CHAPTER -I

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In the modern world, sports is becoming a highly specialised competitive area of human activity. Every nation is trying hard to produce sportsmen who could bring laurels home in various competitions at international level. Such honours in sports have already acquired a certain prestige-value for participating nations. It is natural, therefore, that improving the standards in the field of sports has become a focal point of attention, study and efforts on the part of physical educationists, coaches, trainers and research workers all over the world. In this effort, various disciplines like psychology, sociology, sports medicine, sports sciences etc. are getting more and more involved. The net result is that achievement level of athletes and sportsmen in international competitions are improving year by year.

Sports to the ancient Greeks was an occasion for fun and unity. Iphitus reopened the ancient Olympic Games after ten generation elapsed as a positive step to stop war between cities.

The modern Olympic movement as defined by the de Coubertin is not addressed to only one group or class of people, or a special race or nation, but to all men of any social class and origin, race, colour, religion and country. Many people picture the Olympic games as a great festival of innocent play for
happy, young athletes, a training ground for clean sportsmanship and a promoter of international good will. But today, competition on the international level has evolved into a ritualistic struggle of one national community against the other. International athletes have become soldiers of sport which are indoctrinated with absurd conceptions of national prestige. The Nazi General Von Reichenan must have known what he was talking about when he defined sports as "a war with friendly arms." But in an age which has seen the rise and fall of totalitarian regimes, sport has long since become a means of propaganda and has therefore, assumed a continually increasing political significance. International competitive sport, in which the political elements are mostly clearly revealed, has become a propaganda weapon in world affairs which through the incitement of inherent nationalist instincts point to new methods of psychological warfare.

The original Olympic games were abolished by Emperor Theodosius I of Rome in 394 AD after 1170 years of competition, because everybody was thoroughly sick of the bickering, conniving and ill-will that the athletic carnival always produced. This even when it was limited to almost one nation. Today, it looks as though the biggest international sports meeting in the world are headed towards the same fate for the same reasons.

The Olympic games were not revived by Baron De Coubertin merely to give contestants a chance to win medals and to break records, nor to entertain the public, nor to provide for the participants a steppingstone to a
career in professional sport, nor certainly to demonstrate the superiority of one political system over another. One of de Coubertin’s ideas was that the Games would “create international amity and goodwill thus leading to a happier and more peaceful world.” (SZYMICZEK, 1972).

In the first modern revival of the Olympic games in 1896, informal teams from eight countries assembled at Athens and went along so famously that everyone was pleaded with the outcome. But, according to S. Frank (1948), those exercises must go down as one of the shortest honeymoons on record for international athletic competition.

Olympian conniving reached a peak at London in 1908. In Berlin in 1936, Hitler, who had personally congratulated the first few winners with fascist fanfare, made a hurried exit when Jesse Owens, an American black athlete (supposedly a member of an inferior race) ran the Nazi’s precious Nordics bowlegged. Owens won three Gold medals at the Games. If Berlin proved anything it was the fact that sports no longer were isolated from the pressures that shape the world-racism and nationalism.

In 1952, the USSR and the USA began turning the Olympics into a cold war theatre. Since then even the referees, who can do a lot of subjective mischief in the judgement of events, have often been chosen more for their ideological loyalty than for their skill.

The murder of 11 Israeli athletes by terrorists in Munich in 1972 has focussed world attention on the growing political problem of large international
competitions; competitions that are designed to be “international festivals of peace and friendship.”

The 1980 and 1984 Olympics Games at Moscow and Los Angles were disrupted by boycotts. Canadian champion Ben Johnson’s detection of drug usage was the biggest scandal that rocked the 1988 Seoul Olympic games. In 1996 Olympic games at Atlanta where 197 countries participated in the centennial Olympic games, a bomb blast in centennial Olympic Park rocked the Games and world.

It is curious that the more trained and specialised the national amateur champions become, the more passionate is the conviction that the honour of the flag is involved in their success or failure. Today, the athletes have very nearly become the forgotten factor in an increasingly complex political equation. It was for them and their skills, their devotion to the ideal of pressing their bodies and minds to the outer reaches of human excellence, that the Greeks first created the Games. How much longer will the modern athletics be willing to be used as ideological and racial tools? Let us hope for the days when young athletes and officials from various nations, races and political ideologies will leave politics at home and go to international competition and run, hurdle, swim, hop, step and jump or knock a ball without any thought except for the pure fun of participation and international friendship.
Till today, the status of Indian sport is that the past has not been so perfect and future remains tense. For the present, Indian sport resembles a boxer with a glass jaw, having an aura of uncertainty to it. And in sport, it is this element of uncertainty which gnaws at a sportsman’s self-belief, eats into his confidence and tears his psyche into ribbons. Sometime ago Sunil Gavaskar said after a world cup match that there should be an inquiry into the working of Indian cricket. But for once, he seemed to have misplaced his priorities. In fact there should be an inquiry into the working of Indian sports in totality.

