy, has yet to grow and develop.

40. A question often asked, the answer to which we are required to find, is why our athletes are generally not up to international standard. It is obvious that we do not have the kind or the standard of training for our athletes that other countries have acquired over the course of years, nor is our training as intensive as theirs. But this cannot be the whole answer. On closer examination, it is obvious that there is a definite correlation between athletic proficiency and achievements in competitions like the Olympic Games, on the one hand and, on the other, factors such as sports traditions and social and nutritional habits which have a bearing on the general health of the people. Study after study shows that there is no easy way to improve the physical powers of a person, any more than there is an easy way to improve his mental powers. Health, powers of endurance, physical well-being are all dependent to a large extent on proper nutrition. A study of the results in the Olympic Games of 1952 has shown that natural abilities must be helped by environmental forces for success in international competitions. Organised sport for these competitions is, as has been stated above, of fairly recent origin in this country. It has been practised here largely for recreation and enjoyment. The accent on winning in an international competition has, however taken root. Success in international sport all the world over is a matter of national pride and failure is looked upon almost as a national calamity. This new emphasis should lead to a popular upsurge in the country in favour of development of sports and games with a view to success in international competitions. Whether this emphasis on winning alone is good or bad for the building up of sportsmanship is a different question.

CHAPTER II

NATIONAL FEDERATIONS/ASSOCIATIONS

In view of the important role of the National Federations/Associations, we propose to deal with them in greater detail.

2. The National Federations/Associations, as already stated, are affiliated to International Federations for their respective sports and games and through them they derive the supreme authority to control their individual sports in the country. They have their constituents in State Associations in the States and through them exercise their authority over all clubs and tournaments in the country. The technical arrangements for all National Championships are in their hands. They select their teams for the Olympic and Asian Games and other international contests and arrange for their training. Entries for the Olympic and Asian Games are forwarded by them to the Organizing Committee of those games through the Indian Olympic Association where the National Federations, under the Olympic Charter, have a voting majority.

3. For competitions at the international level, the National Federations, thus, play a very important role. No one can compete in an international competition unless selected or permitted by the National Federation concerned.

4. The main function of the National Federations, however, is not to select teams and send them to international competitions, but to promote and develop the sports which they control. Most of the games that are now being played have been in existence for many years in one part or other of the country even before specific National Federations for them came into being. For an appraisal of the work done by the latter we have to assess the development of the games concerned since their establishment.

Indian Hockey Federation

5. The first National Federation to be formed was the Indian Hockey Federation. It was founded in 1928. The success of the hockey team that took part in the Olympic Games in 1928 gave a great fillip to the game. Hockey is played in all parts of the country but the standard varies from place to place, as also the enthusiasm for it. In the absence of a regular record, it is not possible to say how many Hockey Clubs and players there are in the country. Their number is undoubtedly large and our hockey teams have continued to maintain a fine record in international contests.

Football Federation

6. The All India Football Federation came into being in 1937. Football has been popular for many years and, since the establish-

ment of the All India Football Federation, its popularity has increased. Every club and player is registered. More people play football than any other game and football matches generally draw large crowds. The standard of play has improved with time and the performance of the Indian team in the Melbourne Olympiad was encouraging.

Swimming Federation

7. The Swimming Federation of India came into being in 1940 and, despite the lack of facilities for this sport in most places, swimming is fast gaining in popularity. Bengal and Bombay predominate in swimming contests.

Amateur Athletic Federation

8. Organizationally, athletics have made fair progress since the formation of the Amateur Athletic Federation of India in 1944. More meets are held now and there is far greater interest than before. Facilities in the form of more stadiums and coaching for trainees as also for the creation of our own coaches are an urgent necessity. Local and inter-State contests also need to be encouraged.

Wrestling Federation and Volleyball Federation

9. The Wrestling Federation of India and the Volleyball Federation came on the scene a little later than the Amateur Athletic Federation of India. India has a fine potential in both these sports.

10. Volleyball is steadily gaining in popularity. Being a small area game for which not much equipment is necessary, it can be easily developed, particularly in the rural areas where open spaces are available.

Basketball Federation

11. The National Federation for Basketball was formed in 1950. This game is played mostly in our educational institutions, the Armed Forces and the Police Forces and is gradually gaining in popularity. Girls in schools and colleges play a very similar game, called net-ball. In this game, we are still far behind international standards.

Gymnastic Federation

12. The National Federation for Gymnastics was established in 1951. Hitherto, gymnastics were within the reach only of public schools, the Armed Forces, the Police Forces and people in a few metropolitan centres. It was in public schools that gymnastics were mostly practised. A team of Russian gymnasts visited this country in the winter of 1955-56 and their tour gave a fillip to this exercise. India has the material to produce gymnasts of international standards. We have the fine sport of Malkham in the Maharashtra area which is a gymnastic practice.

National Rifle Association

13. The National Rifle Association of India was established in 1958. Hitherto, shooting was an expensive luxury and, consequently it was beyond the reach of ordinary people. The use of shooting ranges was also restricted. Since Independence the position has altered. Licensing of arms has been considerably relaxed with the result that there has been, in recent years, reckless destruction of wild life. In our view, Government should see to it that shooting as an art is encouraged and the preservation of wild life is organised. The formation of the National Rifle Association of India is the first endeavour to organize shooting as an art. Organizations like the National Cadet Corps, the Territorial Army and Auxiliary Forces have provided an avenue for more people to learn to shoot and, thereby, to keep the interest alive.

Amateur Boxing Federation

14. The Indian Amateur Boxing Federation was recognised by the Indian Olympic Association in 1958. This sport has hitherto been practised mostly in Public Schools and the Armed Forces.

National Cycling Federation

15. The National Cycling Federation of India (N.C.F.I.) was brought into being by a few enthusiasts of cycling in the Punjab and Bombay about 1937 at a time when cycling had hardly been taken up as an organised sport in the country. Strangely enough, the National Cycling Federation of India was granted affiliation by the U.C.I. (International Cycling Union) about the same time.

The National Cycling Federation of India did not have a democratic constitution. It provided for self-appointed office-bearers who nominated their own committee. When cycling organizations were formed in other States, they declined to join the National Cycling Federation of India and, instead, in 1946 they formed an All India Cycling Federation at a meeting held in Bangalore. This body was however, not able to secure affiliation with the U.C.I. in place of the National Cycling Federation of India. Two years later, the National Cycling Federation of India agreed to amend and democratise its constitution so as to admit to its council representatives of State Cycling Organizations. The All India Cycling Federation decided in consequence to withdraw from the scene. The National Cycling Federation of India, however, took some time to amend its constitution and, not until 1952, did it have a constitution which was acceptable to cycling organizations in the various States.

A new constitution, approved by the Indian Olympic Association and accepted by the State Associations was, however, not followed by the National Cycling Federation of India for long and by 1954 the constitution had become ineffective. Cycling organizations, set up in some States to rival the existing State Associations which were

members of the National Cycling Federation of India, were accepted as members by the National Cycling Federation of India. This was followed by protests from State Associations which were members of the National Cycling Federation of India, and the Indian Olympic Association was asked to intervene. Reports also reached the Indian Olympic Association of mismanagement of cycling tours in Europe conducted by the National Cycling Federation of India. The Indian Olympic Association set up a committee to go into the alleged mismanagement of the cycling tours and the protest of the State Cycling Associations against the breaches of the National Cycling Federation of India constitution. The Committee recommended suspension of affiliation of the National Cycling Federation of India to the Indian Olympic Association. This recommendation the Indian Olympic Association accepted and terminated the affiliation of the National Cycling Federation of India in 1955.

The position since then is that there is no national cycling federation recognised as such by the Indian Olympic Association. Nor is it possible for the Indian Olympic Association to recognise a new national cycling organization as, under the Charter of the International Olympic Committee, the Indian Olympic Association may recognise only such National Federations as are affiliated to the appropriate International Federations. So long, therefore, as the National Cycling Federation of India is recognised by the U.C.I., no other cycling body can be recognised by the Indian Olympic Association.

Board of Control for Cricket

16. The Board of Control for Cricket in India was established in 1928 when it became a member of the Imperial Cricket Conference. It has now equal voting rights with all members of the Conference. Since the establishment of the Board, there have been official visits by Indian teams to England, Australia, West Indies and Pakistan. India has also had official visits of teams from England, West Indies, Pakistan, New Zealand and Australia.

Lawn Tennis Association

17. This game has been played for many years in this country. The Punjab Championships began as far back as 1885. The Bengal Championships were held two years later in 1887. The Bombay Championships were held in 1912 for the first time.

The first All India Lawn Tennis Championships were held in 1910. Since then a number of International matches have been played against teams from England, Italy, Central Europe, and Asian countries.

A few of our players have attained world standard and have taken part with distinction in tournaments at Wimbledon, France and other European centres, as also at Forest Hills and in Australian Championships.

