CHAPTER - VI

SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

India ruled the roost for nearly three decades in the men’s game. The origin of women hockey in India started only after independence, though one comes across references about the game played in the mid 1930’s. The modern game of hockey was imported to India by the British in the early eighties of last century and it took the fancy of Indians and gradually became the national game of our country.

Women’s hockey has a comparatively short history. It were the English women who first played hockey soon after their men formed first hockey association in 1886. Indian women took to hockey in 1936 when a women’s hockey association was formed as an independent body.

The Indian women team started taking part in international competitions. India got 4th position in 1974 world cup which was reasonably good but the performance of Indian women hockey team has been declining ever since. India’s performance in the 1998 world cup was very discouraging where the team finished last. So their defeat in the 1998 world cup at Utrech (Holland) was a great shock to the country.

The investigator has made an attempt to study the performance of Indian women hockey performance at the International level. She undertook this study entitled, “Critical Analysis of team performance of Indian women Hockey in
Study was undertaken with the following objectives in mind.

To assess the performance of Indian Woman Hockey Team at the Asian Level and World Cup along with the perception of hockey players (past and present) about the issues concerning hockey.

The analysis of the study of team performance of Indian women Hockey has been delimited to Asian Games, World cup and Olympic games. Historically it has been delimited to the period from 1974 to 1998.

The study is subject to all the limitations confronted by a survey type cum historical study being a historical standard, research instruments could not be used which was a limitations of this study.

The sample consisted of 64 coaches and players (both male and female) representing at the national and international level in the game of hockey. They returned the questionnaire duly filled to the investigator. Out of the initial list of 80 elite coaches and performers, 64 subjects returned the questionnaire.

In addition to the questionnaire the researcher interviewed the veteran players, members of the current hockey team and members of women hockey federation to collect the relevant information. The data collected from the above sources was properly organised, studied and analysed.

The tools used to collect the information were Questionnaire, News Papers, Sports Journals, Books and Research thesis written by other scholars in this
The following conclusions have been drawn from this study:-

During the last two decades the standard of Indian women Hockey has been inconsistent. After the 1982 Asian games it declined and continued to be unsatisfactory during the last decade. However, in the present decade it has again started improving as shown by the results of the last two Asian games.

At the world level the performance of the Indian women Hockey team is consistently poor except in world cup 1974 and 1980 Olympics games.

The perception of the veteran and coaches (more experienced group) are similar on some factors and differ on other factors compared to the current players and organisers.

Results of penalty corners converted has been a significant factor for the performance of the team.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The foreign teams has progressively improved the standard of games. They have successfully evolved methods to counteract the Indian strategies.

2. Scientific approach has to be our password. Our hockey managers must have imaginative planning, sound organisation, scientific system and regular coaching.

3. It is difficult to beat the foreign teams in strength. We can only beat them in skill through effective manning of the entire field both horizontally and
116
vertically.

4. The veteran hockey players also lament the absence of sharp shooters in the team. In the absence of scorer everything goes wrong. Our players have developed the ‘D phobia’. On entering the striking circle, they seem to run out of ideas.

5. The penalty corner conversion and defending penalty corner need to be improved.

6. Areas where the team needs to work on more solidly are strokes, reverse flicks, trapping, marking the opponent closely and tackling interception.

7. Either due to structural reasons or due to the increasing popularity of other sports, the truth is that hockey in India has suffered many ups and downs and has lost the respect it enjoyed in past. This of course will have an impact on the promotion and development of the game in India and more broadly in Asia and the rest of the hockey world.

8. The game does not attract youngsters and our falling ranking in the world arena has made it all the more unattractive.

9. In order to improve the performance of Indian women Hockey team in the international competitions a lot of rethinking, planned work and abundant efforts are required at all levels.

10. Procedure to select National Teams needs improvement to make it fool-proof.
11. There should be long term plans to prepare national teams for major international events like Olympic Games, World cup and Asian Games etc.

12. While setting the target and objectives, the planners should be pragmatic in their approach and implementation of the programmers like organising tournaments, spotting talent, conducting coaching camps and providing job avenues to budding sports persons.

13. Area where the team needs to work on more solidly are strokes, marking the opponents closely and tackling interception.

14. Coaches should be fully involved in the affairs of their teams. They must know the problems of each member of the team and try to solve them.

15. Induction of young players in the team should be gradual and continuous process.

16. Hockey as a national event should be revived at the school and college level. A strong base would make the national side more formidable. More hockey at schools and colleges would mean more talented players being scouted. Once there is keen competitions at this level, it would automatically strengthen seniors teams.

17. Better infrastructure should be created in the country for promoting sports.