True for billion Indians, hoping for a medal in the Olympic Games is akin to sighting an igloo on the hot sands of the Sahara. Poverty coupled with unbridled population is a major constraining factor for sports development in the country. Financial constraints for purchase of installations, equipment etc. is however, a major problem faced by developing countries.

The National Federation officials are merely using sports for their benefit to climb up the ladder in their chosen fields, particularly in the political arena. It is only after the advent of such discredited political satraps that our sports mechanism has become polluted by prejudice and pathetic incompetence.

A player led revolution is needed. Our way of sports administration is not player oriented. We only have politicians and bureaucrats ruling almost all sports Federation in our country.
The demand to hand over sports administration to players does not seem unjustified. It is almost impossible to find a single sportsman controlling any sports organisation.

To purify the system, the resistance should come from within the sports persons. Those sports-persons who deliberately endure pain in the gym., who toil-come rain, sunshine or sleet.

ORIGIN OF VOLLEYBALL

The Invention of VolleyBall – 1895

An American, William G. Morgan (1870-1942) born in the State of New York, has gone down in history as the inventor of the game of VolleyBall to which he first gave the name “Mintonette”.

In 1894, he was appointed Director of Physical Education at the YMCA Section at Holyoke, in Massachusetts. He became aware of the need for a more recreational game which, while not involving any contact, would call for intense effort and thus ensure complete relaxation without any risk of injury. In an article published in 1915, he explained, “I did not know of any sport like VolleyBall to help me, what we thought, was the fruit of experience acquired in a gymnasium.”

In his view, tennis provided a good many advantages but required racquets, ball, a net and various equipment rather impractical for working in a
group and Basket Ball was too heavy and too big: he took out the inner tube, but the ball was then too light.

Finally, he had a leather ball made by the firm A.G. Spalding & Bros., with a rubber inner tube, he was satisfied with the result. We are now in the 21st century.

Professor Alfred T. Halstead, suggested that the name "mintonette" be replaced by "VolleyBall" which was more suggestive and descriptive of the action.

**Expansion of the Game Throughout the World**

Thanks to those in charge at the YMCA, VolleyBall quickly became popular in all United States territories and Canada. Elwood S. Brown introduced it to the Phillipines. In 1908, Heinzo Omori, having completed his studies at Springfield, and Frank H. Brown, Physical Education Director at the YMCA in Tokyo, brought it to Japan. J. Oward Crocker promoted it in China and J.H. Grey in Burma and India.

From then on, the development of this sport on the Asian continent was assured, although for a long time the rules remained different to the American rules. In 1918 the number of players per team was limited to six and in 1922 the maximum number of authorised contacts with the ball was fixed at three. Between 1917 and 1930, the Europeans discovered VolleyBall through
an American expeditionary force and the YMCA centres. In 1922, the Bulgarians in turn took up VolleyBall, and later the Soviets followed suit.

**International VolleyBall Federation (FIVB)**

Shortly before Second World-War, international links were established. In 1945, Harold T. Friermood (USA), then a member of YMCA, who rapidly became a leader in International VolleyBall, strove to establish international relations. He travelled, published and distributed many writings. On 12th May, 1946, Harold T. Friermood, who had become Secretary/Treasurer of the USVBA organised VolleyBall’s Golden Jubilee at Chicago (1895-96 to 1945-46). He invited Avery Brundage the future President of the International Olympic Committee, then only Vice-President of the United States Olympic Committee. He encouraged the setting up of an International Federation. Friermood set sail for Europe, where he attended the Olympic Games at London. The basis of the FIVB was thus built and a meeting was fixed for the constituent congress planned in 1947, its organisation was entrusted to Paul Libaud.

Delegates from 13 Federations met in Paris and planned from 18th to 20th April to set-up the International VolleyBall Federation (FIVB) and FIVB finally established on 20th April 1947 and Paul Libaud and Julien Lenoir both from France become President and Secretary General of the FIVB. French and English are recognised as official languages.
Olympic Berth

On 2nd November 1948, the FIVB, through its Secretary General requested International Olympic Committee (IOC) for recognition and President FIVB intervened with the President of IOC, Avery Brundage, to obtain the inclusion of VolleyBall at Olympic Games and on 4th May, 1949 the IOC recognized VolleyBall as a non-Olympic Sport.

In August 1956, the official FIVB Bulletin was published. In 1957, Spanish was added to the official languages.

In 1961, during the session at Athens and in agreement with the Japanese organisers, the members of the IOC added VolleyBall (men and women) to the programme for the forthcoming Tokyo Olympic in 1964.

