

KHELO INDIA SCHEME : A STUDY OF SPORTS INFRASTRUCTURE IN DELHI METROPOLIS

Dissertation Submitted to the Panjab University, Chandigarh for the award of degree of **Executive Masters in Public Administration and Public Policy**, in partial fulfilment of the requirement for the Advanced Professional Programme in Public Administration (2023-24)

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**49th ADVANCED PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMME IN PUBLIC
ADMINISTRATION (2023-24)**

**INDIAN INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
NEW DELHI**

CERTIFICATE

I have the pleasure to certify that **Brigadier Vishal Pathania, Sena Medal** has pursued his research work and prepared the present dissertation titled '**Khelo India Scheme : A Study Of Sports Infrastructure In Delhi Metropolis**' under my guidance and supervision. The same is the result of research done by him and to the best of my knowledge; no part of the same has been part of any monograph, dissertation or book earlier. This is being submitted to the Panjab University, Chandigarh, for the purpose of **Executive Masters in Public Administration and Public Policy** in partial fulfilment of the requirement for the Advanced Professional Programme in Public Administration (APPPA) of Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), New Delhi.

I recommend that the dissertation of **Brigadier Vishal Pathania, Sena Medal** is worthy of consideration for the award of Executive Masters degree of the Panjab University, Chandigarh.

Date March 2024

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Place : New Delhi

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I wish to place my sincere gratitude to **Shri Surendra Nath Tripathi, IAS (Retired), Director General, Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi** for giving me this opportunity to research on a very relevant subject.

I am profoundly grateful to **Dr Saket Bihari, Associate Professor, IIPA** for his constant guidance, generous support, encouragement, and insightful supervision from time to time. Without his invaluable academic succour and moral support, I would not have been able to complete my research work.

I would like to thank **Dr Sachin Chowdhry, Program Director and Dr Sapna Chadah, Program Co-Director of APPPA-49** for their support and whole hearted assistance to complete my work. I am also grateful to the **staff of the APPPA office** to include **Shri Anil Kumar Sharma, Shri Manish Rawat, and Shri Rajesh Kumar** for their positive attitude and providing me with the required administrative facilities. My sincere thanks to **Shri HC Yadav, Librarian** and **staff of IIPA Library** for making the research material available to me at all times.

I also take this opportunity to express my sincere gratefulness to **Shri Arun Yadav, Director (Sports), Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports** and his team, especially **Shri Aditya Pundir**, for their sagacious support and taking time out to provide me with valuable inputs and relevant data during the course of my research.

I express my gratitude to my parents who always encouraged and motivated me to put in hard work at every stage of life. I am also thankful to my wife **Prof Jyoti Pathania** and my two children **Yuvraj and Devyani** who continuously motivated me and rendered all support to complete my research work.

**March 2024
New Delhi**

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

“The image of a country is not just about economic and military strength. The soft face of a country also makes a difference. Sports is one such soft power which can capture the world’s attention to India”

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi

Background and Context

India is one of the most populous countries in the world, with a demographic population that lends itself to a diverse gene pool that has the ability to excel in sports. However, a field as dynamic as sport needed fine tuning of policies to match the dreams and needs of athletes. For decades, the policies, albeit well-intentioned, were intermittent and could not quite catch up with the rapidly evolving international sports ecosystem which may have hindered Indian athletes from reaching the pinnacle of excellence at the world stage.

The power of sports to transform a nation is fathomless. It has tremendous ability to develop individual personalities of citizens on the one hand and place the nation on the global map as a sporting superpower, on the other. There is an incredibly high national pride attached to success in sports and it has the ability to cohesively bind the country beyond caste, creed or religion and build a happier, healthier and prosperous society. India's demographic advantage also holds the promise of a large pool of sporting talent that can be nurtured to represent India at the world stage.

Sports and fitness are an important part of one's life. It instils team spirit, helps sharpen strategic and analytical thinking, leadership qualities and allows us to cope with challenges. A fit and healthy person makes a fit and healthy society and country. The importance of sports and fitness is invaluable as it inculcates team spirit, develops strategic & analytical thinking, and furthers leadership skills, improves focus on target achievement and develops risk-taking ability. A fit and healthy individual leads to an equally healthy society and strong nation.

