CHAPTER-V

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS
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In the previous chapter the researcher collected, processed, tabulated and analysed the data. Usually, however, the data are collected in order to predict or make inferences about situations that have not been measured in full. In the present chapter, the researcher has focused on drawing population estimates from sample statistics. On the basis of sample-statistics analysed and interpreted in the foregoing chapter, the researcher has drawn the following conclusions and generalizations and has given the suggestions accordingly.

5.1 CONCLUSIONS

1. It was concluded that the Athletics organizers do not care about the actual needs of the Athletes and Athletics thereby causing a great harm to the sports promotion and responses of 69.00% respondents that the National Athletics federations are not fully devoted to the cause of Athletics (Table-4.2)

2. Athletics federations are not working properly responses of 71.50% respondents. They spend their most time to their personal work (Table-4.3).
3. The main reason for improper functioning is political pressure (41.97%) after that, federation members are not sports person (30.06%) and they do not know the actual need of Athlete (Table-4.4).

4. Excessive politicking in the Athletics Federations is major cause of low performance of Indian Athletics responses of 74.00% respondents (Table-4.5).

5. It has been found that proper social environment for promotion of Athletics has not been existence in the country (69.00% respondents) and a beginning has to be made for creating right kind of environment for positive results (Table-4.6)

6. Media is the most responsible for not creating proper environment for the development of athletics in India (37.68%) respondents. After that Government (34.05%) and federation (28.27%) irrespectively (Table-4.7).

7. Government does not provide enough funds for the development of Athletics responses of 88.00% respondents. Fewer amount of funds are allocated in the budgets for the promotion of Athletics (Table-4.8). However, more concerning fact is that even the athletics federations and associations are not able to raise enough funds
required for the development and promotion of the game (Table-4.1).

8. The present Indian Athletics team is not exploiting its potential fully 47.50% respondents. Many talented children cannot justify with their talent in rural areas (Table-4.9).

9. An Indian athlete is not provided those facilities, which his counterpart in other countries is being provided (Table-4.10).

10. The Indian Athletics is being discriminated against within the country also and is not provided the sufficient camps for the Athletes as in the cricket responses of 69.00% respondents (Table-4.11).

11. Career in Athletics in our country is not up to the level. There is no reservation quota and priority in high profile jobs (Table-4.12) responses of 72.50%.

12. 67.00% People feel that Athletes take drugs to enhance the performance and in present time most Indian records are improved by taking drugs responses of 68.50% respondents (Table-4.13 and 4.15).

13. The responses of 73.00% respondents is that in our country, majority of the sports organizers at all level confine their efforts in opening and closing ceremonies with pomp and show without
caring to actual needs of the Athletes thereby causing a great harm to sports promotion (Table-4.15).

14. It has been established that India’s uncontrolled growth of population and resultant growing poverty have been major obstacles for Athletics development in the country (Table-4.16).

15. It is concluded that Indian Athletes do not have fully devotion toward Athletics; according to responses (58.00%) there is a lack of killing instinct among our athletes (Table-4.17).

16. The present study, through one of its conclusions, has highlighted that respectable place for India at the international Athletics contests will remain beyond her reach so long as undeserved and non-sportspersons continue to head Athletics Federation through their continued manipulative tactics (Table-4.18).

17. Members of the present Indian athletes, in general, do not possess in good measure the five qualities of character (determination, dedication, enthusiasm, winning instinct, physical fitness) that a good athletics player is expected to possess, the majority of respondents have rated the present Indian athletes as ‘poor’ and at the most as ‘satisfactory’ on the three-point scale (Poor, Satisfactory and Excellent). The percentage of those respondents who have rated
the Indian athletes as 'excellent' on the above criterion, ranged from 5.00% to 17.50% only (Table-4.19 to 4.23).

18. There has been low improvement in Indian Athletics in comparison to World Athletics. The most appropriate evidences with respect to it are: In 100 Mts. improved Indian time is .43 sec. International time improved .88 sec. In 200 Mts. 1.27 and 2.48 sec. In 400mts. 3.34 and 4.62 sec. In Triple Jump 1.70 mts. and 2.77 In Long Jump .80 and 1.28 mts. In Shot put 3.67 mts and 5.87 mts etc. Respectively improved etc (Table-4.24-4.25).