Since Tennis is a game which can be played by both boys and girls and for a longer time than other games, it needs encouragement so that our youngsters may have the necessary facilities in respect of coaching and Tennis courts and thereby attain a high standard both nationally and internationally.

The controlling body for Lawn Tennis is the All India Lawn Tennis Association.

Table Tennis Federation

18. Although the Table Tennis Federation of India was founded in 1937, India was one of the founders of the International Table Tennis Association in 1926. Indian students resident in London formed an Indian Federation at the Y.M.C.A. hostel for Indian students at 112, Gower Street, London and participated in a number of International Championships held between 1927 and 1938 in the U.K. and on the Continent.

The first Annual National Table Tennis Championship was held at Calcutta in 1938 and the last one in Ahmedabad in 1958.

A landmark in the history of Table Tennis in India is the 19th World Championship held in Bombay in 1952. The founding of the Asian Table Tennis Federation in 1958 is another important event in its history.

Since the foundation of the Table Tennis Federation of India, Indian teams have participated with credit in a number of International Championships abroad, at Cairo in 1939, Budapest in 1950, Vienna in 1951, London in 1954, Tokyo in 1955 and Stockholm in 1957.

Badminton

19. The All India Badminton Association was founded in 1934 and until 1938 the Annual Championships had been confined to two States only, the Punjab and Bengal. In the Championships held in 1939 two more States joined. From 1947 onwards almost all the States have been participating in the Annual Championships.

Since 1940 players from Malaya, Thailand, Indonesia and Denmark have been visiting India and have played exhibition matches.

India has been a regular participant in the Thomas Cup matches (World Series). Indian Badminton teams have also been sent to Ceylon, Australia, Singapore, Thailand and Pakistan.

Women Badminton players have been participating in the Women's World Cup series for the Uber Cup.

The game of Badminton is now played in almost all parts of the country. It is particularly popular with girls and school boys.

Lack of Funds—A Disturbing Feature

20. A disturbing feature of most National Federations/Associations is their chronic lack of funds. Derived mainly from affiliation fees from members and gate receipts, generally meagre, from occasional tournaments, their finances are low and not sufficient to enable them to function effectively. Development of sport and improvement of standards, which are their primary duties, are hardly possible with a thousand rupees or two which is all that most of them can collect in a year. Their anaemic condition is reflected in langour and lassitude in the sport or game under their control and laxity of administration. They cannot put any vigour into their effort because they do not have the means to do so. Internally, not unoften, factions arise and thereby weaken the National Federation/Association still further and give it a bad name.

How Funds can be Improved ?

21. This state of things is detrimental to sport, and the sooner National Federations/Associations remedy it the better. As a first step, National Federations/Associations must find ways and means of raising more money for themselves. The practice of leaning on Government and others for support, which is fast becoming a habit, should be resisted. Some of them, the Football and Hockey Federations in particular, can improve their funds by controlling the gate receipts of tournaments which often contribute nothing or little to them. We further understand that there are a number of tournaments organized by private bodies the receipts of which are retained by the organizers. It should be possible for National Federations/Associations to charge a percentage of the proceeds for themselves. The F.I.F.A. (International Football Federation), for instance, charges a certain percentage of the proceeds of international tournaments and matches wherever they are held.

Recommendations for making Sports Organisations More Effective

22. It is obvious that conditions detrimental to the development and popularising of sport should be eliminated. People with integrity, love and knowledge of sport should feel that they are welcome in the organizations governing sports. To this end, we recommend the following measures :

- (i) The term of the office bearers in a National Fédération/Association should be limited to three years with option for re-election for another term of three years.
- (ii) No office bearer in one National Federation/Association should simultaneously hold office in any other National Federation/Association.
- (iii) All National Federations/Associations should get themselves registered under the Registration of Societies Act, 1860.
- (iv) Every National Federation/Association should have a stipendiary assistant secretary.

CHAPTER II-A

SERVICES SPORT CONTROL BOARD

As stated in the previous chapter, the Services Sport Control Board is a member of the Indian Olympic Association. Originally known as the Army Sport Control Board, it now comprises the three wings of the Defence Services—Army, Navy and Air Force. The Services Sport Control Board is a member not only of the Indian Olympic Association, but the National Federation of every game or sport in the country. For obvious reasons the jurisdiction of the Services Sport Control Board extends over the Defence Services only, but the contribution of the Board to the improvement of standards in athletics in particular and in other games and sports has been extremely remarkable.



CHAPTER III

OTHER SPORTS AND GAMES

1. Golf

Within the last two decades golf in India from being a game patronised almost exclusively by Europeans and Americans resident in the country is becoming popular with Indians. Golf was established in India over a hundred years ago and the Royal Calcutta Golf Club is said to be the second oldest Golf Club in the world. Today, many of the Golf Clubs in the large cities of India, such as Calcutta, Bombay, Delhi and Madras, have more Indian membership and the number of Indians taking to the game is growing.

2. Squash

The Squash Racket Association of India was established in 1953 and is affiliated to the Squash Racket Association of England and the Squash Racket Association of America. The Association has been conducting since its establishment National Squash Racket Championships at Bombay, New Delhi and Calcutta in rotation every year.

3. Billiards

The All India Billiards Association was formed in 1940. Since then, it has been holding the All India Billiards Championship annually in Calcutta. The Game is played in almost all parts of the country, and in December of last year, in the World Amateur Billiards Championship, Wilson Jones of Bombay won the championship for his country for the first time.

4. Sailing and Rowing

India has a large coast line and many lakes and rivers. New dams and barrages are adding to the number of existing lakes. In certain areas, sailing and rowing sports are popular, but, so far, no organisation to coordinate competition, or to develop these sports has been formed.

5. Equestrian Sport

India has had a fine record in Equestrian sport and it continues to produce excellent horsemen. Its Polo Teams have been world famous. Hitherto, Polo was confined mostly to the Armed Forces, the Police and the Princely States. This picture is no longer there because of the mechanization of the Armed Forces, political changes, etc. We hope, however, that Equestrian sport will, in due course, be developed.

6. Fencing

India rightfully boasts of a tradition in swordsmanship and "Gatka", the Indian style of fencing, is still popular in many rural areas. In order to enable India to participate in international fencing, our fencing will have to be adapted to meet international requirements.

7. Winter Games

Winter sports are popular in the North, especially in Kashmir and the Punjab. Interest in these sports is gradually increasing.

8. Archery

This sport is nation-wide and among the jungle-folk, particularly the *Adivasis*, marksmanship is a matter of pride. In Assam inter-village competitions are very popular. We see no reason why Archery should not be a regular sport in schools and colleges.



CHAPTER IV

ALL-INDIA COUNCIL OF SPORTS AND STATE SPORTS COUNCILS

The All-India Council of Sports was formed by the Union Ministry of Education in 1954 for the purpose of having a body of persons interested in sports and games available to Government to advise them on matters relating to their promotion and, in particular, in regard to financial assistance to sports organisations applying for help from Government. The functions and powers of this Council, as stated in the Resolution of the Ministry of Education on its establishment, are :

- (i) to advise the national sports organizations and to act as the coordinating agency among them;
- (ii) to advise the Government of India on all matters concerning sports and games, including financial and other assistance to sports organizations;
- (iii) to act as liaison between its constituent bodies and the Government;
- (iv) to maintain the funds and accounts of such of its constituent bodies as may agree to it; and
- (v) to arrange for the audit of the accounts of the constituent bodies at their expense or approve their audited accounts as submitted.

Its Composition

2. The Council consists of National Federations for Olympic events, who are all members of the Indian Olympic Association, National Federations for non-Olympic events who are not all members of the Indian Olympic Association, and certain specialized sports agencies, some of whom are, and some of whom are not, members of the Indian Olympic Association. In such a composite body there was apt to be occasional misunderstanding and confusion of functions with the Indian Olympic Association. When this happened, there was irritation on account of the encroachment, seeming or real, by the Council on the jurisdiction of the Indian Olympic Association. This largely defeated the object of the Council. In the best interest of sports in the country, we feel that an all-India body should be such as to ensure all round harmonious co-operation. We also feel that, in the changed circumstances, the assistance and patronage of Government are necessary and desirable for promotion of physical well-being of the people. It is equally necessary that the Indian Olympic Association,

the most important organisation of all, and the National Federations/Associations should continue to have full freedom and scope to grow and develop. We hope that this will be achieved by changing the constitution of the All-India Council of Sports. Since the membership of the Indian Olympic Association, affiliated as it is to the International Olympic Committee, cannot be changed, we recommend that Government change the constitution of the Council.

