CHAPTER-1
INTRODUCTION

This chapter sets the context of the present study; its importance and rationale.

- The interlinked nature of women’s sports behaviour with other aspects of human life and the challenges.
- The historical development of sports vis-à-vis status of women.
- The women and sports status at national level.
- The participation of women in sports in Haryana and the roots of impediments.
CHAPTER-1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Goal of the Olympic Movement

According to the Olympic charter, established by Pierre De Coubertin, the goal of the Olympic movement is to contribute towards building a peaceful and better world by educating youth through sports, practiced without discrimination of any kind and in the Olympic spirit, which required mutual understanding with a spirit of friendship, solidarity and fair play.

From the fun and folklore of one time, the contemporary sports has evolved into a highly organized and planned activity based on scientific foundations and enterprise. Sports is a sub-system within the total societal system. Defining in right perspective, sports are admittedly, both a science and a social science. We can learn and import science, its theory and applications from elsewhere but we cannot do the same with the society. The sociological aspects of it are unique and specific to each country and would demand an indigenous approach and investigation. What differs in sports of the countries is not its technique, theory or its applications but the sociological consideration underlying the specific society. The participation and involvement in sports is greatly affected by several socio-economic and cultural factors. Various scholars have identified several factors, which affect participation and involvement in sports and games. Cultural values (Huizingan 1968), rural-urban background, class and ethnic differences, differential motivation, sex variation, parental attitude (Cratty 1968), socio-economic status (Sohi 1972, Stone 1972 and Vasant 1973), family background (Synder and Spretzer 1973), attitude towards sports (Mall 1975) and family cohesion (McDowell 1974) are the factors recognized, which affect the participation and involvement in sports and games of a particular society.

It is not to be questioned that the development and participation in sports have a direct correlation with development of the society or development and progress of a country. A National Sports Programme of a country reveals something of its philosophy, its political system and international policy.
As a simple fact, the vast majority of Indian masses remain beyond the scope of participation in sports. We all know that women continue to be a backward and weaker section in our society. There have been many historical and social factors that are responsible for present status of women but the fact that no country with half of its population remaining backward can advance in the present day modern world must be realized. It needs no mention that percentage of women in our sports activity is negligible. Women in sports are generally not looked upon with respect by majority of people in our country. Situation is worse in rural areas dalits and some religious minority communities where girls are discouraged even from basic education.

Majority of girl students become victim of mass drop-out at the primary stage itself. Girls are prevented from sports activities by parents and guardians due to backward thinking and old decadent values. They are made to believe that it is a sin to socially expose them. In the dominant cultural construct of females, their beauty, in Indian mindset, is against her participation in sports. The community codes, values which is expressed through our songs, *galiyan* (abuses), *lokokttiya* (common proverbs), popular language phrases or dialect are not at all in favour of sports and especially Women sports. For instance, a popular saying goes this way:

*Padhoge likhoge banoge nawab,*

*kheloge kudoge banoge kharab,*

*baap ki beti guddaad lapeti.*

This is a clear example of how in everyday life of common masses, the social role of women is subordinated to a male and this sets the ideal of behaviour of women to the indoors and therefore leaving no scope of physical and mental activism. Thus, in the social imagination of sports in India, it is essentially considered to be a male's territory.

At the same time, sportswomen also face discrimination and are exposed to sexual abuse by sports administrators, organizers, and trainers and so on. Dress,

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1 This means that if you read and write then you will rise in life and if you play and roam around you will ruin yourself. Daughters are meant to stay veiled behind blankets.
diet allowance, equipment and other infrastructure facilities given to them are of inferior status. It is further distressing that women teams are generally equated with those of men in quality and performance while sending them in various tournaments (especially at International level) and ultimately excluded with financial excuses. On the basis of our verbal interaction with sportswomen at different levels, we can say that there is no single sportswoman who has not encountered some type of sexual assault by the sports related administrators.

In spite of all odds, women of Haryana have contributed to sports at state, national and international levels which is quite a surprise. The state has International achievers, Arjuna awardees, National record holders, Bhim awardees as well as champions at school, district and university levels. Though not known to many, Jeevani Devi, Santosh Yadav, Geeta Jutshi, Sunita Sharma, Kamla, Usha Dalal, Sunita Thakran, Mamta Kharab, Bhomal Devi, Jagmati Sangwan, Malleshwari, Nirmal Gulia, Seema Antil, Usha Sharma are some of the sportswomen who have performed outstandingly, putting all odds behind them.

The above given list reveals two facts; first, that there is immense potential of sportswomen in Haryana and second among this list there are also women who have been prevented from participating and this deprived the sportsworld of sportswomen who could have performed brilliantly as is known through personal acquaintance of the scholar (Raj Kumari, Kamlesh). This also happens to be the prime motivation in pursuing this research programme and also taking the case studies of these two sportswomen to study the issue of women’s participation in sports.

Sports combined with education can be the most effective and strong medium of generating confidence and courage, required for women to improve and develop on an equal footing with the rest of the society. Sporting, being an integral part of human culture, can greatly help in the development of their personality and inculcate the spirit of teamwork. Sports can cast off their inferiority complex and ward away the belief that they are incapable of outdoor and sporting activities because of natural and biological reasons; which have been
otherwise proved wrong scientifically long ago but still hold firm on the mentality of the common people.

Thus, in the above given state of things, if we are to ensure the equal participation of women in sports, we would have to evolve strategies with holistic approach.

1.2 Women’s Participation in Sports

*Without* economic freedom, other aspects of equality would prove superficial. Women must, therefore, be trained to participate in every department of human activity; and play an active part in all professions and spheres. For this purpose, they must fight social evils like purdah, untouchability, and laws and customs that have crushed them. But above all, they must participate in the struggle against the root cause of evils, which lay not only in customs, but also in their political and economic subjugation.

- Jawahar Lal Nehru

Constitutional Provisions

The Constitution of India not only grants equality to women but also empowers the state to adopt measures of positive discrimination in favour of women for neutralizing the cumulative socio-economic, education and political disadvantages faced by them. Fundamental Rights among others, ensures equality before the law, equal protection under law, prohibits discrimination against any citizen on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth, and guarantees equality of opportunity to all citizens in matters relatively to employment. Article 14, 15, 15(3), 39(a) 39(b), 39(c) and 42 of the constitution are of specific importance in this regard.