19. It is concluded that the performance of women athletes has improved from 1984. Now a day, their performance is up to the international level. The woman athletes like Anju Bobby George, Beenamole, Soma Biswas, Neelam J. Singh, J.J. Shopha etc. have earned the name for them selves for the country in athletic World Champion Ship, Common Wealth Games, Asian Games and Olympic Games. But unluckily, the performance of Indian man athlete is going down. Before 1976, there were some shiny names like Milkha Singh, Shri Ram Singh, Gurcharan Singh Randhava, Rebellow, Lavy Pinto and Shiv Nath Singh etc. But after that their performance is never up to the level. And no Indian athlete is able to make a place in the best eight in Olympic.
20. Concluded that there is a lot of improvement in 400 mts., 800 mts, Discuss throw, Long Jump and 4×400 mts relay races in woman athlete section while in men section, there is a progress in 4×400 mts, 400 mts, shot put and Discuss throw etc.

21. The participation & performance in men section in Olympics & Asian games is declining since 1982-84 whereas performance in woman section it is gradually increased.

22. It is very big problem that there is difference between home or qualifying performance and performance in Olympics game, and Asian Games. Sydney-2000 and Athens-2004 are example except Ms. Beena Mole, a 400 mts. Runner and Anju B. Gorge, long jumper, no other athletes was even close to their own best performance. This has been happening since last 20 years and there seems to be no end to this force in the absence of any check in officials bugling.

23. Population wise our performance in the international competition is at the lowest rank in spite of more than one hundred crore people. Our Athletics performance is a matter of shame compared to the performance of very small and very poor countries like Ethiopia, Kenya, and Morocco etc. The details of our achievement in Asian and Commonwealth Games is an indication.
24. At District level Dy. Commissioner or the S.S.P heads the Athletics Federations & Associations. At State level, Politicians or bureaucrats, even at National level the dominance of the politicians and bureaucrats, head most of the Federations & Associations.

5.2 SUGGESTIONS

On the basis of the above findings and inferences drawn thereupon, following suggestions can be given to improve the lot of Athletics in the country and to provide it the international standard. The suggestions are divided into two parts: those emerging out the study and others.

SUGGESTIONS EMERGING OUT OF THE STUDY

1. India is a developing country more than 70.00% of whose population resides in rural areas and more than 40.00% is below the poverty line. Most of the people in both these categories have very low level of awareness and even if they have awareness they cannot afford to show and polish their talents. Consequently, a vast treasure of talent in Indian either goes astray or diverted to unproductive works or remains hidden. Under these circumstances, it is for the government to search, identify and polish that talent. This will go a long way in proper utilization of talent and thus securing a respectable place for
the country in the world. Athletics is no exception to it. This makes it obligatory for the government to hunt the latent talent and provide all facilities to such talent. For this purpose the Athletics federations and associations will have to come out of their ivory towers and to go in far and remote areas, to pick up the talented sportspersons and provide them all the facilities for the development of their skills.

2. Athletics is ignored by the governments (of the center and of the states'). This is particularly so in the case of fund allocation. While making budgetary allocations other games, especially cricket, receives far greater importance in comparison to Athletics. Though being the most popular in the world, Athletics is entitled to receive highest budgetary allocations.

3. Athletics federations and associations should try to improve their financial position by exploiting their existing resources properly as well as by finding newer ways of raising funds. Thus they may approach the public sector undertakings and big business houses in the private sector for seeking financial assistance. For instance they may convince these organizations to adopt the Indian athletics team (and thus bear the entire expenditure of their training, coaching and dieting etc.) turn-by-turn. The government can provide boost to such
activities by giving certain incentives like tax-benefits to these funding organizations.

4. It seems quite illogical and irrational to appoint a person to head an institution about the technical and expert nature of which that person is not remotely acquainted. Athletics federations and associations are the victim of this malady. At time even those people having no knowledge of sports and games are appointed as members and chairmen of these organisations with the result that they are not able to comprehend the problems of athletics in a right perspective, let alone their resolution. Needless to say, therefore, only former athletes and coaches of repute ought to be appointed as the members and the chairmen of the athletics federations.