Composition and Function of the reconstituted All-India Council of Sports

3. The All-India Council of Sports should be reconstituted as soon as possible to consist of 11 to 15 persons, including a Chairman, nominated by the Government of India, who have knowledge, standing and experience of sports and their administration. They should be in the Council in their personal and individual capacity only. This Council, with the support of the Government of India through the Ministry concerned, should handle all matters coming up before it. We do not consider it necessary to continue the Standing Committee of the Council as it exists today.

Composition and Function of the State Sports Councils

4. The Councils of Sports in the States should follow the same pattern but should be smaller, having 7 to 9 members nominated by the Government of the State for their knowledge, standing and experience of sports and their administration. These should be the only factors in nominating persons to the Council and no sectarian or regional considerations should prevail.

5. The powers and functions of the All-India Council of Sports and the State Sports Councils should be re-defined in the light of the suggestions made above. It is necessary to emphasise that it is not our intention that the Council at the Centre and the Councils in the States should in any way interfere with, encroach upon or usurp the functions or authority of the various sports organisations at either the National or State level. The State Sports Councils should assist, in every way possible, sports activities in educational institutions through their respective sports boards, and sports and games associations of the State, laying emphasis on the propagation and development of sport in the rural areas where sports activity is not very much in evidence at present.

CHAPTER V

The Existing Coaching Scheme

The Coaching Schemes assisted or administered by the Government of India since Independence fall into the following three groups :

- (a) Rajkumari Sports Coaching Scheme—for which an *ad hoc* recurring grant is being made by the Government of India;
- (b) Coaching Camps held by the Ministry of Education on behalf of the All-India Council of Sports; and
- (c) Coaching Camps held by the National Sports Federations/Associations and Universities with the aid of grants from the Ministry of Education and the Rajkumari Sports Coaching Scheme.

The Rajkumari Sports Coaching Scheme

2. The Rajkumari Sports Coaching Scheme has contributed handsomely to the discovery and training of talent in various parts of the country as was evident at the recent Asian Games at Tokyo and the British Empire and Commonwealth Games at Cardiff, where all our Medal winners were trainees of this scheme. It should be strengthened and expanded.

The All-India Council of Sports Coaching Scheme

3. The All-India Council of Sports Coaching Camps could not but have had limited success since trainees from them were confined to teachers of Physical Education and other teachers in schools and colleges nominated by the State Governments or the Universities concerned. This scheme was ill-planned and it was expecting too much to achieve any useful result from the type of trainees supplied to these camps for the very inadequate period of a fortnight or so. These camps, we understand, have been discontinued by the Ministry of Education.

Sports Organisations' Coaching Camps

4. National Federations/Associations and Universities were assisted by Government on an *ad hoc* basis to hold coaching camps which, in some instances, proved useful.

Need for Planned Coaching for All

5. For the proper development of sports and games in India, planned coaching at all stages is essential. Coaching as it is at present has

not even touched the fringe of the problem. There is a vast talent potential in the country which can and must be exploited by intensified and planned coaching.

Central Plan of Coaching

6. Planned coaching is a complex affair as it has to meet different requirements, such as requirements of schools, colleges, universities, federations, associations, armed forces and institutions as also National and International meets. The requirements for all these different categories will have to be co-ordinated and integrated by a Central Plan in order to ensure a reservoir for a regular supply of trainees for the coaches. Only a Central Plan can meet the different requirements of the country as a whole. It is necessary that schemes for coaching in respect of sports and games in the Olympic programme should be submitted to the All-India Council of Sports by the National Federations/Associations and the Armed Forces through the Indian Olympic Association. In respect of non-Olympic games, the National Federations/Associations concerned should submit their applications direct to the All-India Council of Sports. Schemes for coaching for non-Olympic games drawn up by the Armed Forces should be submitted to the All-India Council of Sports, through the National Federations/Associations concerned. For all schemes for schools, the applications should be submitted to the All-India Council of Sports through the States Councils. For colleges and Universities schemes should be sent for approval to the All-India Council of Sports through the Inter-University Sports Board.

7. We recommend the appointment of an expert from a foreign country to assist in the formulation of the Central Plan.

Dr. Peltzer's Views on Coaching

8. Hockey is the only game where we are self-sufficient in coaches. Dr. Peltzer, the well-known German Coach and an athlete of international repute with several world records to his credit, appeared before us and his view was that a sportsman, to become a first-class coach, capable of training athletes for international events, requires two or three years of modern and scientific training. As regards coaches for schools, he held the view that a good sportsman, with an aptitude for coaching, could be trained within a month or so.

Establishment of a Central Training Institute

9. A beginning should be made immediately with the establishment of a Central Training Institute to provide first-class coaches in different sports and games. To ensure a planned distribution of competent coaches, the admission to this Institute should be regulated according to the requirements of a planned coaching scheme so that coaches graduating from there are distributed according to the plan.

Role of Physical Education Institutions and of their Teachers in Coaching

10. There are thirty-one institutions for training in physical education in the country. We recommend that Government should provide adequate facilities to them with a view to enhancing their competence. The training programmes of these institutions will have to be reorientated so that more emphasis is given than at present to sports and games. As already stated, physical education teachers, by virtue of their numbers, will play a very important role as primary coaches of the youth of the country.

11. We have already emphasised that it is essential to train first-class coaches in our country. For this purpose, we have to accept the fact that foreign coaches will be indispensable to give the national plan a start. This will mean that foreign coaches will have to be employed for a planned term. Hitherto they have been employed on an *ad hoc* basis, mostly for too short periods.

Building up of a Cadre of Coaches

12. A cadre of coaches must be built up and, in order to attract the best material for this cadre, it is necessary that there is security of service. Pending the establishment of the Central Training Institute, we recommend that appointments be made on a contract basis for a minimum period of five years, subject to a probationary period of six months.

Fair Scales of Pay

13. In the Central Plan, consideration will have to be given to the pay scale of the cadre of coaches. We are of opinion that coaches will have to be paid different rates according to their stature in the profession, their qualifications, experience etc., and the specific purpose for which they are appointed. A special Committee should examine this problem as soon as possible so that coaches may be assured of their prospects in this new service.

14. Until such time as the above recommendations are implemented the existing Coaching Schemes should continue.

CHAPTER VI

SELECTION OF TEAMS

Need for a Proper and Just Selection of Players by Competent Persons

The selection of teams for International competitions in the Olympic and Asian Games had often been criticised, and bad selection has often been said to have been responsible for poor results. There is no doubt that, generally speaking, unless the best team is selected it is idle to expect satisfactory results. At every level, National and International, selection of teams should be so made that the selected teams as well as the public feel satisfied that the best selection has been made by persons who are competent and command respect. We should like to add that proper selection does not necessarily ensure success in an International competition. This depends upon various factors and not on good selection only. What is wanted is that the selected team should truly and correctly reflect the state of the game in the country and that it should contain all that is best in the country in the game. We have examined the selection for some of the recent International competitions and are constrained to admit that there is justification for the criticism, which has been often made, that the best players have not always been selected, and that merit alone has not been the guiding factor in the selection of the team. It would appear that the selectors have sometimes been influenced in their selections by extraneous considerations.

Appointment of Selection Committee on a Permanent Basis, and its Composition,

2. Selection for individual events should present little difficulty since this is made on the basis of comparable performances in respect of time, height, etc. For team events, however, selection is a difficult matter, and the procedure followed at present needs to be changed. For instance, the selection of the Hockey team is reportedly made on the basis of the performance of players in a few trial games. At any rate, the preliminary selection of about 30 players is made on this basis. A few trial games, however, cannot always indicate the merit of a player correctly, especially if a player is eliminated after his first trial game. Selectors should have opportunities of knowing the players better and watching their performances over a period of time. Therefore, we recommend that National Federations/Associations should appoint their selection committees, as far as possible, on a permanent basis and every selection committee may be constituted for a period of two years. These selection committees should consist only of persons who are competent and besides having a critical insight into the game, have knowledge of first class competitions, National

and International, and are known for their integrity and command respect. The number of members of a selection committee, which at present is usually large, should be small and should not exceed five. Of these, two should, wherever possible, be persons who have played in that particular game in an International competition. The Captain may be appointed by the Executive Body of the National Federation/Association on the recommendation of its selection committee and he will assist the committee in the selection of the team.



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CHAPTER VII

MANAGEMENT OF TEAMS

Its Contribution to the Success of Teams and Players

The impact of management on teams has now come to be appreciated better than before. Just as a good captain can bring the best out of his team, a good manager may also contribute to the success or reputation of the team in his charge. We feel, therefore, that the selection of managers is no less important than that of the players of a team. It is being gradually realised, more now than before, that our teams, when they go abroad, are in the nature of ambassadors, and their conduct has its repercussions on the reputation of the country. The manager can contribute positively or negatively to their performing this role well or ill.