Sports are an integral part and extremely important component for the overall development of our nation. The success of a sportsperson is the result of the continual endeavour of various agencies, starting from promotion of sports, creation of infrastructure at grassroots level, selection of young and budding players and the involvement of experienced and qualified coaches.

India, in the last few years, has made steady progress in the field of sports. This tremendous potential needs to be showcased at a global platform. It is time that we inspire young talent, give them top-notch infrastructure and training of the highest level. We need to inculcate a strong spirit of participation in sports that enables players to demonstrate their true potential. This may help India realise its dream of becoming a sports super power by significantly plotting its footprints on the global map.

The policies launched from the time of Independence created a handful of athletes who displayed sparks of brilliance. Through the 1950s till the turn of the millennium and for a decade after that, Indian sports icons who earned international recognition, were limited to names like Major Dhyan Chand, Milkha Singh, PT Usha, among others. The lack of a focussed culture to strengthen a sports culture in the country and nurture a wide base of talent reflected in our podium finish results in major International Sports Events in the past years.

A need was therefore felt to completely revamp the existing sports ecosystem in the country, with focus on grassroots level talent identification, infrastructure building, support to elite athletes and creating an overall sports eco-system that would provide equal opportunities to women, divyangs and youth from far flung areas. The result was the introduction of the Khelo India Scheme.

Overview of the Khelo India Scheme

The Khelo India Scheme was formulated by rationalising the existing, now erstwhile, schemes of Rajiv Gandhi Khel Abhiyan (RGKA), Urban Sports Infrastructure Scheme (USIS) and National Sports Talent Search Scheme (NSTSS). At their inception, RGKA envisaged creation of sports complex in all blocks across the country comprising both indoor and outdoor playing facilities and conduct of competitions from block level onwards; USIS was the pre-cursor to the infrastructure component of the Khelo India Scheme; the NSTSS envisaged searching and nurturing of sporting talent. However the schemes could not take off, largely owing to lack of coordination and a combined vision of the Centre and States. The National Games, the biggest event for grassroots level talent identification were held at long intervals, leaving aspiring athletes to look for avenues to showcase their talent.

The launch of the Khelo India Scheme 2016, corrected these anomalies. The Khelo India programme was introduced as the flagship Central Sector Scheme of the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports to revive the sports culture in India at the grass-root level by building a strong framework for all sports played in our country and establish India as a great sporting nation. Taking from the experience gained in implementing the Scheme during the year 2016-17 and based on consultations with major stakeholders, especially State Govts and inputs received from all, the Khelo India Scheme was revamped with 12 verticals in Oct 2017.

Amongst these components, development of sports infrastructure, creation of sports academies, and conduct of competitions were priority areas. Khelo India Scheme was designed to serve twin objectives of mass participation and promotion of excellence in sports. The mission was “to encourage sports all over the country, thus allowing the population to harness the power of sports through its cross-cutting influence, namely, holistic development of children and youth, community development, social integration, gender equality, healthy lifestyle, national pride and economic opportunities related to sports development.”

Implementation of Khelo India - National Programme for Development of Sports

In 2017, the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (Department of Sports) vide Gazette of India, No 41 dated 14 Oct 2017, Gazette Notification No. 29-1/MYAS/MDSD/2017 dated 09th October 2017 announced “that the the Cabinet at its meeting held on 20/09/2017 had approved the revamp of Khelo India - National Programme for Development of Sports.

The Khelo India programme included playfield development; community coaching development; promotion of community sports; establishment of a strong sports competition structure at school, university level, rural/indigenous sports, sports for persons with disability and women sports. This programme further aimed to filling up of critical gaps in sports infrastructure, including creation of hubs of sports excellence in select universities; talent identification and development; support to sports academies; implementation of a national physical fitness drive for school children; and sports for peace and development.”

The budget allocated for the scheme was Rs. 1,756 crore for the period 2017-18 to 2019-20 and the scheme had adequate flexibility, including need-based re-appropriation of allocations across components. The entire scheme as approved by the Cabinet, was notified on 09 October 2017, for implementation with immediate effect.

