



POLITICS OF SPORTS IN INDIA

Deulkar U.R.

Director of Physical Education, Lokmanya Mahavidyalaya, Warora (M.S) India
 Email: udeulkar@gmail.com

Abstract:

Introduction:

Politics and sports or sports diplomacy describes the use of sport as a means in influence diplomatic, social, and political relation. Sports diplomacy may transcend cultural differences and bring people together.

The use of sports and politics has had both positive and negative implication over history. Sports competitions or activities have had the intention to bring about change in certain cases. Nationalistic fervor is sometimes linked to victories or losses to some sport on sports fields.

While the Olympics is often the biggest political example of using sports for diplomatic means, cricket and association football, as well as other sports in the global arena, have also been used in this regard. In the case of Apartheid, sport was used to isolate South Africa and bring about a major overhaul in the country's social structure. While ethnicity and race can cause division sports can also help blend differences.

Apart from the rich culture and diverse arts presence, India has tremendous experience in different sporting activities such as athletics, cricked, shooting, hockey, chess, badminton, boxing, golf, kabaddi, wrestling, swimming etc. Besides this the country has respectable traditional sports such as boat racing, kushti, gilli-danda and others. But the most popular sport in the country is cricket. This sport is played at all age groups starting from the grassroots right up to the international level. The game has given rise to popular personalities such as Sachin Tendulkar, KapilDev, MahendrasinghDhoni, Rahul Dravid, VirendraSehawag, Sunil Gavaskar,

DilipVengsarkar, Youraj Singh, ViratKohli etc.

Apart from the players the sport has given rise to the popularity of coached and even commentators. Cricket players are given a lot of attention by the media and advertising companies. India wins one match against Pakistan or Australia and there goes the line of cash prices and cheque being showered on them by ministers and state governments. Even in terms of incentives, the other sportsmen and women lag far behind the cricketers.

Hockey is our National sport, but has lost importance in the past few years, it even failed to qualify for the Beijing Olympics. In the London Olympics 2012 the Indian hockey team came out last losing all its matches. Not only hockey, but tennis, football, golf, badminton all shares the same pathetic condition. Neither are the sponsors interested in financing them, nor does the government raise enough funds. The Hockey team receives a meager sum for every goal that they score, whereas those given to the cricketers do not require a mention. Even football has lost its importance to a great extent except for Goa and West Bengal, no other states are interested in football, In short, no sport in India except cricket is well managed. Indian sports are trapped in politics. New controversies arise almost every week.

Politics in Sports: Major reason behind poor Performance of India.

Politics and sports are two different things, but in India, it's not different. Politics in sports is the major reason behind the poor performance of India. India is country of

1.25 billion population, still got only 2 medals in Rio Olympics. One silver and a bronze. Two girls of India won the Olympic medals. In history of Olympics, only AbhinavBindra won gold medal in shooting for India. There are many reasons behind this scenario, but one of most valid reason is politics in sports.

Sports ministers are not from Sports background.

It's very unfortunate that sports ministers are those people who doesn't have any knowledge about sports. According to me, sports ministers should be from sports background.

Muhammed Ali was greatest boxer. It's a well known fact. Even a six years child have knowledge about Muhammed Ali. He was finest boxer in the world. When Muhammed Ali died there was a statement of sport minister of Kerela India According to Mr. EP Jayarajan. Muhammed Ali was greatest boxer of Kerela.

This is the reason why India is too poor in sports. He is sports minister and didn't know about Muhammed Ali. How can you say that these kind of minister can upgrade the level of sports in India?

Yesterday on of the athletes of India fainted in Marathon, Rio Olympic. There was no Indian support staff for providing drinking water to the athletes. Even there was no availability of doctors from Indian side. At that time management of Rio Olympic provided much needed help to that athlete.

Our great sports minister Mr. Vijay Goel said that it was small incident. According to vijayGoel it's not a big issue. This is statement of sports minister of India. It's shameful. How can you expect this kind of people can manage sports ministry?

Politics in Sports; Involvement of Politicians in Sports.

In India most of the sports organizations are controlled by politicians. Politics in sports is in every sport. Even BCCI head is Anurag

Thakur. He is an active politician. SharadPawar like person was head of BCCI. These are the people with zero knowledge about the game.

According to me, sport person can manage sports ministry with very ease. A sports person has better knowledge about the needs for training purposes. Don't expect from the Politicians that they will raise the standard of India In sports. India is better in cricket because there are a lot of format cricket players are associated with Indian cricket team. Of course they are not doing any kind of social work. They are getting money for their services. But it is beneficial for the team and its performance.

Why India don't want to invest in Sports?

According to a report India can get 10 Medals in 2020 if India spends 480 corer rupees on players. Sorry to say, but it's not going to happen. How India can invest huge money on sports. India can only spend huge amount in scams like commonwealth scam.

In India national players are committing suicide due to financial issues. Is it fair to expect Olympics medals in India like country? No, it's not. You should expect. If you are expect. If you are expecting than you are fooling your-self. In India Olympics medalist is getting corer of money, while a national player committed suicide.

There was a dialogue in a Bollywood movie in Hindi "Politics ko Sports se Nikalkedekho, galigali me champion milenge." It's very true. Sports and Politics are two different things. Don't mix it. Indian People are very talented, they just need a little supports of Indian Government.

Reference:

- 1) Related ITEMS: BCCI, Featured, Government, Olympics, Politics, Sports World.
- 2) Follow Google Internet, Twitter and Face book.
- 3) Google Wikipedia.