The Manager's Role

2. It is not, however, only the conduct of a team that can be influenced by the manager. The performance of a team may also be influenced. Players out to face a hard international competition with the eyes of the world, as it were, on them need delicate handling and careful nursing. Besides, not all members of a team are alike in their reactions to their surroundings and the ordeal before them. Here the manager has a vital role. Criticism has been made of the neglect of a team at Tokyo at a critical moment by the managers. We do not propose to hold a post-mortem on this. We would, however, stress that the duty of officials of a team is primarily with their teams and only incidentally on boards, committees and in other places.

Need for the Various Units being welded into a Homogeneous Whole

3. Since for the Olympic and Asian Games we send more than one team, we are confronted with another problem, that of ensuring that the various units are welded into a homogeneous whole which feels and acts like one team, the Olympic or Asian Games team of India. This, it is reported, did not always happen at Tokyo. At Melbourne there were allegations of discrimination. An important responsibility of the managers is to weld the various components into one. Persons who have the necessary tact, patience and sympathy in dealing with those who have been placed under them, can alone succeed in this. They can ensure discipline which is so very necessary. This discipline, however, cannot be enforced upon the team from above. It must be a spontaneous response to the management. True discipline derives from mutual confidence and, beginning at the top, permeates downwards. National Federations/Associations will, therefore, do well to choose the right type of men for the performance of a difficult and onerous task, that of getting the best out of a team composed of the finest talent that the country can produce in various fields of sport.

CHAPTER VIII

PROMOTION OF SPORTS IN RURAL AREAS

The question of the development of sports activities outside large cities and towns has so far not received adequate attention. In some ways the difficulties impeding progress in such areas are less, as in smaller towns and villages it should be comparatively easier to provide playing-fields and obtain land for this purpose at cheap rates. In regard to rural areas, the immediate objective is not so much the attaining of high standards, which will be the ultimate outcome, as the popularisation of sport. Since the National Federations have not so far functioned outside cities, sports activities for the rural areas will have to be organized by sports and games associations through *Vyayamshalas*, *Vyayam Mandals*, *Akharas*, etc. Grants will have to be made for the purchase of equipment required for playing games. It would be useful to enlist the cooperation of the Community Projects Organisations.

Organisation of Sports Festivals

2. One way to help the promotion and development of games in the rural areas would be to organize sports festivals there. Such festivals have been very successful in the Bombay State. Sports events can also be organised on the occasion of Fairs, etc. Indigenous sports like *Kabaddi* and Indian style wrestling should also be introduced in the villages. Cross country races and swimming can easily be encouraged and made popular. What the youth of the village needs is opportunity to play games and some one to teach him how to play them.

Talent in the Villages must be Found Out and Trained

3. There is a vast reservoir of untapped talent in the villages and, following the example of the Defence Services, we should try to discover and train such talent. Sports Festivals, *Melas*, etc. will help in doing this. If more people play games the number that will excel in them will also be larger. What is still more important is that sports will help us to have a healthier nation.

CHAPTER IX

PLAYGROUNDS AND EQUIPMENT

Provision of Playgrounds

The provision of playgrounds and equipment is a *sine qua non* of any scheme for the improvement of sports and games in the country. The importance of playgrounds cannot be over-emphasised and, in recognition of this, some countries have playing fields associations. These bodies make a survey of the needs of the community in respect of playgrounds and suggest schemes for their provision. They act as a check upon the depredations of builders on open spaces which are needed for playgrounds. No such attempt, organised or otherwise, has yet been made in this country despite the persistent and glaring encroachment in towns upon open lands which should obviously be turned into playing fields and provide 'Lungs' for the community. Our towns and cities have grown and continue to grow haphazardly. Facilities for sport and recreation have not been thought of seriously enough. It is time that, in the interest of the nation's health, provision of playing fields is looked upon as essential in all planning. We need to provide playgrounds, in the first instance, for the schools. Few schools in the larger towns and fewer still in the smaller towns have playgrounds of their own. Some schools resort to leasing grounds where students may play after school hours. The usefulness of the grounds is diminished by the fact of their being distant and students find it difficult to reach them after they have returned home from school. The result is that, because of a combination of adverse physical conditions, a large number of boys and girls do not take part in games, even if the playgrounds and the necessary equipment are available. In the rural areas, though open spaces are available, not many schools have the means to buy land to turn them into efficient playing fields. The 'backyard' of a village school may, in some cases, serve the purpose of a playground for games like volleyball or tenniquoit but such open spaces cannot be used to play football or hockey or to hold athletic meets.

Minimum Area Needs of Playgrounds in Educational Institutions

2. The Committee are fully aware of the magnitude of the problem of providing educational institutions with playgrounds. This problem does not admit of any set solution and as such it will have to be tackled according to circumstances obtaining in each educational institution. In metropolitan areas and big towns, for example, it would be well-nigh impossible to implement any generous scheme. The picture is more or less the same throughout the country in most urban schools and colleges, because of lack of any proper planning and siting in the past. Nonetheless, we recommend the following

standard: Taking a college with a student population of 1000 to 1500, we consider that it should have a minimum of 10 acres for playgrounds. A high school with a student population of 500 to 1000 should have a minimum of 5 to 6 acres. A middle school with a student population of 200 to 500 should have a minimum of three to five acres and a primary school a minimum of one acre. Where separate playgrounds cannot be made available for each educational institution, we would recommend the creation of a common pool for a group of institutions. In metropolitan towns, it may become necessary to have the playgrounds many miles away from the educational institutions. This would necessitate the provision of transport to the students. We do not think that this problem presents the same difficulty for the rural areas. While the present educational institutions in the rural areas may not be able to implement our ideal, we consider Government should insist upon the minimum facilities for at least the new educational institutions.

3. The Committee also feel that the existing playgrounds in educational institutions could be better utilised. The Directorates of Education in States should also acquire as many playing fields as possible for making them available to educational institutions which have no or inadequate playgrounds. The needs of our educational institutions in this respect should, in the Committee's view, receive top priority.

4. As far as the Universities are concerned, since their number is not large and some of them already have playgrounds, the Committee feel that it should not take many years to provide them all with the minimum requirements.

5. Private clubs have played an important part in the development of sports in this country. They have, in their own way, contributed to popularising games such as hockey, football, athletics, tennis, golf, swimming, etc. but even they are now handicapped in the matter of adequate space.

6. With the growth of sport consciousness, more and more private clubs will come into being and they should be encouraged. The problem of providing playgrounds for them could, to a large extent, be met by an all round increase in the number of playgrounds and by making the clubs share them. In every town or city, there should be a number of playgrounds which should be available to its clubs. The right to use them should be regulated by local sports organisations.

7. In brief, the task for the development of sport is to provide more playgrounds for schools, for colleges, for Universities and for others. The lack of these is a tremendous handicap and must be made good. It is obvious that without the fulfilment of the Primary need of sufficiency in playgrounds, schemes or recommendations for improvement or development of sports and games become meaningless.

Existing Stadiums

8. Allied to this is the problem of building stadiums for which there is a persistent demand from all States. The first stadium to be put up in India was the one at Patiala, and sports and games owe a deep debt of gratitude to the House of Patiala for the generous help and patronage received from them through the years. Indeed, we should not forget the great contribution made to sports and games by the Princes of India. Bangalore has had a stadium since 1946. Two other stadiums built by private enterprise with Government cooperation deserve special mention. The first, the National Stadium in the country's Capital and the second, the Vallabhbhai Patel Stadium at Bombay, were both built by the National Sports Club of India. The Brabourne Stadium, also in Bombay, has made a unique contribution towards the development of cricket in particular, and other games. The Barabati Stadium at Cuttack, in which the National Games of 1958 were held, is another instance of what can be achieved by Public effort. Modest examples of what sport enthusiasts can do are the stadium of the Sikh Regimental Centre at Meerut and the stadium of the Police at Ranchi, constructed for the All-India Police Athletic Meet in 1956.

Shramdan for Building Stadiums

9. The task of providing stadiums throughout the country is, however, so vast and our financial resources so limited that we would ask sports enthusiasts to consider the possibility of harnessing voluntary effort, including *Shramdan*, wherever possible, to the task of building stadiums in all towns and cities.

Enclosed Playgrounds

10. At the same time, we cannot but stress the fact that stadiums, however desirable, are expensive and the money spent on them would, in our view, provide a large number of enclosed playgrounds and thereby serve a wider purpose in the development of sports and games. We would also add that it is not always necessary that stadiums must be of the expensive type. More often, and in most places, enclosed playgrounds with some seating—utility stadia they may be called—are all that we need for the purpose of control of admission and revenue.