The Components of the Khelo India Scheme then included the following verticals:-

- i. Play Field Development,
- ii. Community Coaching Development,
- iii. State Level Khelo India Centres,
- iv. Annual Sports Competitions,
- v. Talent Search and Development,
- vi. Utilisation and Creation/ Upgradation of Sports Infrastructure,
- vii. Support to National/Regional/State Sports Academies,
- viii. Physical Fitness of School Going Children,
- ix. Sports for Women,
- x. Promotion of Sports Among Persons with Disabilities,
- xi. Sports for Peace and Development, and
- xii. Promotion of Rural and Indigenous/Tribal Games.

While the entire Scheme is implemented under the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports (MYAS), however, out of the above mentioned 12 verticals, the following components were directly implemented by MYAS itself :-

- i. Play Field Development,
- ii. Utilization and Creation/ Up gradation of Sports Infrastructure, and
- iii. Sports for Peace and Development.

Sports Authority of India, New Delhi under the oversight of MYAS, was made responsible to implement the verticals of:-

- i. State Level Khelo India Centres,
- ii. Annual Sports Competitions,
- iii. Talent Search and Development,
- iv. Sports for Women,
- v. Support to National/Regional/State Sports Academies,
- vi. Promotion of Sports Among Persons with Disabilities,
- vii. Promotion of Rural and Indigenous/Tribal Games, and
- viii. Physical Fitness of School Going Children.

The vertical of ‘Community Coaching Development’ was to be implemented by Lakshmi Bai National Institute of Physical Education, Gwalior, under MYAS.



Fig No 1 : Verticals of the Khelo India Scheme (2017-18 to 2019-20)

The Scheme, initially notified and sanctioned budget till FY 2019-2020, was granted an interim extension of one year up to 31.03.2021. As per Gazette Notification No. 29-1/MYAS/MDSD/2017 dated 09th October 2017, the vision and mission of the Scheme were given which are as under:-

Vision of the Khelo India Scheme

“To infuse sports culture and achieve sporting excellence in the country”.

Mission of the Khelo India Scheme

“To encourage sports across the country thus allowing the population to harness the power of sports through its cross-cutting influence, including, holistic development of children and youth, community development, social integration, gender equality, healthy lifestyle, national pride and economic opportunities related to sports development”.

Continuation of the Scheme of “Khelo India–National Programme For Development of Sports” : In 2022, the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (Department of Sports) vide Gazette of India, Extraordinary No 79 dated 24 March 2022, Gazette Notification No. 40-1/MYAS/MDSD/2020 dated 04th March, 2022 announced an “extension/continuation of the Khelo India Scheme from 2021-22 to 2025-26.”

The Notification stated that, “With a view to achieving the twin objectives of mass participation and promotion of excellence in sports, the Government has decided to continue the Scheme of Khelo India – National Programme for Development of Sports, over the 15th Finance Commission Cycle (2021-22 to 2025-26) at an outlay of ₹ 3165.50 Crore.”

Further, , as given in the MYAS Annual Reports, “while the basic objectives, vision and structure of the extant Khelo India Scheme were retained, however, on the basis of the experience of the Ministry while implementing the extant Scheme as well as the evaluation/recommendations of the Third-Party Evaluator, the components of the Scheme were rearranged and rationalized by subsuming some of the similar components with the larger ones, thus condensing the twelve existing components into following five components” in the revised Khelo India Scheme (2021-22 to 2025-26):-

- i Creation and Upgradation of Sports Infrastructure,
- ii Sports Competitions and Talent Development,
- iii Khelo India Centres and Sports Academies,
- iv Fit India Movement, and
- v Promotion of Inclusiveness through Sports.

This restructuring of the earlier 12 separate verticals to five components, by merging or subsuming similar components, has led to streamlining the program and enhance its effectiveness. The re-arranged components in the updated Khelo India Scheme (2021-22 to 2025-26) is as follows:-

- i **Creation and Upgradation of Sports Infrastructure** – includes erstwhile ‘Utilisation of Creation / Upgradation of Sports Infrastructure’ and ‘Play Field Development’ verticals.
- ii **Sports Competitions and Talent Development** – includes earlier verticals of ‘Annual Sports Competitions’, ‘Talent Search & Development’ and ‘Community Coaching Development’.

iii **Khelo India Centres and Sports Academies** – includes erstwhile verticals of ‘State Level Khelo India Centres’ and ‘Support to National / Regional / State Sports Academies’.

iv **Fit India Movement** – includes the vertical of ‘Physical Fitness of School going Children’.

v **Promotion of Inclusiveness through Sports** – includes the earlier verticals of ‘Sports for Peace and Development’, ‘Promotion of rural & indigenous/tribal games’, ‘Promotion of Sports among persons with disabilities’ and ‘Sports for Women’.