To understand the sporting behaviour of women and the constraints in their participation, it is important to define the concept of ‘participation’ per se. Women’s participation is understood generally as the voluntary participation of female in sports activities at different levels organized by the federations, associations and Olympic movement as a whole. But her ‘sporting status’ which relates to the degree of equality and freedom displayed by women in the sharing
of power for shaping the sports world and in the value given to women’s role by the society, which are of tremendous significance as they come with a different visualization of their own, are highly ignored. The differences between men’s and women’s participation in sports are symptomatic of larger processes. There seems to be a general apathy among sports scientists to raise issues of gender relations and their participation in decision-making or explain that these differences are rooted, not only in the socio-cultural norms, but in the economic and political systems which maintain these norms through an unequal distribution of power, authority and resources. Thus, women’s participation in sports is comprehended and visualized in very restricted terms. Most of the analysis on participation of women is limited to competitive and performance potential than to other aspects of women in sports. Non-sports socialization of women is often reported, in most studies as the reason for women’s lower participation, yet women’s concerns and their roles in shaping and sharing of power do not form an important aspect of sports debate. The assumption and assertion on the part of males in the field of sports in India, that women are more domestic than men and hence are under-represented in positions of authority and power seems to oversimplify not only the character of sports politics but also the household dimension of power relationship between the sexes. Myths of women’s non-participation and passivity are perpetuated by an inadequate examination of women’s access to and control over resources, the products of their labour and the patriarchal nature of the family and the inadequacy of existing forms of institutions to deal with women’s issues in the formal arena of sports.

1.3 Historical evolution of sports and women

To understand the roots of the present disturbing sporting status of women, one has to turn towards sports history. Play and sports have not found their place in the social history and still happen to attract little attention of social historians. Thus, in this process of neglect, social history of sports and women is further out of focus.

Play did not start with the advent of the great civilizations. Indeed play and acts of sporting preceded civilizations as can be understood from pre-historic
evidence. People ran and jumped and played games before the city states came into existence. They hunted and fished though basically for economic reasons but that also had their own share of fun. As early human beings, sat in caves and crude shelters, at night around warm fires, his mind was set to inventions and games such as *khuckkbones* and simple board games inevitably developed. On festive and other occasions there would be tapping on objects for rhythm and performing of dances.  

If looked at critically, in ancient history the domination of economic and political scheme of narration and ignorance of the social aspects is a painful fact.  

"Where propitious external conditions and human competence combined to fashion great permanent settlement, as in Mesopotamia, China, Egypt, India, labour and leisure became more sharply defined, and both had increasing importance. Labour produced wealth; accumulated wealth became concentrated in a few hands; and leisure became the grand prize of those few who possessed great wealth. Labour was the lot of the great majority."

Historically, extended leisure depended on some kind of surplus wealth, public or private, whence one of many nights drew sufficiently for maintenance. The individuals who could accumulate that potential put it to various uses; in extensive sportive activity, outdoors and indoors; in the development and pursuit of intellectual and aesthetic arts.

Thus, historically speaking, sports and play were part and parcel of human nature and indulgence and human civilization. However, it had its own intrinsic linkages with socio-economic set-up of different social formations.

It was either for want of means for food and shelter that people in the primitive age had to learn superior physical skills or due to perpetual fear of being eliminated by the barbarous fellow human beings, dangerous animals and the hostile nature alike. Whosoever rose to be higher, moved to be faster or became stronger so as to withstand the alarming eventualities was taken as the hero and also the saviour of his fellow beings. With the passage of time, competitions like Olympics, continental games and various other tournaments at regional levels

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were introduced for the masses to exhibit their talent and further their heroic qualities were not only for defence alone but also for experiencing the joy of achievements.

With the advent of civilization of mankind, countries with better resources put in their might to sharpen their skills so that they could come out victorious and make the losers realize as being lesser mortals. For, the more medals a country wins the more applause it earns for its sound economy, sound health, better customs, better planning and of course, better governance.\(^3\)

Women have right to physical expression and the constraints to it have great similarity the world over, of course with region-specific differences. Status of sports in the given society and general status of women in that particular society have been crucial factors. That is why in these areas, participation and challenges have been greatly affected by the upsurge of women’s movements and the coming in existence of socio-political ideology and the state.

There has never been a time, from the dawn of our civilization to the present, when women have been as involved in sports, as participants or as spectators, as men have. Are sports then a ‘male domain’; a ‘masculine preserve?’ Are women like Nadia Comanici, Steffi Graf, and Flovence Griffith-Joyner unwelcome intruders? Yes and no. While it is historically true that sports have usually been more important for males than for females, there has never been a time when girls and women were wholly excluded from sports and there have certainly been times and places where their involvement was almost as extensive and intensive as that of men. If the values institutionalized in sports, like physical strength, stamina, swiftness and skill are defined as masculine then one must accept Lois Bryson’s assertions that sports are “so thoroughly masculinized that it seems unlikely that (they) can be reclaimed to serve women’s interests.” If however, the institutionalized values are thought of as human rather than as exclusively masculine, the prospect for women’s sports is considerably less gloomy.

In the west, the women’s movement has endeavoured to and by and large succeeded in dissolving some of these constraints on physical expression. The cause of women’s rights in sports received an enormous boost from the enactment of title IX by the United States Congress in 1972.

1.4 Steady Change

In the face of statement by Piere De Coubertin, the father of modern Olympic, that women have but one task in sports that of crowning the winners with garlands this is more than true that women’s entry in sports arena is a result of tough struggle fought bravely at different levels. At the same time, this is also true that throughout the twentieth century, women participation in sports has been on increase. From one Olympic to another, the games in which they participate are increasing, number of participants is increasing including in officiating coaching and social acceptance has broadened.

However, in the twenty-first century, fundamentalist and reactionary forces still hold challenge as claimed by Simri⁴ that it should not be too difficult to prove the hypotheses that the more influential the church is in a given society the weaker is the position of women’s sports in that society.

In the context of globalization, patriarchy has been strengthened and disparities are on the rise. Most of the games federations are headed by or dominated by males. But at the same time today’s women movement is more organized and holistic. There have been positive interventions in UNO. A commission for promotion of women in sports has come in existence.

1.5 Women Commission of Sports

Following the recommendations of a study commission of the IOC Centennial Olympic Congress in 1994, a Women and Sport Working Group was established in 1995 by the IOC President to advise the Executive Board on suitable policies to be implemented in this field. It became a full-fledged commission in March 2004.

This Commission, like all IOC commissions and working groups, is a consultative body composed on the three components of the Olympic Movement

⁴ Urel Simri, Women at Olympic games (Netanya : Wingate Institute, 1979) pp 80, 86.
(IOC, IFs and NOCs) as well as representatives of athletes, of the International Paraolympics Committee and independent members. It meets once a year. On the basis of its recommendations, an action programme is developed and implemented by the IOC through the Department of the International Cooperation and Development.