Location of Stadiums

11. On the subject of location of stadiums in cities it may be worthwhile to quote from an article entitled 'Sport and City Planning' by an authority on the subject, Frode Rinnan, Architect, Norway. Says Frode Rinnan :

'The spacious stadium, the arena, where thousands of spectators can attend the events and worship their heroes, have little or nothing in common with the park as a recreation area. A stadium

for instance for 20,000 spectators, with an athletic area for $4\frac{1}{2}$ acres, called for at least 7 acres more for traffic, tracks, parking places etc. Such areas should be kept away from parks and recreation spaces. Such areas may be laid out at a greater distance from the densely built up areas than the training grounds. In fact they should not at all be placed right up to or inside residential areas. Noise and rush-time traffic can be very disturbing, and may ruin a harmonious family life.

'Stadiums may also be placed at a greater distance from the densely built up areas, provided that the main or grand stadium be placed where tramlines lead the rush traffic directly to or from the arena.

'For a big stadium, with its various requests for large areas, parking places etc., we do not look for sunny park-like land and spaces. Stadiums may be placed on grounds being of poor value to the vital functions of the city.'

Indoor Sports Stadium

12. As for indoor sports arenas, there are none in the country, although it is necessary to have them for the improvement of standards in games like Badminton and Table Tennis, both of which are popular in the country. It should be our endeavour to provide indoor sports arenas as soon as possible.

Need for Provision of Minimum Equipment

13. Playgrounds are not enough. They are not all that we need for the development of sport. It is pathetic to see playgrounds ill-equipped or without equipment. How often have we seen round bamboo posts made to do duty for the regulation Football and Hockey goalposts? The spectacle of a high jump competition with two bamboo sticks for uprights and a sagging cord for a cross-bar is not unknown at sports meetings. Take-off boards for long jump are unknown in many places. As for javelin and discus, they might not have been heard of. Possibly this is why such successes as we have achieved in athletics have come in the track events. We should realise that improvement in field events is not possible without provision of standard equipment for them.

Standard Equipment

14. Standard equipment is as important as playgrounds. Every school, college, university and club should have standard equipment. The manufacture and production of such equipment and playing kit in the country itself should engage the attention of Government, so that these articles are not beyond the capacity of the clubs and players. Only then do we believe that young men can be attracted towards sports and games. At present high prices also prevent them from taking greater interest.

CHAPTER X

PROCEDURE FOR GRANT OF ASSISTANCE BY THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

The problem of financial assistance has to be considered from the following aspects :

- (a) Sports and Games in Educational Institutions;
- (b) Sports and Games at the State level;
- (c) Sports and Games at the National level; and
- (d) Sports and Games in organisations like the Police, Defence Services, Railways, etc.

Promotion of Sports and Games in Educational Institutions

2. It is obvious that these aspects cannot be kept separate. Any impetus, for instance, to the promotion of sports and games in educational institutions and at State level will eventually lead to progress at the National level also. A demarcation, however, is called for to clarify the question of the responsibility of the State *vis-a-vis* the Central Government. At present, while the Central Government have given considerable assistance for promotion of sports and games at the National level and some assistance at the State level also, they have not given, except in two or three isolated cases, grants for promotion of sports and games in educational institutions. Our view is that, if sports are to be popularised and India is to secure its rightful place in the world of sport, we should concentrate more on educational institutions. The Central Government should, therefore, participate more actively and effectively, alongwith State Governments, in promoting sports and games in educational institutions throughout the country.

3. Organisations like the Defence Services, Railways, Police, etc. are already incurring considerable expenditure for sports and they should continue to do so. They will have to depend, primarily, on their own budget for assistance, although in the interest of development of sports and games in the country as a whole, they should not be debarred from a share of Central assistance.

Distribution of Available Funds

4. We understand that approximately ten to twelve million rupees would be available for development of sports and games during the remaining portion of the Second Five-Year Plan. We recommend that the available funds should be distributed as follows :

- (i) Improvement of standards in sports 30%

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (ii) Popularisation of sports and games in educational institutions and in rural areas | 65% |
| (iii) On organisational expenses of the National Federations/Associations etc. | 5% |

Form of Central Assistance

5. In general, assistance should be in the shape of non-recurring grants, but for organizational expenses, coaching and National Meets this assistance should be on a recurring basis. So far as international meets are concerned, assistance should be given in the form of *ad hoc* grants. Assistance should be given only on the advice of the All-India Council of Sports.

Mode of Assistance

6. The mode of assistance should be as follows :

(a) *Grants to Schools*.—Grants to schools for acquisition of playing fields, purchase of equipment and holding of tournaments etc. should be paid from Central funds on the advice of the All-India Council of Sports to State Sports Councils through the State Governments concerned. The State Sports Councils should disburse the grants to schools according to the pattern of assistance prescribed by the All-India Council of Sports. This Central assistance will, of course, be in addition to the funds placed at the disposal of the State Sports Councils by the State Governments concerned which should not be diminished on this account.

(b) *Colleges and Universities*.—Grants to colleges and Universities for acquisition of playing fields, purchase of equipment, holding of tournaments, etc. should again be paid from Central funds on the advice of the All-India Council of Sports to the Inter-University Sports Board which should in its turn disburse the grants to the institutions concerned.

(c) *Encouragement of Sport in Rural Areas*.—We recommend that grants in rural areas should be paid from Central funds on the advice of the All-India Council of Sports to State Sports Councils through the State Governments concerned according to the pattern of assistance prescribed by the All-India Council of Sports. The assistance so given should be by way of supplementing the provision the State Governments make for this purpose.

(d) *Coaching Schemes*.—The All-India Council of Sports should organise and direct coaching activities on an all-India basis. Grants should be paid only on the advice of the All-India Council of Sports. Apart from the Central Institute of Coaching which will train first class coaches, it is necessary to have coaches for educational institu-

tions and organisations like Railways, the Defence Services, the Police etc. As soon as a cadre of coaches has been built up, these coaches will, in their turn and where required, hold 'clinics' and coaching camps. The National Sports Federations/Associations should be assisted in the organisation of coaching.

(e) *Organisational Expenses of the Federations.*—Grants to the National Sports Federations/Associations for their organizational purposes should be paid only on the advice of the All-India Council of Sports.



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CHAPTER XI

JUDGING, REFEREEING AND UMPIRING

To conduct a sports meeting or organize a football or hockey match it is necessary to have competent officials who are well versed in the rules of the game and their application. This applies to other games also for all of which qualified officials are a necessity. How often has a sports meeting been ruined because of a bad starter or an inefficient umpire unaware of the relevant rules. Football and hockey matches have been abandoned as a result of poor or faulty judgement on the part of the referees and umpires, the excited crowd coming to the playgrounds, stopping the game or the aggrieved team leaving the field with the game remaining unfinished. Even cases of broken heads and the referee seeking the protection of the Police are unfortunately not unknown.

2. It is perhaps true that while we have some good officials who inspire confidence, the average standard of judging or refereeing at a sports meeting or in a Football or Hockey match is low. This is largely due to lack of sufficient number of qualified officials. It is not an uncommon sight to see prominent social or official figures performing technical duties, such as starting race or judging field events, without knowing the rules on the subject. It is also true that of late efforts have been, and are being, made by National Federations to impart training as officials to those who wish to receive the necessary qualification for officiating at sports meetings or in other games. All the same, the standard of qualification achieved is not high enough. It is poor consolation to find that the standard of officiating at the Third Asian Games in Tokyo in 1958 was generally low. Complaints of bad refereeing were heard in respect of most games, and the Boxing competition was occasionally held up by protesting teams and their excited supporters who staged a sit-down strike and refused to allow the succeeding bouts to take place. On one occasion, the uproar lasted for two hours.

3. It is obvious that players feel very strongly if an official brings to naught by his poor judgment all their months of hard training and preparation. This is particularly painful when, along with incompetence, there is partiality which makes a mockery of sportsmanship.

4. The big part umpiring and refereeing play in the success or failure of a sports competition is evident from the comments on the Asian Games at Tokyo. The Japan Times of June 3, 1958 published the comments of the Straits Times sports writer who wrote that "the unhappy truth is that long after these games are over, many bitter memories will remain, generated by the low standards of refereeing and umpiring." Giving instances of bad umpiring he said that "the

Federation of Malay hockey team will never be able to think kindly of the Indian umpire who deprived them of the two goals they scored against Korea, which would have given them victory and assured them of the Bronze Medal." Finally, he struck a note of warning about the future of the Asian Games when he said that "bad officiating marred competition throughout the eight days, and unless the fault is overcome the future of the Asian Games will be endangered. All other aspects of the Games have been most satisfactory. Japan made a splendid job of organizing the Games. No Asian nation could have done better, and Indonesia has been set a tremendously high standard for 1962. If the Indonesians fall down on the job and, equally important, if the standard of umpiring and refereeing is not brought up to true international standards of competency and impartiality, Djakarta may well sound the death knell of the Asian Games."

5. We have heard complaints about refereeing at the Asian Games at Tokyo and our teams are reported to have suffered at the hands of some of the referees and umpires at the Games. At the same time, it appears others had similar complaints against our umpires also. It is, therefore, time we raised the standard of our officiating at games and sports meetings in the country.