Table No 1: Re-Arranged Components in the Updated Khelo India Scheme

S.No	Components of Revised Khelo India Scheme (2021-22 to 2025-26)	S.No	Verticals of Khelo India Scheme (2017-18 to 2019-20)
1.	Creation and Upgradation of Sports Infrastructure	1.	Utilization of Creation / Upgradation of Sports Infrastructure
		2.	Play Field Development
2.	Sports Competitions and Talent Development	3.	Annual Sports Competitions
		4.	Talent Search & Development
		5.	Community Coaching Development
3.	Khelo India Centres and Sports Academies	6.	State Level Khelo India Centres
		7.	Support to National / Regional / State Sports Academies
4.	Fit India Movement	8.	Physical Fitness of School going Children
5.	Promotion of Inclusiveness through Sports	9.	Sports for Peace and Development
		10.	Promotion of rural and indigenous/tribal games
		11.	Promotion of Sports among persons with disabilities
		12.	Sports for Women

(Source : Govt of India, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Annual Report 2022-23)

As given in the Gazette Notification, “the other features of the Scheme were broadly retained for continuity and strengthening of the established practices. The Scheme was further rationalised by making it leaner, simplifying the structure & approval process, as well as by removing redundancies and syntactical deficiencies”. Also, 'Khelo India Winter Games' were included under the 'Sports Competitions and Talent Development' component. The 'Fit India Movement' was introduced as a separate and dedicated component.

In the revised Scheme the component of Creation of Infrastructure is directly under the Dept of Sports, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports (MYAS), while the remaining four components are monitored by Sports Authority of India under the overall purview of MYAS.

The Khelo India Scheme has a provision of a Project Appraisal Committee (PAC), to appraise all proposals received under the scheme and place them before a Departmental Project Approval Committee (DAPC) for approval. The approved projects will be subject to strict monitoring, including third party monitoring, for which State level monitors will be engaged. The entire programme under the Scheme is steered by a General Council (GC) chaired by the Minister in-charge, which will function as the highest policy making body for the purpose of implementation of the Scheme. The General Council will be supported by a National Level Executive Committee (NLEC) headed by Union Secretary of Sports.

Understanding the Components of the Khelo India Scheme

The Khelo India Scheme aims to encourage sports all over the country, thus allowing the population to harness the power of sports through its cross-cutting influence, holistic development of children & youth, community development, social integration, gender equality, healthy lifestyle, national pride and economic opportunities related to sports

development. The Gazette Notification has also described the various components of the Scheme. And the same are briefly explained and given out in succeeding paragraphs.

i **Creation and Upgradation of Sports Infrastructure** : As per the Gazette, “The component of Creation & Upgradation of Sports Infrastructure under the Khelo India Scheme aims at creating and upgrading sports infrastructure for all citizens, throughout the country. The purpose is to increase the per capita availability of infrastructure for the general public at large and developing critical sports infrastructure at the State level by providing financial assistance to States/ UTs, the Sports Authority of India (SAI) under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (MYAS) and other eligible entities such as Central/State educational institutions, Defence/Paramilitary organizations, etc. to create modern sports infrastructure as well as to improve existing sports, sports science and sports equipment and other related infrastructure. Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) and any other scheme(s) of the State Government/Central Government would also include the development of model playfields on a pilot basis.” The Scheme envisages providing support to a wide variety of sports infrastructure projects, both Greenfield and Brownfield projects, provided they aim at bridging critical gaps in sports infrastructure to meet existing demands. Accordingly, all applications will have to include an action plan clearly demonstrating how participation, especially community participation in the vicinity will be increased through the proposed project(s). Under this component, MYAS renders financial support for creation of sports infrastructure, such as Synthetic Athletic Track, Synthetic Hockey Field, Synthetic Turf Football Ground, Multipurpose Hall, Swimming Pool, Playgrounds, Hostels, upgrading of facilities etc.