Composition of the Commission

Anita De Frantz,
Chairwomen

of the Commission

This Commission is currently composed of 20 members and is chaired by Ms Anita L. DeFrantz (USA), IOC member since 1986.

Members

HRH Prince Faisal bin AL -HUSSEIN
Ms Beatrice ALLEN
Ms Lee Kyung CHUN
Mr. Ivan DIBOS
Professor Gudrum DOLL TEPPER
Ms. Nawal EL MOUTAWAKEL
Mr. Michael S. FENNELL
Dr. Elizabeth A.E. FERRIS
Mr. Reynaldo GONZALEZ LOPEZ
Ms Issa HAYATOU
Ms Nicole HOEVERTSZ
Mr. Chiharu IGAYA
HSH Princess Nora de LIECHTENSTEIN
Ms Beng Choo LOW
Ms Shengrong LU
Ms Marit MYRMAEL
Intendant General Lassama PALENFO
Ms Tine RINDUM-teilmann
General Mounir SABET
Similarly commission formation process has been followed at nation level, the brilliant results of socialist countries in women's international competitions are due to access of women to the same excellent facilities, coaching and competitions as to their male counterparts. The same emphasis is placed on women sports in many countries of the British Commonwealth, Japan and Taiwan etc.

1.6 Women and Sports in Indian Context

Women’s equality is an unfulfilled dream in Indian society which has imbibed patriarchy and Varna system of social hierarchy in its economic and social structures as well. Low sex ratio (India 1000:933) (Haryana 1000:861) 0 to 6 age group (Haryana 1000:820) is a strong indicator of this inequality. This is visible in every sphere of life whether it is political, economic or socio-cultural. Sports is one such area which has remained ignored even otherwise also so here this inequality is more stark and rampant.

For arresting the constraints, barriers, obstacles or impediments coming in the way of women’s participation in sports and the way out one would have to grapple with this inequality. These both areas have close and intrinsic inter-linkages.

While much of the Indian experience may be relevant to other third world countries there is very specific Indian context to the different obstacles faced by sportswomen within the home and in the public sphere.

In a society in transition like India where pre-modern forms of economic and social life coexist with the most modern, the challenges faced in different fields are of complex nature. The peculiar nature of democracy with capitalist path of development based neither on the destruction of feudalism, nor in confrontation with feudal ideology as was the case in some western societies, but
in compromise and, in alliance with it, provides the framework within which we identify the nature of problems. The result is a hybrid formation with a superimposition of the modern on the pre-capitalist. In Indian history, the makers of modern India appear not as the liberators of feudal bondage rather they have mastered the skill of utilizing obscurantist and reactionary traditions and cultural practices to strengthen caste, class and gender hierarchies and they use the most modern forms of communication to do so. The social construction of gender in India is closely interlinked with this process. The obstacles faced by the sportswomen coming from poorer backgrounds, from Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and Backward classes and from minorities will definitely have a degree of variance. Most of the women have no access to the much touted promises of economic equality and independence through liberalization and globalization. Although the use of women’s body as sex object (“Bhogya” – as she has been depicted in Hindu mythology) has a long history. The era of globalization with the huge reach of visuals through the electronic media has increased the comodification and sexual objectification of women’s bodies a hundred times over. The direct result of this can be seen in huge increase in incidents of sexual harassment in general and in sports as well.

The women’s movement in India having a very glorious past has been preoccupied with the issues of survival e.g. food security, family violence, female foeticide etc. On the other hand, there is no conscious effort from the women from sports arena to develop their linkages with this force. Keeping in view the world level experience, urgent need of this alliance should be underlined.

Thus having their genesis in the above given sources, sportswomen of India are faced with the problems of “Bhogya” image of women in mainstream mindset, patriarchal societal set up, caste discrimination, poverty, scarcity of facilities and no organized efforts or links with women movement.

Indian women’s entry into sports arena goes back to early 1900 when Britishers introduced club life in India. Women with elite background, leisured official class were encouraged to take part in light physical activity to kill their long hours of leisure but the common women at large remained away. In 1930’s
Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, Health Minister took part in competitive tennis for the first time in north India. Kashma Row, a brave women and a Sanskrit Scholar, took to competitive tennis in 1920's setting an example in western India. Sabita Chatterji and Geeta Roy of Bengal were popular names in shooting circles in those days. In 1934, women from Punjab, U.P. and Bengal took to competitive athletics in Delhi. Women entered in Hockey fields in early fifties. VolleyBall was started first in U.P. in 1940 when U.P. Girls Volley-ball club started the game under international rules. The Bharatiya Nari Volley-ball Sangh a pioneer body in the field, succeeded in sending India's women team for world volley-ball championship in 1952 at Moscow. Very few working class women had the money, the time or the energy to take part in sport of any sort. For the mass of girls attending school, the physical activity consisted of drill and informal play ground games. Men viewed with suspicion all women's sports which emphasized freedom and spontaneity. The rules of participation reflected the roles of men and women in society at the time. Women get fewer opportunities in comparison to men. They are expected to run home and bring up children. This may often be in addition to a full-time job. Therefore they have less freetime. Also their choice of leisure-time activities is more restricted than for men. Nevertheless the battle for equal opportunities with men is still being fought.

Today's sports is highly commercialized and a big business. No doubt, there are more opportunities for women but these are limited to a small strata. Sportswomen are on target of sports business as well as of sports organizations.

Given all the limitations and challenges, Indian women's performance and achievement can be rated remarkable and the conscious efforts are on specifically after 1975. The UNO declared 1975 as International women's year with the theme "EQUALITY, DEVELOPMENT, PEACE" to ensure full integration of women in total development. Implementing the U.N. call in sports field NSNIS proposed many new initiatives to cover as large number of women as possible in the ambit of sports. The organisation of women sports festival almost every year and the holding of 1982 ASIADS have proved landmark programmes. At the same time, creation of sports authority of India has contributed remarkably towards breaking
the financial constraints to sports in the country. Recently the new element of gender-budgeting has been added which will definitely have positive impact. The "Comprehensive Sports Policy 2007" has made mention about the specific needs of sportswomen. All these measures need to be taken forward speedily with commitment.