6. Even though National Federations are trying to train officials, referees and umpires, and improve their standard of ability, much more needs to be done both qualitatively and numerically. For instance, National Championships are at present controlled by officials of the first class. This is good as far as it goes, but the level of officiating at earlier stages must also be improved. Habits are formed at the early stages and when players have got into bad habits owing to bad control of games they find it difficult to get out of them. A player who is inclined to lie offside, and has been able to get away with it for long, will find it difficult to shake off his habit. It is, therefore, essential that at all stages sports and games should have competent officials.

7. To increase the number of qualified officials and improve their standard, we recommend that all qualified coaches should also be trained to be qualified officials. This should be a part of their training. Such qualified Coaches/Officials would add substantially to the number of officials who are receiving their qualifications from National Federations. Thus, we can have in due course a sufficient number of qualified officials to conduct our sports meetings and other games contests at all levels.

CHAPTER XII

AMATEURISM

Olympic Committees

Before we conclude our examination of the progress or deterioration of sport in the country we should like to state that we have confined ourselves to consideration of amateur sport. There is no doubt that for the majority of practitioners of sports here or elsewhere, the objective, for games and sports in the Olympic programme, is competition in the Olympic Games, which are meant exclusively for amateurs. The International Olympic Committee which prescribes the Regulations for the Olympic Games lays considerable emphasis on amateurism and debars any one who is not an amateur from the Games. Such is its faith in amateurism that it requires Olympic Committees, National and State, to consist exclusively of amateurs, ruling out professional coaches, sports directors, sports officers, sports reporters, etc. from them. It has from time to time revised the code of amateurism, making it more and more clear each time that only those who are strictly amateur according to its definition are eligible to compete in the Olympic Games. Similarly, every International Federation which controls a game or sport in the Olympic programme, has its own rules regarding amateurism which, in their essentials, follow the principles laid down by the International Olympic Committee. Thus the International Amateur Athletic Federation says that, among those who are ineligible to take part in its competitions, are those "who compete in any sport for pecuniary reward or who have ever received any pecuniary consideration for teaching, training or coaching in any sport", and those "who accept directly or indirectly any money or other consideration for expenses or loss of earnings, other than travelling and accommodation expenses for competing in competitions under the IAAF rules." "Such expenses are limited to the *actual outlay* for travelling, meals and lodging." "The period of time in any one calendar year for which an athlete shall receive expense money is limited to 28 days, exclusive of the time taken in travelling." The responsibility for guaranteeing the amateur status of a competitor is that of the national governing body of the country, the National Federation, as it is called.

2. The relevant Article from the Statutes of FIFA (the International Football Federation) runs as follows :

- (i) "Players of a National Association affiliated to the FIFA are amateurs, non-amateurs or professionals."
- (ii) "Players who have taken part in a football match or training session and who have been refunded :
 - (a) their actual expenses for travel, necessary maintenance and hotel charges, and who

- (b) in special cases, have been specifically authorised by their National Association to receive expenses for equipment, physical preparation and insurance against play and while travelling are considered to be amateur players."
- (iii) "Those who take part in matches under the jurisdiction of their National Association and receive allowance for wages lost may also be considered to be amateur players. Such allowance must be an equitable proportion of the actual wages of the players which have been lost."
- (iv) "Each player must sign a receipt for all moneys received and allowed by clauses (ii) and (iii) of the Article."
- (v) "Players who receive regular wages, payments for playing, bonuses, salaries, deferred payments, or other allowances, other than those mentioned in paras (ii) and (iii) of this Article, or who have only an apparent, fictitious or sham employment or profession, are considered to be professionals or non-amateurs. Under no circumstances are such players allowed to take part in the Olympic Games or any competition, arranged by the FIFA restricted to amateur players only."
- (vi) "Professionals and non-amateur players, referred to in paras (i) - (v) above, must appear in an official register compiled and kept up-to-date by the National Association concerned. The Association is responsible for this and must take the requisite steps to ensure its regular official publication; on request this register must be held at the disposal of the FIFA to be inspected by it at the headquarters of the Association concerned."
- (vii) "An amateur player who contravenes the regulations specified in this statute shall be immediately registered in the register mentioned in para (vi) as a professional or non-amateur player."

3. Thus, the IAAF debar those who are in receipt of expenses for money for travelling for competitions beyond a period of 28 days in a calendar year. The FIFA rules out of the Olympic Games or any competition restricted to amateur players those who have only an apparent, fictitious or sham employment or profession. This is a forthright declaration, wide in scope and far-reaching in effect.

4. In its recently revised Regulation the International Olympic Committee says that "Individuals subsidized by Government, educational institutions, or business concerns because of their athletic ability are not amateurs. Business or industrial concerns sometimes employ athletes or sponsor athletic teams for their advertising value. The athletes are given paid employment with little work to do and are free to practise and compete at all times. For national aggrandize-

ment Governments occasionally adopt the same methods and give athletes positions in the Army, or the Police Force or in a Government office. They also operate training camps for extended periods. Some colleges and universities offer outstanding athletes scholarships and inducements of various kinds. Recipients of these special favours which are granted only because of athletic ability are not amateurs."

5. Clarifying its amateur rules, the International Olympic Committee at its 53rd Session in Sofia in 1957 declared the following, among others, ineligible for Olympic Competitions :

Those who have decided to become professional athletes and are participating to enhance their commercial value.

Those who have neglected their usual vocation or employment for competitive sport whether at home or abroad.

6. It is obvious from the above extracts on amateurism that an athlete has to train for the Olympic or other International competitions within rigid rules which do not permit him scope to devote all or most of his time to training for competition. Two weeks is all that is allowed him in a training camp prior to the games, the rest of his training being done along with his usual pre-occupation with his studies or vocation.

7. It may be urged, as it has been, that amateurism is an ideal which cannot be achieved, that under the stress of modern competition the rules of amateurism must be broken and that, in fact, there are very few who conform in practice to the rules of amateurism. We do not wish to enter into a discussion whether amateurism is an unrealizable ideal, nor need we consider what happens elsewhere. The simple fact is that the rules are there, and we either follow them or do not. If we mean to follow them, we should consider how far our athletes and other sportsmen may, in the mass, achieve a high degree of excellence within the limits put upon training by the rules. Those endowed by nature with exceptional ability, the gifted ones, of course, are different and may, like genius elsewhere, rise superior to the cramping influence of any restraints that are imposed on them.

Sd. H. H. THE MAHARAJADHIRAJ OF PATIALA

„ SHRI NAVAL H. TATA

„ DR. P. SUBBARAYAN

„ GENERAL K. S. THIMAYYA

„ SHRI M. S. DULEEPSINHJI

„ SHRI N. N. WANCHOO

„ SHRI P. N. KIRPAL

„ SHRI M. N. MASUD

Subject to Minutes of Dissent by :

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR

SHRI JAIPAL SINGH

SHRI S. M. MOINUL HAQ

CHAPTER XIII

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Chapter I

(i) As other countries have improved their performances very much more, we have to accelerate our rate of improvement. It is, therefore, necessary that more facilities and better opportunities for training and competition are provided and greater administrative efficiency achieved.

(ii) The contribution of our educational institutions to the development of sports and games in the country has not been as great as that of educational institutions in some other countries who are far ahead in the field of sports. Unless more opportunities and greater facilities are provided in educational institutions in the form of equipment, playgrounds, funds, etc., sports and games will not be popular in schools and colleges and the contribution of educational institutions to the development of sports and games will remain as poor as it has been all these years.

(iii) Incentives in the form of credit for achievements in sports and games are also desirable.

(iv) It has been proved that there is a definite correlation between athletic proficiency and achievements in competitions like the Olympic Games, on the one hand, and, on the other, factors such as sports traditions and social and nutritional habits which have a bearing on the general health of the people. Health, power of endurance, physical well-being are all dependent to a large extent on proper nutrition. Natural abilities in our young people must be helped by environmental forces in addition to improvement in nutrition.

Chapter II

It is necessary that conditions detrimental to the development and popularising of sports should be eliminated. People with integrity, love and knowledge of sports should feel that they are welcome in organizations governing sports. The following measures have been recommended :

- (i) The term of the office bearers in a National Federation/ Association should be limited to three years with option for re-election for another term of three years.
- (ii) No office bearer in one National Federation/Association should simultaneously hold office in any other National Federation/Association.

(iii) All National Federations/Associations should get themselves registered under the Registration of Societies Act 1860.

(iv) Every National Federation/Association should have a stipendiary assistant secretary.

N.B.—(i) & (ii) are the recommendations of a majority in the Committee.

Chapter III

The Committee recommend that the sports and games mentioned in this chapter need encouragement in various ways not only from Government but from all concerned.