Under this component, a total of 307 new sports infrastructure projects (185 complete and 122 ongoing) have been approved in 32 States / Union Territories at a total sanctioned cost of ₹ 2974.55 crore. Further, under this component, 15 new sports infrastructure projects have been approved in 13 States / Union Territories, at a total sanctioned cost of ₹ 127.64 crore¹.

Play Field Development is also part of this component and it includes preparing a National inventory of playfields and sports infrastructure on a Geographic Information System (GIS) platform for their optimum utilisation. 13682 playfields have been geo-tagged under the scheme².

Under Prime Minister's Development Package (PMDP), Hon'ble Prime Minister approved and announced a special package of Rs. 260 Crore for Enhancement of Sports Infrastructure Facilities in J&K on 07.11.2015, The facilities would be operated and utilised by State Govt for sports promotion activities in J&K.

Further details of this component has been elaborated upon in detail in the succeeding chapters of this dissertation.

ii **Sports Competitions and Talent Development** : Under the second component, the Gazette gives out the following main policy measures of the scheme:

“Sports Competitions

- Khelo India will be the basic platform to showcase sporting skills and would be a platform for talent spotting and providing development pathways for gifted and talented children to achieve excellence.

¹ Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports Annual Report

² MYAS Annual Report of 2022-23

- The Central Government will organise National-level competitions, i.e., Khelo India Youth Games and Khelo India University Games, in respect of high priority/priority sports disciplines, like, Archery, Athletics, Badminton, Basketball, Boxing, Chess, Cycling, Football, Gymnastics, Handball, Hockey, Judo, Kabaddi, Karate, Kho-Kho, Shooting, Swimming, Table Tennis, Taekwondo, Tennis, Volleyball, Weightlifting, Wrestling and Wushu, at various places across the country. Additional sports disciplines may be included in these games with the approval of the competent authority. The Central Government will also organise national-level Khelo India Winter Games annually in respect of winter games disciplines.
- These National-level competitions will be organised in true spirit of the Olympic Movement by associating the concerned National Sports Federations (NSFs), School Games Federation of India (SGFI) and University sports promotion bodies, including the Association of Indian Universities (AIU).
- Talent pool identified at the National Youth Games, National University Games and Winter Games was to form a key input for the Talent Search and Development Programme for which suitable criteria will be devised.
- A system of school and university leagues will be launched in key team games across the country to create greater participation and competition.
- For the purpose of encouraging, identification and development of talent, proposals for organising sports competitions for any category of sportspersons at local or State level may be sent by any organisation, association, or anybody or institution irrespective of their recognition,

through the Sports Department of the State/Union Territories for receiving grants-in-aid to facilitate such activities. State/UT Governments will be encouraged to conduct competitions in identified sports disciplines on their own by associating District and State level associations/federations of various sports disciplines. Financial assistance will be given as per the Annual Calendar of Training and Competition (ACTC) rates.

- Suitable policies would be evolved to encourage sports in a big way among Defence and Paramilitary forces, who are well endowed with sports infrastructure and appropriate funding will be granted for the same.
- **Funding:** The Khelo India Games will be held in the true spirit of the Olympic Movement in association with the Indian Olympic Association and the participating National Sports Federations. Each set of competitions will see participation of about 8,000 athletes and officials. An annual amount of ₹ 22 crore will be earmarked for conduct of each set of competitions, viz. Khelo India Youth Games, Khelo India University Games and Khelo India Winter Games.

Talent Identification and Development

- There is a need to harness the potential talent in respective States/UTs. Accordingly, each State/UT will be encouraged to take up one sport for excellence in Olympics and create a world class system/structure in that State/UT for that particular sport. This will be a step towards becoming a sporting power in the coming years.

- A pyramidal structure is sought to be put in place for the identification of talented sportspersons starting from the grassroots level and culminating in the development of elite athletes for achieving excellence at international platforms. The pyramid-flow pattern of talent identification and development is described below.
- **Grassroots Talent Identification:** The following modes will be used for identification of talent:-
 - (a) **Potential Talent** - Khelo India Mobile App and Fit India App would be used to capture the data for which age-appropriate protocols have been developed; the expertise of physical education teachers (PETs) will also be utilised for identifying potential talent.
 - (b) **Proven Talent** - Identification will be done by scouts appointed by Zonal Committees through competitions, visit of scouts to training academies, special drive for talent hunt, talent portal, etc.
 - (c) The list of talented grassroots athletes will be forwarded to State Government sports facilities, SAI training centres, Khelo India State Centres, sports schools, etc.
- **Elite Talent Identification:** The following modes will be used for identification of talent:-
 - (a) Talent Screening Committee (TSCs) will recommend the talent to be inducted in various training centres (Zonal committee can also act as TSCs).