Gender-Budgeting: a step forward in right direction for increasing participation of women in Sports – A view

Table 1.1  Gender Budgeting: Scheme-wise Provision & Physical Target For Annual Plan 2005-06

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No.</th>
<th>Scheme</th>
<th>Total Budget (Rs. Crores)</th>
<th>Women Component</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Est.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan</td>
<td>37.74</td>
<td>26.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>National Service Scheme</td>
<td>29.00</td>
<td>2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Promotion of National Integration</td>
<td>5.50</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Scouting &amp; Guiding</td>
<td>1.50</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>National Service Volunteer Scheme</td>
<td>6.00</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Rashtriya Sadbhavana Yojana</td>
<td>9.00</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Rural Youth &amp; Sports Clubs</td>
<td>7.50</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Promotion of Adventure</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Financial Assistance for Promotion of Youth Activities and Training</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>Programme Name</td>
<td>Amount</td>
<td>1st Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Youth Hostel</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td>0.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Commonwealth Youth Programme</td>
<td>0.75</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Scheme of Financial Assistance for the Development and Empowerment of Adolescent including UNFPA contribution</td>
<td>13.00</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>National &amp; State Youth Centres (Scheme yet to be approved)</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sports Schemes**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Programme Name</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>1st Year</th>
<th>2nd Year</th>
<th>3rd Year</th>
<th>4th Year</th>
<th>%age</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Sports Authority of India</td>
<td>152.80</td>
<td>24.96</td>
<td>49.12</td>
<td>78.72</td>
<td>14.97</td>
<td>3.290 (19.01%)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Lakshmibai National Institute of Physical Education</td>
<td>8.10</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>8.10</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>30% admission to girls</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>All India Council of Physical Education</td>
<td>0.10</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Scheme Relating to Awards</td>
<td>6.50</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>6.50</td>
<td>1.30</td>
<td>1.30 (20%)</td>
<td>BASED ON MERIT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Scheme of Incentive for Promotion of Sports Activities</td>
<td>15.51</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>15.51</td>
<td>2.32</td>
<td>2.32 (15%)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Sports Scholarship</td>
<td>7.99</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>7.99</td>
<td>3.99</td>
<td>3.99 (50%)</td>
<td>4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Scheme Relating to Talent Search and Training</td>
<td>3.25</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>3.25</td>
<td>0.99</td>
<td>0.99 (30%)</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Scheme Relating to Events including Assistance to National Sports Federations</td>
<td>51.00</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>51.00</td>
<td>15.30</td>
<td>15.30 (30%)</td>
<td>As per qualifying/selection standards</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1.7 Women and Sports in Haryana

Haryana’s society is characterized as an economically progressive but socially backward. It can be said that the economic development does not correspond to the social scenario of the state. After the inception of the State and specifically after the green-revolution, the development of the state has been more hegemonic than emancipatory. Hegemonic transformation means the transformation in which the idioms of structure remains the same. Whereas emancipatory means move from hierarchical to equality from concentrated to decentralized state of power and resources. Rather it has cost social human capital and has led to cultural capital degeneration in some sense. In social scenario, gender discrimination, caste prejudices, class hierarchies cast off this economic development.

Social transformation means transcending the given formation of social order, change in structure and then change of structure, gender hierarchy to gender equality. Social transformation necessarily means changes of structures. There are trends of change but not threat to the structures. Radical restructuring of different institutions from hierarchical to egalitarian is yet to take place, even
though the process is there. Sports and women sports specifically, need an enlightened society to flourish.

Status of women vis-à-vis indicators of enlightenment can substantiate the above given explanation.

Table 1.2 Number of females after every thousand males in Haryana

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Sex Ratio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1971</td>
<td>867</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>877</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>865</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>861</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Statistical Summary Haryana, 1993-94, 2002-03

Right from its inception, Haryana has fewer females in comparison of males. Gender imbalance and worrisomely declining child sex ratio is a matter of great concern more so the ratio of 0-6 age group. It is one strong indicator of status of women in the state.

Table 1.3 Literacy rate of females in Haryana

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Literacy Rate</th>
<th>Female Literacy Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1971</td>
<td>26.9</td>
<td>14.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>36.1</td>
<td>22.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>55.9</td>
<td>40.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>68.6</td>
<td>56.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


The total literacy in 1971 was 26.9 percent whereas it was 14.9 percent for females. Now according to the 2001 census it shows the increase of 41.60 which can be said to be significant.
Table 1.4  Number and percentage of females in total workforce of Haryana

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total workers</th>
<th>Female workers</th>
<th>%age to Total Workers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1971</td>
<td>2653993</td>
<td>112416</td>
<td>4.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>3663904</td>
<td>282116</td>
<td>7.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>4718726</td>
<td>458880</td>
<td>9.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>8382890</td>
<td>2664080</td>
<td>31.78</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: In 2001 data marginal workers have been included.


Although the females start working at daybreak before anyone else does so in the household and is the last to retire to bed, her contribution is not recognized in the economy as it is performed in the four walls of house and does not have any remuneration as it is institutionalized as her duty in the household. This is a serious issue. However, the female workforce of 2001 including, that of marginal workers (Those who work less than 183 days in a year) indicates a good increase.

Table 1.5  Number of Scheduled Caste female employees among government employees of Haryana

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>No. of Workers</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>0.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>0.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third</td>
<td>2806</td>
<td>20.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth</td>
<td>2439</td>
<td>17.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contract basis</td>
<td>8445</td>
<td>61.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>13843</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Statistical Summary, Haryana 2001-02
On March 31, 2001 there were 13843 female employees from scheduled caste category which is 0.52 percent of total work force from this category. Out of these also a significantly big number i.e. 61 percent was working on contract basis. Data reveal the inexplicable condition of the females from this category.

Violence : Appalling Statistics !

- Dowry murders stand at 16 women everyday (official) – (Government of India, National Bureau of Investigation).
- 68 women die everyday because of dowry (unofficial sources) – (Haryana Thakkar’s article).
- Almost 2000 suicide deaths are reported every year as a consequence of dowry (National Bureau of Investigation).
- Female infanticide is a direct consequence of dowry. The latest census data shows that the sex ratio in India has fallen from 945 (1991) to 927 (2001) for every 1000 males. Economically well-off states like Delhi, Chandigarh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Punjab and Haryana have the worst sex ratio.
- Domestic violence is on the rise and many of these are caused by perceived “inadequacy” of dowry.
- Female literacy rates are incredibly low as a consequence of discrimination against the girl child.
- 13 percent of ever-married women in Haryana have been beaten or physically mistreated since age 15 (NFHS-2).
- 23 percent of women age 15-19 are married in rural areas – this number is 27 per cent (NHFS-2).
- Percent of women diagnosed with Anaemia – 47.0
- Percent of children age 6-35 months with Anaemia – 83.9 – (NFHS-2).
1.8 Violence against Women

*Gender-based violence is recognized today as a major issue on the international human rights record and agenda. This violence includes a wide range of violations of women's human rights, comprising of trafficking in women and girls, rape, marital rape, wife abuse, sexual abuse of children, and harmful cultural practices and traditions that irreparably damage girls' and women's reproductive and sexual health.*

Although reliable data on the incidents of gender-based violence are scarce, especially for developing countries, there is an increasing body of knowledge indicating that it is widespread and common. It occurs in a broad context of gender-based discrimination with regard to access to education, resources, and decision-making power in private and public life.