Chapter IV

The All-India Council of Sports should be reconstituted and it should consist of 11 to 15 members, including a Chairman, nominated by the Government of India, who have knowledge, standing and experience of sports and their administration. No extraneous considerations should influence the selection of members. The Council of Sports in the States should also be reconstituted on the pattern of the All-India Council of Sports. They should consist of seven to nine members nominated by the Government of the State. The powers and functions of the All-India Council of Sports and the State Sports Councils should be redefined so that they should not interfere with, encroach upon or usurp the functions or authority of the Sports Associations at the National or State level.

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Chapter V

Planned coaching at all stages is essential. Coaching as it is at present has not even touched the fringe of the problem. There is a vast talent potential in the country which can and must be exploited by intensive and planned coaching. There should be a Central Plan to ensure a reservoir for a regular supply of trainees for the coaches. An expert from a foreign country may be appointed to assist in the formulation of the Central Plan.

A beginning should be made immediately with the establishment of a Central Training Institute to provide first class coaches in different sports and games. Admission to the Institute should be regulated according to the requirements of a planned coaching scheme so that coaches graduating from there are distributed according to the plan. Physical Education teachers, by virtue of their numbers and the fact that they are spread all over the country, should play a very important role as primary coaches of the youth of the country.

A cadre of coaches should be built up as soon as possible and security of service assured to coaches on a contract basis for a minimum period of five years, subject to a probationary period of six months. Coaches will have to be paid different rates according to their stature in the profession, their qualifications, experience, etc., and the specific purpose for which they are appointed. Until such time as the recommendations of the Committee are implemented, the existing Coaching Schemes should continue.

Chapter VI

National Federations/Associations should appoint their selection committees, as far as possible, on a permanent basis and every selection committee may be constituted for a period of two years. These selection committees should be small consisting of not more than five members. Of these, two should wherever possible be persons who have played that particular game in an international competition. The Captain should be appointed by the Executive Body of the Federation/Association on the recommendation of its selection committee and he should assist the Committee in the selection of the team.

Chapter VII

(i) National Federations/Associations should choose as Managers the right type of persons for the performance of their difficult and onerous task.

(ii) The duty of the Manager is primarily with his team and it is only incidental if he serves on boards, committees and in other places.

(iii) Discipline is essential for the success of a team. The Manager should be able to maintain discipline. He has to see that there is a spontaneous response from the team to its officials.

(iv) In a contingent where several teams are included it should be the duty of the chief official to see that the various units are welded into a homogeneous whole which feels and acts like one team, and that all members of the contingent with his assistance and under his guidance prove themselves good ambassadors of their country.

Chapter VIII

There has been little or no activity in the field of sports and games in rural areas. Sports and games should be organised in such areas through *Vyayamshalas*, *Vyayam Mandals*, *Akharas*, etc., and in cooperation with the Community Projects. Sports Festivals should be organised and sports events encouraged on the occasion of Fairs, etc. Indigenous sports like *Kabaddi* and indigenous style of wrestling should be encouraged.

Chapter IX

(i) There is inadequacy of playgrounds and equipment in the country. In educational institutions the position in respect of these is still worse. If schools and colleges and universities have to play their part in the development of sports and games in the country, they must have the minimum requirements in respect of playgrounds and equipment. The following standards have been recommended :

A College with a student population of 1000 to 1500	.. .. .	10 acres for playgrounds
A High School with a student population of 500 to 1000	.. .. .	5-6 acres
A Middle School with a student population of 200 to 500	.. .. .	3-5 acres
and		
A Primary School	.. .. .	1 acre

(ii) Where separate playgrounds cannot be made available for each educational institution, a common pool for a group of institutions should be created.

(iii) Stadiums are necessary for sports, but in consideration of the fact that our financial resources are limited, the possibility of harnessing voluntary effort, including *Shramdan* wherever possible, is strongly recommended. Only utility type stadiums instead of expensive ones should be built. Even with the help of voluntary effort building of stadiums may prove expensive and, therefore, it is preferable to provide a larger number of enclosed playgrounds to serve a wider purpose in the development of sports and games.

(iv) No indoor sports arenas exist at present, although it is necessary to have indoor sports arenas for the improvement of standards in games like, Badminton and Table Tennis, both of which are popular in the country.

(v) Standard equipment should be manufactured in the country so as to be available at cheap rates to all and facilities for its manufacture should be provided.

Chapter X

The available funds with the Government of India for the development of sports and games during the remaining portion of the Second Five-Year Plan should be distributed as follows :

1. Improvement of standards in sports	.. .. .	30%
2. Popularisation of sports and games in educational institutions and in rural areas	.. .. .	65%
3. On organisational expenses for the National Federations/Associations, etc.	.. .. .	5%

Funds should be distributed, through the State Governments concerned, on the recommendation of the All-India Council of Sports and State Sports Councils.

Chapter XI

The existing standards in umpiring and refereeing are generally low. For the development of sports and games in the country it is essential that umpiring and refereeing should be of a high order. Apart from other efforts that are being made to increase the number of these officials and improve the standards of officiating, all qualified coaches should also be trained to be qualified officials. This should be a part of their training.

Chapter XII

The rules on amateurism laid down by the International Federations and the International Olympic Committee should be strictly followed in the country.



MINUTES OF DISSENT

I

—Rajkumari Amrit Kaur

I am glad that at long last the Government of India has taken up the question of the development of sports throughout the country. Further, it has been a pleasure and a privilege for me to serve on the Committee recently appointed to go into the question in a detailed manner and make recommendations for the development of sports and games on a proper basis.

I am in general agreement with the recommendations of the Committee except in the matter of the limitation of terms of office of all office bearers of Sports Federations as also the extraordinary limitation placed on them that they may not take up office in more than one sports organisation.

I am quite sure that in a country where sports enthusiasts are few and far between, and integrity and sportsmanship are needed more than anything else, this limitation is going to be a handicap rather than a means of removal of those unfortunate tendencies that have cropped up in sports today. I would far rather have a few good men and women in charge of all sports than limit what is already a very limited number to make a vital contribution in an important sphere. After all it is not fair to assume that every sports organisation is in bad hands. What is more, six years is quite long enough to make or mar any organisation. Intrigue will continue if intriguers are there in spite of limitation of the terms of office bearers. As a rule it is the members of Committees that control an organisation far more than the office bearers. The constitutions of all sports organisations are based on democratic principles. Their committees consist of elected representatives from their affiliated units from all over India and any decision taken by a committee is a joint responsibility covering the needs of the whole country. The office bearers are only executives who carry out the decisions of the Committees. The President is the head of an organisation and his main work is to guide the committee so that they may not act unconstitutionally. A good President can by reason of his prestige and experience exercise a very healthy and necessary influence on his committee. If the principle of restricting the term of office is accepted, it should really apply in the first place to the Executive Committee as a whole. But such a recommendation would obviously be impractical and impossible to impose. The recommendation, therefore, does not really offer a solution to our existing difficulties.

It would be better if a panel of names of worthy people knowledgeable in the game which they are required to serve were to be

drawn up and circularised to the Sports Federations in order to help them to make good selections rather than try, in a novel manner, to curtail the good that a few persons can do.

In all our efforts to reform it is the building up of good traditions and not the laying down of rules that is going to make the best contribution.

II

—Jaipal Singh

By their very composition, the Committee have been handicapped in making a thorough probe into the state of affairs of our sports and games and, more so, in submitting bold and realistic recommendations. It was a mistake to put some of the members in the insidious role of prosecutors and judges. They would have been much more useful as witnesses. The Committee met only half a dozen times and no witnesses were invited.

To me it seems absurd that we should think all has been well with our organisations. The naked truth is there that most of the organisations are in bad hands and that sportsmen have been kept out of them. By and large, our political leaders are not interested in giving a helping hand in promoting sports and games. The vacuum created by the self-immolation of Princes has not been occupied by the successors. Apart from the glittering silver lining the Armed Forces have continued to provide, the other Government Services have shown a calculated deterioration. The mercantile community should do better.

I regret I cannot agree with the attitude assumed by certain persons that we should measure ourselves by our success or failure in international appearances. The patent fact is that both at the Melbourne Olympiad and the last Asian Games at Tokyo, our leadership and management were disgraceful. Selection of the hockey team was appalling. We must, hereafter, see to it that we send out only such persons, players and managers, as are a credit to our country. We can have no better ambassadors than good sportsmen whether they win or lose.

The main problem before us is to produce good sportsmen. We shall not succeed in this if we do not purge the organisations controlling them of undesirable elements, whose number at present is legion. I would like to see sportsmen themselves dominating the organisations and, therefore, suggest that committees, at every level, should have sixty per cent of active sportsmen. It is futile to think we can comprehend 380 million people in any scheme. We must, for the time being, restrict our attention to schools and colleges. 'Catch them young' should be our motto. *Caeteris paribus*, sportsmen should be preferred to others in entrances and appointments.