- (b) Talent Identification & Development Committee (TIDC) formed with representation from NSFs will scout talent at National level and recommend athletes to be inducted in Khelo India accredited academies. The assessment camps if required will also be organised (for elite athletes, a component of ₹ 5 lakh per athlete per annum on average could be allocated). This amount may be suitably revised by the Department of Sports from time to time based on inflation and other relevant indices.
 - (c) Grassroots talent development through e-Khel Pathshala and Khelo India District Centres.
 - (d) Intermediate talent development through Khelo India State Centres (Centres of Excellence, Sports Schools, Army Boys Sports Companies, funding to SAI training centres etc.).
 - (e) Elite talent development will be done through Khelo India accredited academies which may be operated by SAI, State/UT Govt or private entities. Support to the tune of ₹ 5 lakh per athlete per annum for 3000 athletes will be provided. This amount may be reviewed after every two years and revised in accordance with the inflation rate and other relevant indices.
- National competitions involving Schools, Colleges, Universities and National Sports Federations (NSFs) under the Khelo India Scheme, National Championships, and National Sports Talent Search Portal of SAI, will provide a platform for identification of talented sportspersons in priority sports disciplines where the country has potential/advantage.

- In addition to the selection of prize winners, the duly constituted Talent Identification Committee may also adopt globally accepted scientific methods to spot and identify talent in various sports disciplines.
- The identification of talented sportspersons will be done in a transparent manner through competitive performance and assessment made through a scientifically designed battery of tests. Further, a National Talent Search Portal will provide seamless access to upload individual achievements.
- In addition, various other innovative approaches will be adopted for carrying out the scientific evaluation at remote places for better identification of the talented sportspersons.
- During the talent identification drive, sporting talent hubs, discipline-wise, including indigenous games shall be identified and duly mapped. Efforts will be made through sports academies to conduct special programmes to encourage such specific sport/games in that area.
- Out of the talented players identified in priority sports disciplines at various levels through different avenues, the best talents in those sports discipline will be identified by a High-Powered Committee and provided annual financial assistance, with rates to be decided and updated from time to time by the Ministry, for a period of at least 8 years under a Long-Term Athlete Development Programme.
- Continuation of support to an individual athlete will be subject to his/her progress/performance in the identified sports discipline concerned, ensuring the best performers, having the potential to excel at the highest level, are given continuous support and non-performers/ non-achievers can be taken out of the system.

- This will ensure a sizable bench strength that the country is lacking at present.
- **Funding:** An amount of ₹ 90 crores per annum was to be earmarked for the maintenance of the Online Portal, identification of sporting talents through different avenues, including through advanced scientific profiling, short listing of talents, and recommending the best talents for providing support. Identification of sporting talent involved conduct of pan-India trials by Talent Scouts (to be engaged for the purpose), in association with States/UTs.

Community Coaching Development

- The significance of community coaching in identification and development of talent at the grassroots level cannot be ignored. Accordingly, the Scheme recognizes the pivotal role of physical education teachers and community coaches in the encouragement and grooming of budding sports talent in the country. The Scheme thus envisages institutional support for community coach development along with physical education training.
- A cascading model of Community Coach Development will be adopted for the development of community coaches across the country. This will involve skill development and a certification system.
- A short-term community coaching development programme will be devised and identified Physical Education Teachers will be trained as Master Trainers.