The *World Development Report* 1993 of the World Bank estimates that “women aged 15 to 44 lose more Discounted Health Years of Life (DHYLs) to rape and domestic violence than to breast cancer, cervical cancer, obstructed labour, heart disease, AIDS, respiratory infections, motor vehicle accidents or war.” And healthcare facilities and police seldom consistently record data on violence against women, the sex of the perpetrators, or the relationship of the abuser to the victim.

In developing programmes to address this, the following definition may be helpful:

“Gender-based violence is violence involving men and women, in which the female is usually the victim; and which is derived from unequal power relationships between men and women. Violence is directed specifically against a woman because she is a woman, or affects women disproportionately. It includes, but is not limited to, physical, sexual and psychological harm (including intimidation, suffering, coercion, and/or deprivation of liberty within the family, or within the general community). It includes the violence which is perpetrated or condoned by the state.”

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5 UNFPA Gender Theme Group, 1998.
This definition clearly states the social dimensions and root causes of violence against women and girls. Without this understanding of the issue, there can be no focused and responsive policy and programming efforts to deal with that violence.

UN Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 1995

The Conference Platform for Action recognized that “all governments, irrespective of their political, economic, and cultural systems, are responsible for the promotion and protection of women’s human rights.” This document also specifically declared that violence against women is one of the 12 critical areas of concern and is an obstacle to the achievement of women’s human rights. Section 106(q) states that countries should “integrate mental health services into primary health-care systems or other appropriate levels, develop supportive programmes and train primary health workers to recognize and care for girls and women of all ages who have experienced any form of violence, especially domestic violence, sexual abuse, or other abuse resulting from armed and non-armed conflict.”

Haryana remains a lawless State especially with regard to Dalits and women. Their rights continue to be violated by patriarchy and upper caste people in alleged connivance with the police. The Haryana Police continues to be responsible for serious human rights violations such as extra-judicial killings, illegal detention, torture and rape. Despite lawlessness in the State, there is no State Human Rights Commission. On 18 January 2006, the Haryana Government informed the Punjab and Haryana High Court that it had no intention to constitute a State Human Rights Commission.

Haryana has been turned into “bride bazaar” of India where women trafficked from other States such as Assam, Bihar, Jharkhand, Orissa, West Bengal, Maharashtra, etc. were sold. Haryana had very low sex-ratio which was 861 per 1,000 males as per the 2001 census and thereby increasing the demand for

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women. The price of the women in the market usually ranged from Rs. 4,000 to Rs. 30,000 but depended on factors like virginity, skin colour, age and the number of times the woman had been sold before.

Girl students are target of sexual abuse including rape and molestation by their teachers. The Haryana Government had decided to constitute special surveillance committees to monitor instances of sexual harassment in schools and other educational institutions following such reports.\(^8\)

In early February 2006, the Haryana Government suspended seven school staff including two teachers accused and the Principal of Government Senior Secondary School in Durjanpur in Jind district. 17 school girls of Class VIII and IX were allegedly raped for eight months by the accused teachers. The incident came to light when one of the girls studying in Class IX got pregnant and told her parents about the rape. Two other girls who also got pregnant were forcibly got abortions done by the teachers. The teachers had reportedly approached the family and offered them Rs. 1.5 lakh to get the child aborted in another case.\(^9\)

"Stopping violence against women and girls is not just a matter of punishing individual acts. The issue is changing the perception – so deep-seated that it is often unconscious – that women are fundamentally of less value than men. It is only when women and girls gain their place as strong and equal members of society that violence against them will be viewed as a shocking aberration rather than an invisible norm."\(^10\)

After the inception of Haryana state, a lot has been said about its economic prosperity "Desa Mai des Haryana jit dudh dahi ka khana."\(^11\) But who are the beneficiaries of this prosperity, who are left outs and why? Which challenges are coming up at socio-cultural level? (A standardized valid assessment – The holistic strategies for each field in consultation with broad sections of the wider society is

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\(^8\) Committees to check harassment in schools, The Asian Age, 18 September 2006.

\(^9\) 17 girl students raped; 7 school staff suspended, The Tribune, 9 February 2006.

\(^10\) ibid

\(^11\) A popular proverb depicting Haryana as a land where dairy products are consumed in abundance.
lacking). The state has seven universities including one that of medical sciences. Except these there are some technical institutes and deemed universities (of course, not for sports or physical education) about which the policy makers boast a lot, contributing to its development. Proximity to national capital also helps in taking up some research projects on different issues but a widely accepted critical, updated analysis of Haryana’s socio-economic scenario is absent. It is beyond doubt that sports and welfare of sportsperson are out of the consideration of the state government. Sports is not even included in the statistical abstract of Haryana till today. The present edition of the statistical abstract of Haryana is the fortieth in the series. It contains comprehensive statistics covering all important socio-economic aspects of the State’s economy such as area, population, agriculture, education, co-operation, public-finance, prices and state income. This publication will serve as a useful reference book for statistical requirement of planning and policy making.

It is said that Haryana which is referred as a charismatically developing State at economic level but anyone knows very little about its history and socio-economy. This is true that before 1966 this region has been attached to some broader administrative unit i.e. these could not develop any power center but still like other regions it has also had its distinct history. Some intellectuals and historians have tried also to bring out its past but these efforts can be said a failure in terms or having any impact on the common masses. Specifically there is no dearth of information after the medieval period. But any efforts in this direction are still awaited.¹²

*Health is a area which has direct implication and link with sports performance.*

To elaborate the case, following is a detailed report of the situation of women’s health in Haryana: **Every second women in Haryana is Anaemic** - NCW.

"Women in Haryana continue to be subordinated, subjugated and deprived as suggested by the extremely low and declining sex ratio, high level of anemia

among women and children and prevalent violence against women. The position with regard to mortality rates of women and the girl child is no better as Haryana ranks a lowly 10th of the 16 States for which Gender Development Index is available.

A report on “A Situation Analysis of Women and Girls in Haryana” brought out by the National Commission for Women (NCW) said Haryana’s affluence was not reflected in the gender relations scenario. It ranks 30th of the 35 States and Union Territories in the case of sex ratio which is only 861. Though it has made rapid progress in the field of female literacy, which has risen by almost five times in the past four decades, the gender gap remains high.