Lack of funds stares us in the face. I recommend that a special levy be imposed of three naye paise on every cinema ticket for the National Playing Fields Fund. There should be a separate Ministry at the Centre charged with the task of ensuring better athletic health in the country. I think this could be done by rationalising functions by combining the Ministries of Health and Education. It should become the task of the new Ministry to look to the development of a Sports Industry for which there cannot but be immense possibilities, both internally and externally.

The Committee have not been able to give much thought to the popularisation of unorganised sports and games. I do not see any reason why cycle polo and football on stilts, to give two instances only, cannot be organised in schools and colleges.

Pot-hunting has become the order of the day in our country. There should be a coordinating agency to regulate All-India tournaments. I would like to see the award of trophies, medals and the like almost completely abolished, as obtains at Oxford and, perhaps, at Cambridge.

Now that we are in a position to know what undesirable elements have been in the organisations, we should make a black list and prevent the proved blackguards from being anywhere near our organisations. The black list should apply to politicians also.

The All-India Council of Sports has been a farce. It should be manned by national and international sportsmen only. Our External Affairs Ministry should have representation in it. Our Government should have a say in our representation in the International Olympic Committee.

III

—S. M. Moinul Haq

(I) I do not altogether agree with the majority in regard to the draft of and recommendations (i) and (ii) in paragraph 22 of the Chapter on National Federations/Associations. Paragraphs 20, 21 and 22 of the Chapter are intended to give a summing-up of the views of the Committee on the weaknesses and defects of National Federations/Associations in general, and recommendations for the removal of the defects. The insinuations in the second sentence of the Chapter referred to above, however, do not fit in with anything that has been said earlier about them in the Chapter. Paragraphs 1-19 of the Chapter suggest, in brief, that some National Federations/Associations have improved organizationally, others have made their sport more popular and others, again, have a fine potential. Nothing has been said to show that 'men of integrity and love and knowledge of sport' are not welcome in them. Nor would it be factually correct to say so. Those who for long have been, or still are, at the helm in National

Federations/Associations, include some of the admitted leaders of sport in the country, with a few political leaders thrown in, whose integrity and love and knowledge of sport are not questioned. They were welcome when they were elected to their offices and, although enthusiasm often wears out, continued to be popular for long spells in their National Federations/Associations.

Again the recommendations in items (i) and (ii) of paragraph 22 do not follow from what has been said in the previous paragraphs. As stated above, paragraphs 1-19 give a good general, and not unsatisfactory, picture of National Federations/Associations. Paragraphs 20 and 21 bring out their besetting defect, which is financial weakness. No foundation has been laid for the conclusion to which the Report jumps that National Federations/Associations should have a quick turn-over of office bearers, debarred, like whole-time public servants, from holding office simultaneously in more than one National Federation/Association. The recommendations are an expression of a sentiment or, if I may be pardoned, an emotional release, and not a logical conclusion from accepted premises.

At present office bearers of National Federations/Associations are elected, every year in some and, at longer intervals in others. They have to appear at regular intervals before their electors to test their confidence in them, and stay in office only as long as they retain their confidence. The electors, on the other hand, have the right, as elsewhere, to keep a good man, if they find one, as long as they wish to do so. Should it be suggested that the electors choose badly, a routine change of office bearers after every three years will not help. I do not wish to speak lightly of a serious matter, but it appears we have promise here of a game of Musical Chairs every three years with office bearers of National Federations/Associations moving round from one chair to another. Having finished with one National Federation/Association, they may change over to another.

The recommendations, however, suggest and, may begin, a new sociological experiment in the country to be tried, first, in the sphere of sport. From time to time there have been exponents of the idea, but none has been found to set the example. Physicians rarely prescribe for themselves, and the prescription was never given a trial.

The recommendations, their authors agreed during the discussions, were not intended to be mandatory. National Federations/Associations being autonomous, mandatory, they realize, the recommendations cannot be. If so, there was no need to make them. 'Never forbid what you cannot prevent' is a maxim often forgotten by those who make laws. Unless, therefore, they are intended to be enforced in some oblique way or other, the recommendations need not have been made.

Again, the recommendations, their authors agreed, were meant only for National Federations/Associations. They do not apply to

Associations below the National level, nor is there, we know, a parallel to them at a higher level in International bodies. For instance, the first President of the International Olympic Committee held office for 2 years, the second for 30, the third for 16, his term ending with his death, the fourth for 11 when he sought retirement at the age of 82, and the fifth, still in office, took over six years ago. Five Presidents in 65 years. The members of the International Olympic Committee have the world before them to choose their President from and conscience their guide, and having made their choice, they are in no hurry to choose another. The International Football Federation, another large International body, elected a President in 1921 and kept him on till his death about three years ago. If no International Federation limits the term of its office bearers, and if it is not proper to apply a limit to associations below the National level, there is no little incongruity in its application to our National Federations/Associations. However, whether there is a limit or there is none, everything depends upon the honesty, integrity and spirit of service of those who constitute National Federations/Associations, who, to borrow a suggestion from Aldous Huxley's *Ends And Means*, "should constitute themselves into a self-governing union of professional men who have accepted certain rules, have assumed certain responsibilities for one another, and can focus the whole force of their organized opinion, in withering disapproval, upon any delinquent member of their society." To which I may add that those who are at helm in National Federations/Associations should, by their example, create the right atmosphere for this.

It should also be borne in mind that National Federations/Associations are voluntary organizations run by voluntary workers, for some of whom at any rate, they are avenues of social service. If men of integrity, to borrow words of the majority Report, do not feel that they are welcome in National Federations/Associations, as the conditions for service imposed by the majority would suggest, they will choose other forms of service to the community. National Federations/Associations may then become the pleasure ground for those who wish to seek adventures in the field of sport.

I would therefore suggest that the following should be substituted for paragraph 22 of the majority Report :

"22. Next, they should tighten up their administration and set up a more efficient administrative machinery than they have at present. Much of this could be done by (i) National Federations/Associations getting themselves registered under the Registration of Societies Act of 1860 and (ii) National Federations/Associations appointing paid Assistant Secretaries to work under their Honorary Officers. If adopted, these measures will ensure stricter observances of the rules and regulations of National Federations/Associations."

(II) The Chapter entitled "Other Games and Sports" is, in my opinion, out of place in this Report. It takes us beyond the scope of the Committee. As a list of games and sports it is incomplete. Cycle Polo, Motor Cycling, Motoring, Horse Racing, to name only a few, should also have found a place in the Chapter.

(III) The Report, in my opinion, should contain a reference to a recent tendency of sports bodies to resort to law courts for redress of wrongs or establishment of rights. To mention a few court cases only, a suit was filed in 1952 in which the Indian Olympic Association was made a co-defendant. Again, in 1956, suit was filed against the Indian Olympic Association in a High Court. In 1958 a court case on the eve of a National Championship created a serious situation.

These and other such instances are an indication of a dangerous trend which may grow into a habit. Sport is no longer wholly supported by private finance. Public funds are available to it. Government is spending fairly large sums of money on the promotion of sport. Competition for Government money may become a scramble, which may ultimately lead parties to law courts for establishment of their claims to the generosity of government. Money, which is often the root of evil, may also become the fruit of evil.

It may be urged that the right to natural justice has been assured to everyone by our Constitution, and this right includes the right to appeal to law courts for redress of grievances or establishment of rights. But this right may be curtailed, explicitly or by implication, under and in accordance with the laws of the country, by providing for Arbitration as an alternative to law courts.

Should we decide to provide for Arbitration as an alternative to resort to law courts, we shall not be the first to do so. The F.I.F.A. (International Football Federation) has made it obligatory for its member National Associations to renounce resort to law courts and submit such disputes as may arise in them to Arbitration. The relevant Article of the F.I.F.A. runs as follows :

1. "National Associations, clubs or members of clubs shall not be permitted to bring before a Court of Justice disputes with the Federation or other Associations, clubs or members of clubs, and they must agree to submit any such dispute to an Arbitration Tribunal appointed by common consent.

2. "Should the laws of the country entitle the National Association concerned and its clubs and their members to appeal to a Court of Law, the National Association must insert a clause in its Statutes, by which it freely renounces, along with its clubs and their members, the right to take a dispute before the Courts, and undertakes to accept the decisions of the arbitrators selected.

3. "In the event of a disagreement between two Associations, if the Associations concerned are unable to agree upon the choice

of an arbitrator, the Executive Committee shall have the right to take a decision. This decision shall be final and binding on the two Associations.

4. "National Associations must adhere strictly to the decisions of the Federation or the arbitrators selected by it, and where these decisions concern a club or a Regional Association, the respective National Association must take necessary steps to ensure that the decisions are observed.

5. "Associations violating any one of the clauses of this Article shall be expelled from the Federation."