100 Years of VolleyBall

100 years (1895-96 to 1995-96) of VolleyBall, now that is a milestone, definitely was to be celebrated. While the media everywhere honoured this anniversary in special broadcasts, articles or even special editions of newspapers and magazines, historians endeavoured to highlight the development of a sport whose breakneck, speed, power and tempo over the last few years have become simply breath taking.

The celebrations for the VolleyBall centennial, so carefully planned, by the FIVB were a grand success. On the future of this sport, world VolleyBall’s top authority stated that “There is much work still to be done to
make VolleyBall a great sports spectacular and to make sure it reaches a high level of professionalism in atleast 100 countries - and this includes having a professional national league. Our biggest aspiration remains that of seeing VolleyBall well developed and the subject of attention from all the media. For this reason, FIVB have launched the world plan 2001, which gives the National Federations the tools necessary to attain maximum economic autonomy and independence. The scholar is certain that if the world plan is carried through, VolleyBall will succeed in becoming as powerful as FootBall". India is also in 100 countries selected by FIVB for the world Plan 2001.

**Modern Trends in VolleyBall**

When the game was invented in the year 1895, it was nearly a recreational game. As time passed this game was liked by masses. At present VolleyBall is supposed to be among the most popular games, because it demands very good strength, and excellent level of intelligence. Most of the players in world class teams are more than 2 mts. tall. In the women side, there is a notable improvement and most of the players of world ranking teams are more than 1.85 mts. tall. The average reach in jump of men and women team is 3.60 mts. and 3.10 mts. respectively.

The present game of VolleyBall is highly skilful, interesting and demands high level of fitness. Since the founding of the FIVB (1947) until its premier as an Olympic sport (1964), modern VolleyBall was imprinted with
many technical & tactical innovations. For that reason, there are over 200 million players belonging to 213 affiliated Federations, crowds of thousands of spectators have been able to enjoy, even in outdoor stadia, a dynamic game of VolleyBall in recent years. The factors responsible for its fast popularity are:

a) Back line attack

b) Jump and Service

c) Two men receiving

d) Back court players specialisation

e) Defence

f) Set-upper

g) Block

h) Libero

**Development of VolleyBall in India**

The game of VolleyBall was brought to India more than 75 years ago when some Physical Education Teachers had been abroad and were trained in different game including VolleyBall. YMCA College of Physical Education, Madras took this game seriously and students trained there have taken the game to other parts of the country.

Prior to formation of VolleyBall Federation of India, the game was controlled by the Indian Olympic Association and at that time inter state
VolleyBall Championship was held every two years from 1936-1950 for men only. The first championship was held in 1936 at Lahore (Now in Pakistan).

**VolleyBall Federation of India (VFI)**

The VolleyBall Federation of India (VFI) was formed in 1951 and its first meeting was held at Ludhiana (Punjab) and VFI organised first national under the auspices of VFI in 1952 at Madras for men only. VolleyBall Federation of India got affiliation from Federation International VolleyBall (FIVB) in the year 1953. Since then the National Championship has been held every year for Seniors, Mini (below 12), Sub Junior (below 15), Junior (below 18) and youth (below 21) for both Sections. Federation cup and Departmental National for Seniors are also held every year since their introduction. VFI introduced National League in 1997 as per plan of FIVB.

**International VolleyBall Development Centre**

International VolleyBall Development Centre was established in Chennai on Sept. 19, 1997 by the FIVB.

**Rise and Fail of VolleyBall in India**

Since the formation of VFI, Indian teams started participation in World Championship, Asian Games, Asian Championship, Commonwealth Championship, SAF Games and many other international tournament held in India and abroad. India won Gold Medal at Japan in 1955 at Invitation Asian
Meet. In 3rd and 4th Asian Games held at Tokyo (Japan) and Djakarta (Indonesia) in 1958 and 1962, India won bronze and silver medals respectively. Indian VolleyBall got a major set back when no player was honoured with "Arjuna Award" from 1963 to 1971 and also did not participate in any class tournament from 1967 to 1973.

A revolution in Indian sports came when 1982 Asian Games were allotted to India and preparation for good performance started in all the games including VolleyBall. The VolleyBall team was trained by Mr. Kurte Raddey, the GDR coach. He gave a new direction to Indian VolleyBall with his advance training programme.

India came up when it won bronze Medal in 1986 Asian Games at Seoul and Gold Medal in SAF Games at Calcutta in 1987. Indian VolleyBall got another major setback when it did not participate in 1990 and 1994 Asian Games. But Indian junior team brought laurels by winning the silver and gold medal in Asian Junior Championship and Asian Qualifying Championship for World cup in 1994 and 1995 respectively.