5. The researcher feels like suggesting that political leadership should exercise restrain and keep itself limited to the function of framing broad policy objectives and giving general guidelines. The federations and associations should be left free to perform their functions within the set of guidelines provided by the polity. Moreover, the federations and associations should also rise above the personal interests and should fully devote themselves to the cause of developing athletics in the country. Besides, it is also the
responsibility of the government to appoint only sports-persons or persons having adequate knowledge of sports as office-bearers of these organizations. This emphasises the need of developing a code of conduct for the political leadership so that unnecessary interference into the functioning of the athletics federations and associations may be stopped. Besides, a similar code of conduct for the office-bearers of the athletic federations and associations need also be framed so that evils like nepotism, casteism, regionalism and money-power may be removed.

6. More and more incentives – both monetary and non-monetary –like in cricket need be given to the athletes so that they may feel secure and devote whole-heartedly to develop and nourish their skills.

7. Athletics should be popularised and need be given boost among the young ones. Such a programme must be first initiated in the rural and remote areas because the glamour of cricket has not completely washed the minds of the youth thereat. Moreover, athletics is less costly in comparison with cricket and since the paying capacity of the people in rural areas is far less, the youth in rural areas can get attracted to this game.
8. An action must be taken on the players whose performance better in during the qualifying than the international competition.

9. Media has played considerable role in popularising cricket among the common people. It can play a similar role in popularizing Athletics as well. To this end, the owned television channels should make an initiation. In this regard, it need be emphasized that we have not to repeat the mistake already done i.e., we should not think of popularizing Athletics at the cost of cricket or for that matter at the cost of any other game or sport.

10. In most of the other countries preparations for the next competition are started just after the conclusion of the earlier event. The players are given rigorous and effective training and coaching years in advance. We in India on the other hand lack such a long-term planning and camps. More often, we organise the camps for a particular competition only in the year in which that competition is to take place. It is, therefore, suggested that Indian Athletics federations and associations should also resort to long-term planning start preparing for a particular event/competition years in advance of that competition.
11. The quantity of those qualities of character that an athlete is expected to possess is either poor or at the most satisfactory among the Indian Athletics. Both the players as well as the coaches and trainers should make all efforts to enhance these qualities and give more and more emphasis on improving these qualities. The athletes should devote and dedicate themselves to the game and try to overcome these weaknesses.

12. There should be a reservation quota in high reputed and high profile job for the athletes. Without career security athlete can not give their fully devotion.

13. There should be established medical lab for checking the doping. Doping has been spread in our athletes from low to top level. It is make our athletes handicap.

14. The money allocation for opening and closing ceremonies should be closed and spend money for actual need of athletes.

15. There is a chance of winning medals in 400mts, 800mts, throwing and 4X400 relay in Olympic, Common Wealth, Asian and Other international tournaments. So we should concentrate more on there events. These events should be given more incentives and motivations also.
OTHER SUGGESTIONS

In addition to above suggestions that have emerged out of the inferences had drawn from the study, the researcher also wishes to give certain other suggestions, which are not directly related to the study, for the promotion and development of Athletics in India. These include:

1. Large and fully equipped stadium should be situated in small and needed areas; also there is no benefit of making a large stadium in metropolitan city because most of out athletes practice in small cities. And these stadiums should be fully equipped with essential amenities as gym. Facility, medical lab and others faculties.

2. Athletics activities should be started at the nursery level and should be popularized in the rural areas and among the weaker and the poor sections of society. This is because Athletics requires rigorous and continuous practice, which people in the urban areas are generally found to be loathing and unwilling.

3. The Athletes should exercise ‘brahmcharya’ (sexual restraint). Brahmcharya by the players remained one of the key reasons of India’s good performance in Athletics. This is the prime force that provides strength and stamina to the players. However, the present Athletics do not exercise brahmcharya and instead take drugs to
improve their strength and stamina. But they fail to understand that drugs are a temporary solution to this problem and in the long run damage their strength and stamina permanently whereas brahmacharya not only maintains the two but also may even cause an increase in them.

4. The problem that the most of athletics camps usually held in Patiala whereas these should be held in other parts of the country also because most of popular female athletes hail from south India. So that coaching camps should be held at different places in the country.

5. It is advisable that the coaching schedules should be directly related to performance and that latest techniques and rules and regulations. There should be the main concern in the coaching schedules. It is a problem that high quality coaching is provided to the successful athletes who had made a mark in the athletics, while there is no incentive to the forthcoming athletics. Therefore the federation must concentrate on the beginners and they should be provided with high quality coaching.