On the health front, Haryana has a high total fertility rate but every second woman suffers from anemia besides a higher prevalence of anemia among children. Also, women in Haryana has been virtually unrepresented in Parliament and have made a nominal representation in the Legislative Assembly. They have, however, started coming up in local bodies but are still rubber stamps of their husbands.

Releasing the report, the NCW Chairperson, Poornima Advani, said these facts and figures presented a very gloomy picture of the status of women in Haryana. Nevertheless, it is also essential to emphasise that the Haryana Government has initiated a number of measures aimed at improving the status of women. These include innovative schemes such as “Apni Beti Apna Dhan”, “Devi Rakshak Yojana” and “Devi Rupak Yojana” which are supposed to stem the declining sex ratio as well as provide financial help to destitute women, incentives for promoting educational status of the girl child including mid-day meals and free cycles to girls where schools are situated at some distance, and free uniforms. While some of these schemes have shown results, others are still in their infancy, the report points out.

Ms. Advani expressed concern over some recent decisions of the Panchayats on social matters and the alleged purchase of young girls from other States into Haryana due to declining sex ratio. Caste considerations come into play and even the self-help groups are divided on the basis of caste. “The SHGs
work under the shadow of men who are curious and suspicious of what the
womenfolk are doing. Similarly, son preference is so strong that quacks have
resorted to advertising that they can guarantee the birth of a son. One such
advertisement titled 'Putra Daata Aushadalaya' in Yamunanagar bore a
testimony to this," the report says¹³

Fig. 1.1 Trends in Children’s Nutritional Status

![Graph showing trends in children's nutritional status.](image)

Source: Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Government of India

Fig. 1.2 Trends in Infant Mortality

![Graph showing trends in infant mortality.](image)

Source: Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Government of India

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The 2005-2006 National Family Health Survey (NFHS-3), the third in the NFHS series of surveys, provides information on population, health and nutrition in India and each of its 29 states. The survey is based on a sample of households which is representative at the national and state levels. This fact-sheet gives provisional information on key indicators and trends for Haryana. Fieldwork for Haryana was conducted from April to June 2006 by the Centre for Research in Rural and Industrial Development (CRRID), Chandigarh.
### Table 1.6 Nutrition, Health and Women’s Empowerment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>NFHS-3 (2005-06)</th>
<th>Urban</th>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>No education</th>
<th>&lt; 8 years complete</th>
<th>8-9 years complete</th>
<th>10 years complete &amp; above</th>
<th>NFHS-2 (1998-99)</th>
<th>NFHS-1 (1992-93)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Nutritional Status of Ever-Married Adults (age 15-49)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women whose Body Mass Index is below normal</td>
<td>27.8</td>
<td>16.9</td>
<td>32.5</td>
<td>34.5</td>
<td>27.1</td>
<td>24.5</td>
<td>17.1</td>
<td>25.9</td>
<td>na</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Anaemia among Children and Adults</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children age 6-35 months who are anaemic (%)</td>
<td>82.5</td>
<td>79.8</td>
<td>83.3</td>
<td>88.3</td>
<td>79.6</td>
<td>82.2</td>
<td>77.0</td>
<td>83.9</td>
<td>na</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ever-married women age 15-49 who are anaemic (%)</td>
<td>56.5</td>
<td>55.6</td>
<td>56.9</td>
<td>57.6</td>
<td>60.2</td>
<td>56.3</td>
<td>51.7</td>
<td>47.0</td>
<td>na</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pregnant women age 15-49 who are anemic (%)</td>
<td>69.7</td>
<td>61.5</td>
<td>71.7</td>
<td>80.7</td>
<td>57.6</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>65.5</td>
<td>55.5</td>
<td>Na</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>WOMEN’S EMPOWERMENT</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Currently married women who usually participate in household decision (%)</td>
<td>56.3</td>
<td>65.1</td>
<td>52.7</td>
<td>60.6</td>
<td>54.4</td>
<td>45.3</td>
<td>55.0</td>
<td>Na</td>
<td>Na</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ever-married women who have ever experienced spousal violence (%)</td>
<td>27.3</td>
<td>23.9</td>
<td>28.8</td>
<td>36.3</td>
<td>27.2</td>
<td>21.9</td>
<td>13.9</td>
<td>Na</td>
<td>Na</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The above data regarding females’ sex ratio, violence, education, employment and health status speaks volumes about the status of women in Haryana. The rampant disparity and discrimination which they are facing in their homes as well as in the broader society have their genesis in the broader social, political and economic institutions having direct implication for sports field.

An attempt to understand the gender relations can be facilitated by referring to the concept of the ideal womanhood. Sita and Draupdi are the two towering women in Indian mythology and folklore. Sita, the consort of Rama in Ramayana is gentle, docile and submissive. She symbolises the purity of spirit as well as the body. Her unshaken fidelity and devotion to her husband marks her out as an exceptional women. Draupdi, the consort of five pandvas in the Mahabharata, stands in sharp contrast to Sita. She is aggressive, assertive and self willed. She is conscious of her rights and fights valiantly for them. Her knowledge of the affairs of the world is remarkable and her debating and argumentative skill exceptional. She would not meekly submit to a man because he happens to be her husband.

Who should be the ideal women out of the above two? Dr. Ram Manmohan Lohia who did seminal thinking on the issue of oppression in Indian society voted for Draupdi and it is difficult to discount his arguments. He wanted to start a debate on the topic that India’s ideal women was Draupdi and not Sita or Savitri. The Indian society can not advance, argued Lohia, so long as half of its population was cast in the image of sita. Crusaders for the downtrodden like Jyotibha phule and Ramaswamy, Naicker exhorted women to come forward and assert their identity.\(^4\)

The status and unequal position of women in Haryana has not been broadly recognized yet. Only the women’s movement has made efforts to bring it in light from under the carpet. This truth about distressing situation of the position of women came to light only through the sharing of experiences of women in the forums of women’s movement and the media. However, a shimmering and all pervasive insensitivity towards issues of women still haunts the state. There has

never been made any effort on the part of state governments to bring out any concrete status-report to unearth unequal status of women. Rather the state government has attempted twice to deprive girls of the right to parental property. In fact, the Haryana Assembly twice passed resolution to this effect with near unanimity as only at one such occasion there happened to be two MLAs as belonging to the left parties and they dissented! However, it could not become law due to the disapproval of the then President of India. This is not simply a case of ignorance on the part of policy makers but this is an example of "istri-droh" (anti-women) instincts and thinking having its roots in casteist and tribal social construction. There has never been any single elected public representative who is known for his sensitivity or commitment to women issues. Even during the struggle for independence, there has been no debate or movement in this particular region on rights and issues of women Arya Samaj did some work in the direction of women education but the vision was not to make literate women citizen but to make a literate housewife.