In VolleyBall, 19 players (16 men and 3 women) and 2 coaches have been conferred with ‘Arjuna Award’ and ‘Dronacharya Award’ for their excellent performances by the Govt. of India.

**VolleyBall in Haryana**

Haryana the land of hardworking people presents a grand scenario of all round development and progress and looks upto its bright future with faith
and confidence. Haryana is primarily an agrarian state created on November 1, 1966 as a result of bifurcation of composite Punjab. The State can feel justifiably proud that its sports has made incredible progress.

Haryana is a leading State in sports and won national level tournaments in VolleyBall, Wrestling, Judo, Athletics, Gymnastics, Boxing, Kabaddi, Cricket etc. and produced many international players in these games. But VolleyBall has a unique place among the large number of games and sports played in Haryana today.

In VolleyBall, Haryana is regularly participating in the National level tournaments for schools, universities and states. Kurukshetra University won All India Inter University Tournament from 1983-84 to 1984-85. Haryana State Electricity Board also won All India Inter-state Electricity Sports Control Board tournament continuously from 1980 to 1987 and in 1989. Haryana school team got distinction of winning the National School Games in 1986, 1987 and in 1999.

In Senior level Haryana came up in 1979 National Championship when State team reached semi-final stage for the first time. In 1982, Haryana won National Championship at Bhopal and from 1982 to 1990, the State has always been a leading force at National scene in VolleyBall. Therefore, Haryana is known as the Sports cradle of India and has made an immense contribution to the nation. Good number of Haryana State players have
represented the country in international level competition. Haryana has the honour of having 45 International players and two Arjuna Awardee in VolleyBall.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The statement of the problem is "CONTRIBUTION OF HARYANA STATE TO THE PROMOTION OF VOLLEYBALL - A CRITICAL STUDY". The study is an effort to collect facts and figures with regard to the contribution of Haryana to the promotion of VolleyBall in men section and to assess the achievement of Haryana state in VolleyBall at National and International competitions.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The study has been undertaken on the assumption that a close and active involvement of this scholar with the VolleyBall players of Haryana State for nearly three decades, and the acquaintance with the VolleyBall players, sports promoters, physical education teachers, coaches, principals of schools and colleges have yielded a rich information and insights to be useful for a proper understanding of VolleyBall players in Haryana. This scholar has had the honour to work in the field of sports promotion from schools to the University and also in Haryana State Electricity Board and in both rural and urban areas. It has rendered this study and intimate one, for it has been
undertaken through an active and direct association with the people who were involved in sports, particularly VolleyBall in the Haryana State.

The investigator being born in Haryana and an Arjuna Awardee in VolleyBall is instinctively drawn to the problem of assessing the contribution of Haryana state towards the promotion of VolleyBall at the National and International level from 1966-2001 in men section.

The objectives of the study are stated as:

i. To analyse the facilities for VolleyBall in Haryana from 1966 to 2001.

ii. To study analytically the contribution of Haryana state at the National and International level in the field of VolleyBall.

iii. To determine the factors affecting the contribution of Haryana in the game of VolleyBall.

iv. To bring into the focus of the public, International VolleyBall players of Haryana.

v. To compile bio-data of international players produced by Haryana.

vi. The analysis of the type of sports equipment, play grounds and other facilities provided to the players in Haryana during training, coaching and competitions.
SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

The study will be of great interest to all sports lovers of the nation. It will also be useful to the following segments of the society in general and Haryana State in particular will find it more beneficial:

(i) VolleyBall players, officials and coaches;

(ii) Haryana Olympic Association, Sports Councils of Universities;

(iii) Sports Organisations of the State;

(iv) State VolleyBall Association and its related units;

(v) Physical Education teachers.

From the study, the following benefits could also be derived:

a) It will provide an opportunity to give suggestions for the promotion and development of VolleyBall in Haryana State and hence to popularise the game among masses.

b) It will bring into light the international players produced by Haryana State so that required honour and befitting rewards could be given to them. They would serve as a model to motivate the younger players.

c) It would serve as a ready reference to the players, coaches and officials to get any information regarding the game of VolleyBall in Haryana.
d) Being a store house of latest information it will serve as a stepping stone for future researchers.

e) It will be useful for laymen who are interested in knowing this fascinating and thrilling game.

f) The result of the study will provide a sort of motivation for the budding VolleyBall players in schools, colleges, universities, etc.

**DELIMITATION**

Keeping in view the time factor and the financial resources at his disposal, the scholar has restricted the scope of this study to the men section only.

Only brief review of various agencies which are organising and promoting VolleyBall in Haryana will be presented. The present study is delimited to the top position in the National/Inter-varsity/National Schools/Inter-Department Competitions at various levels keeping in view the time factor.