Actually this programme of education was deprived from any moolgami (holistic) social transformation. Popular folk singer Lakhmichandiji opened and ran "kanya pathshala" (school for girls) but he portrayed the traditional picture of women in his writings and taught them the lesson of obeying "Pativrat Dharm" (code of conduct of devoted wife) and Putrawati Bhav (the ideal of forbearing male child) He even idealized child marriage.15

Even today we find here Purda Pratha (the veil), fatwas (penal edicts) of caste panchayats, female foeticide (1000:820), child marriage, anemia, malnutrition, abandoning women for not giving birth to sons, dowry, wife-beating, dowry murders, eve-teasing, rape, purchasing wives and so on.

Nonetheless, some efforts are being made owing to the pressure of UNO, Central government and the women’s movement. Definitely, there is a beginning of some positive degree. At present, the Department of Sports and Youth Welfare Haryana is implementing many sports schemes. These schemes range from creation and maintenance of sports infrastructure like stadiums, gymnasia,

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15 Shubha, 1996, हरियाणा में महिलाओं की स्थिति, सरया राज्य संसाधन केंद्र, रोहतक, पृष्ठ 2-3
swimming pools, sports nurseries, sports wings, sports competitions, coaching camps, incentive schemes, sports equipment and youth welfare schemes. They are being implemented with the help of 312 qualified coaches posted at various districts of the state, including 14 coaches posted by Sports Authority of India.

1.9 Major Activities of Sports

The following schemes are being carried out at present:

- Development of Sports Infrastructure
- Sports Nurseries and Wings
- Sports Competition Scheme
- Incentive Scheme
- Sports Equipment Scheme
- Motilal Nehru School of Sports, Rai

1. Development of Sports Infrastructure

Under Development of Sports infrastructure, 15 Stadiums at District Level and 8 stadiums at Block/Tehsil level have been constructed. In addition five Gymnasium Halls, four multipurpose halls, ten swimming pools and seven Yoga-cum-Badminton Halls, on synthetic track in Ch. Charan Singh Haryana Agriculture University, Hisar (CCSHAU) and one Hockey Astro - Turf in Nehru Stadium in Gurgaon has been completed. Laying of Astro Turf at Shahbad, Kurukshetra is being completed. In addition to this, HUDA has completed a sports complex in sector 3 Panchkula, providing the facilities of Cricket Pavillion & Athletics Stadium, Volleyball, Basketball Ground and Badminton Hall. A Sports complex is being developed in Sector-38, Gurgaon by HUDA, out of which work of plays fields of Cricket & Athletics Track have been completed. A sports complex of an International standard has been completed recently at Faridabad in collaboration with the Government of India at a cost of Rs. 8.43 crores. Efforts have been made by State Government to provide sports infrastructure for the development and upliftment of sports in the State. Govt. has approved two big projects which are as follows:-

1. Sanctioned the construction of Modern Sports Complex in about 83.13 acres of land in Sector 6, Rohtak. Action is being taken to complete it.
2. Sports facilities on the land measuring 6.5 acres are being constructed in a Village/Block by the present Govt. Haryana State Agriculture Marketing Board is constructing these stadiums costing 50.50 lacs each and the funds are being provided by Haryana State Rural Development Fund. Haryana has approved 152 villages for construction of block level stadiums.

3. Sanctioned the construction of Indoor Hall at Motilal Nehru Sports School, Rai costing Rs. 2.40 crores. Action is being taken.

A Regional Centre of Sports Authority of India is being set up in an area of 83 Acres 2 Karnal 14 Marla at Village Joshi Chauhan (District Sonepat). Rs. 8.24 Crores has been sanctioned in the first phase. The work on 2nd phase has been started. The centre would provide international-standard playing facilities to players. A Special Sports Training Centre at CCSHAU, Hisar has been established by SAI to impart coaching to 100 boys and girls in Athletics, Boxing, Judo & Table Tennis. At present 82 players are getting coaching in this centre.

2. **Sports Nurseries and Wings**

Department of Sports is running 34 Nurseries at Bhiwani, Hisar, Faridabad, Gurgaon, Ambala, Jhajjar, Rohtak, Jind, Sonipat, Panipat, Kurukshetra, Rewari, Narnaul and Sirsa in the disciplines of Athletics, Basketball, Cricket, Gymnastic, Wrestling, Boxing, Badminton, Kabaddi, Hockey, Judo, Football, Table Tennis and Volleyball. In addition different Boards/Corporation has adopted eleven Nurseries.

Similarly, Sports wings started in various districts in which players took coaching for a specific period to provide advance coaching to the players. A refreshment of Rs. 60/- per day player is provided to all selected players. Wings in rest of the districts will soon be started. The budget provision for the year 2007-2008 is Rs. 90.00 lacs.

3. **Sports Competition Schemes**

Block, District, State and National level competitions are organised by the Sports Department in various age groups for boys and girls, men/women throughout the year for talent-hunting and to see the progress of the players. Competitions are conducted at District Level and State Level as Rural Sports
Tournament and Women Sports Festival. Since Haryana has extra-ordinary talent in the field of Wrestling and the State Government has declared wrestling as the State Game. A special Wrestling Scheme is being run. District Akhara Competitions and District. Kumar/Kesari Dangal, State Akhara Competitions and Haryana Kumar/Kesari Dangal are conducted regularly. Rs. 65.42 lacs have been spent against the Budget provision of Rs. 1, 50, 00,000/- till date.

4. Incentive Schemes

Cash Awards to the outstanding persons on the basis of their performance are given to all position-holders in the various sports competitions. Similarly scholarships to College/School players are also given to each first and second position holder. After the amendment in the State Sports Policy on 4/2/2004 a provision has been made to enhance the Cash Award money to be given to 5 outstanding Bhim Awardees of Haryana State from Rs. 50000 to 100000/-. Olympians/Arjuna Awardees/Bhim Awardees and position holder of Commonwealth Games and Asian Games are provided free traveling facilities through out the state in Buses and Deluxe buses of Haryana Roadways buses. Rs. 700/-, Rs. 500/- and Rs. 300/- per month is being given as old-age pension to the outstanding sportspersons on attaining the age of 60 years. Unemployed Olympians are also given pension of Rs. 2000/- p.m.

A scheme has been started to provide financial assistance upto Rs. 5.00 lacs to families to players who suffer accidental death during course of participation in National/International sports event. In case of complete immobilization of legs, arms or injury to the spinal cord and partial disability involving loss of limb or grave injury an amount of Rs. 3.00 lacs and Rs. 1.00 lacs respectively shall be provided to the international and National level sports persons. A special scheme has been introduced for awarding Rs. 1.00 Crore, 50.00 lacs and 25.00 lacs to the players who bring laurels to the State and Country by winning Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals in Olympic Games respectively.
5. **Sports Equipment Schemes**

To impart free regular training at various coaching camps of the States, equipments worth Rs. 150.00 lacs is being purchased through Director Supplies & Disposal Haryana during the current financial year.

6. **Motilal Nehru School of Sports Rai**

Motilal Nehru Sports School Rai was established in 1973 with the objectives of providing quality education to young students and produce outstanding sportspersons. The school is spread over 300 acres and has strength of 800 students. The annual budget of the school is Rs. 556.51 lacs. (Non-Plan) and Rs. 66.00 lacs on Capital side. The fee structure of the school is highly subsidized. This school has all modern sports & education facilities.

There is provision of 3% jobs reservation in the Govt. services for sportspersons. Schools, colleges and universities also have a certain level of infrastructure for sports. One exhibition on sports is also there with the state department, of sports though it is totally male-dominated photography. The only one college of sports (CCSHAU, Hissar) has been closed.

1.10 **Place of Women in the Given Structures**

No gender break up of the given data is available. It means the specific needs of women players which come up from their inferior status are not being recognized and strategised.

Generally also the strength of 312 coaches as given in their document is nothing in the ratio of needy population. The needs of total rural population are unaddressed as there would be the stadium facility in the coming plan in only 152 villages out of 6896.

*Hats-off to those daughters of Haryana, who are winning medals for Haryana in spite of these all around constraints. And they are not only standing victorious at National level but in the International arena also. The research scholar being herself one out of them (Bhim Awardee, 1984) has been closely observing the sports field since 1974 onwards and this case study is a collective effort in a way to identify and underline the barriers coming in the way of women's sports participation.*
1.11 Definition of Technical Terms

Physical Education

Physical education is an integral part of education concerned with the physical, mental and social growth, development and adjustment of the individual, through guided instruction and participation in sports, rhythms, gymnastics and related activities, the various unique needs of the learner are served.

From the above given definition, it is clear that in broader sense, physical education means the leaders in this field must develop a programme of activities in which participants will develop body awareness and realize results beneficial to their growth and development, such as development of strengths, ability to resist and recover fatigue, neuro-muscular skill, endurance and the citizenship qualities.

Sports

Sports can be recognized as an essential ingredient of a total physical education programme. Sport is derived from the Middle English disport or desport, meaning originally to carry away from work. With the changing times, meaning of sports has been acquiring new dimensions. But the element of physical prowess is must to sports which refers to practice and learning of a particular skill to succeed in sport competition.

Success Stories

Sportswomen who could succeed to find place in National team in their respective game and performed outstandingly to be honoured as Arjuna Awardee or at least Bhim Awardee.

Left-outs

Those who could not succeed to find place in National team in their respective game, due to various reasons.

Field Experts

Those females who have made pioneering efforts either in competitive sports field or in research area or have contributed at decision making bodies/governance level
Social/Voluntary initiatives

Initiatives by Social organization/NGOs and individuals to enhance women’s sports participation

Statement of the Problem

"Participation of Women in Sports: Case Study of International Sports- Women with Special Reference to Haryana State"

1.12 Significance of the Problem

Development of Sports had been in the center of serious discourse at various levels in our country particularly in the post independence period. Policies were formulated, independent ministries were created, committees were formed, and Commissions have been constituted apart from other long term and short term measures. In spite of all these efforts there are unending debates of wide-ranging nature going on at different levels. The debate is unanimous on one point at least that desired results have not been achieved on sports front. In certain respects on the contrary rather much disturbing trends seem to have crept in where questions of sports ethics getting seriously eroded either in the form of menacing match fixing, drug abuse or other undesirable tendencies.

Though the decline in value system is a general systemic feature and its reflection in sports has to be seen in that context, the entire question needs deeper thought, lest it ends up in cynicism. Sports as a socio-cultural medium has to act as a catalyst to reform the system instead of getting itself infected with the social decline.

The whole question in respect of sports, therefore, needs to be looked upon basically from alternative vantage points. The ongoing debates are, in fact, peripheral in their outlook and in content as well. Hence, relocation of the focal place with regard to historicity of development of sports is necessary. Tracing down, the nature of transformation along society especially in North India in relation to the level of involvement and degree of permissibility of various social groups in terms of gender, caste, religion etc. becomes important as topic of research.
The study is sought to understand negative and positive trends towards sports within the traditional framework of society so as to make a concrete assessment of the corresponding socio-economic in comparative terms. It has to investigate as to what extent the accessibility towards sports becoming part and partial in the life of disadvantageous sections through conscious efforts of the planners or at what crucial levels have there been failures.

Ways and means have to be devised as how the sports can fill up the existing void due to very weak history of social reform movements in North Indian society which continues to be an impediment in the overall cultural development of the region which is otherwise considered more advanced in economic terms. The study is concerning a concrete perspective strategy for the involvement of disadvantageous sections specifically the women folk which is the demand of the day. Review of the literature shows the dearth of this kind of studies at national and state level whereas internally it had emerged as a focal area of interest among the researchers.

1.13 Objectives of the Study:

- Serious and wider reappraisal in totality and in integrated manner to identify common linkages among all related areas of sports activity.
- To identify the contribution of Haryana’s women players for national teams at international level.
- To identify and bring in focus the obstacles coming in the way of women’s participation in sports at socio-cultural and economic level.
- To suggest some effective measures to be taken at the level of society, state and policy level to encourage women’s mass participation in the sports.
- To contribute towards pro-people orientation to the present sports planning.
- To identify the linkages between the wider challenges being faced by the society and sports as well.
Hypotheses:

- Girls are prevented from sports activity by parents and guardians due to old decadent culture and they become victims of mass dropouts from sports at matriculate or senior secondary level.

- The dominant construct of feminity and beauty in the mainstream mindset is against her participation in sports.

- The community codes, value system which is expressed through our *lokoktiya* (popular language phrases) dialect, *galiyan* (abuse) and folk songs are not at all in favour of sports and are to a great extent against women sports.

- The state machinery to a large extent carries the same mindset.

- The federations and associations are not sensitive enough towards specific nature of needs of sportswomen.