- Online courses for community coach development will also be developed at primary and advanced levels. There will be a system of coach accreditation based upon the level of proficiency.
- With respect to technical officials such as umpires and referees, they would be supported with capacity development programmes.
- With respect to funding, training of PETs/Volunteers as Master Trainers entails expenditure on travel, accommodation, content development, training material, faculty charges, etc. An annual amount of ₹ 30 lakhs will be earmarked for said training.”

iii **Khelo India Centres And Sports Academies** : Under the third component, the Gazette gives out the following aspects:-

“State Level Khelo India Centres,

- A large number of sports infrastructure set up throughout the country are not being utilized optimally due to lack of coaches/part-time coaches, supports staff such as physiotherapists and masseurs, equipment, proper field of play, consumables, day boarding facilities, etc., as well as lack of adequate financial support for meeting recurring expenditure.
- It was proposed to better utilization of sports infrastructure belonging to States/UTs through suitable Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and provide support for engagement of coaches, providing day-boarding facilities, stipend to trainees, etc”. It Also stated that “Provision of maximum funding to the State Centres of Excellence and Khelo India Centres is being done for the priority sport selected by the State under the

“*One State, One Game*” initiative. Capacity building and Viability Gap Funding support is being provisioned for State Centres of Excellence and Khelo India Centres that may include universities (including private universities).”

- Further, The MYAS Annual Reports also clarifies that “The talent identified from sports competitions and other talent identification mechanisms is given the option to join SAI NCoE, TOPS NCoE, non-SAI NCoE or a Khelo India accredited academies so that adequate training support can be provided. A system would be developed for the rating of academics to facilitate the selection of appropriate academics for support, facilities for para-athletes will also be a parameter for the rating of academies. The quantum of funds may be decided based on a rating mechanism.”
- As per the Gazette, “Grants-in-aid will be provided for establishment, operation and maintenance of sports academies in respect of identified disciplines to Sport Authority of India, State Governments or to private sector or sports person under Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode for facilitating and supplementing Long Term Athlete Development (LTAD) programme (for 8 years).” At least one Para Athletes academy for is also to be supported.
- As a part of India’s pursuit for excellence in the Olympics and endeavour to scale up State/UT’s existing centres up to world standard level, one of the existing training centres will be designated as Khelo India State Centre of Excellence (KISCE) under the State Level Khelo India Centre (SLKIC) vertical of the Khelo India scheme.

- As a part of the Government's vision to strengthen the sports ecosystem in the country at the grassroots level, a low-cost, effective sports training mechanism has been worked out wherein "*Past Champion Athletes*" would become coaches and mentors for youngsters, running sports training in an autonomous manner, and earning their livelihood.
- As part of this endeavour, 1,250 Khelo India Centres (KICs) are proposed to be established by 2025-26, over a period of 04 years, across all districts of the country. As per the data available, as on 31 Dec 2023, 1031 training centres in 36 States/UTs have already been notified as Khelo India Centres (KIC) of which 882 have been made operational. The total funds released till 31 Dec 2023 are ₹ 62.71Crore (Recurring: ₹ 36.46 Crore and Non-Recurring: ₹ 26.25 Crore). The total numbers of athletes trained are 20495.³
- With a view to utilize the disciplined atmosphere of the Army and the infrastructure available Army Boys Sports Company Scheme was introduced in association with Army in which young talent is identified in the age group of 8-14 years and admitted in the Scheme. At present there are 26 ABSCs, 01 Navy Boys Sports Company and 01 Air force Boys Sports Company Squadron in the country.
- **Sports Academies:** "A total of 296 academies (222 Non-SAI and 74 NCOE & SAI) have been accredited for the training of the Khelo India athletes (KIAs). The total cost per trainee per annum under the norms for

³ MYAS Annual Report

the funding of residential Khelo India Athlete under accredited sport academies is ₹ 6,28,400/-.”⁴

Further details of the “Khelo India Centres and Sports Academies” component has been elaborated upon in detail in the succeeding chapters of this dissertation.

iv **Fit India Movement** : Details of this component as given in the Gazette are that, “The Fit India Movement was launched on 29 August, 2019 for promoting physical fitness of all by inculcating a habit of fitness among all citizens. The Government will be playing the role of a catalyst for this Movement. Fit India is a people- centric movement to be run on voluntary basis with participation of as many citizens as possible and is an ongoing activity. Citizens are to be encouraged to spend time every day on physical activities in any form, be it sports, games, walking, jogging, cycling, dancing, yogasan, fitness quizzes, participation in fitness events, awareness programmes or combinations thereof. The Department of Sports, MYAS has been entrusted with the task of the nodal agency for coordinating the implementation and propagation of this Movement and related programmes through the process and inter-linkages. The administration and implementation of this Movement in the Department of Sports will be undertaken under the aegis of the Khelo India Scheme.

National Physical Fitness parameters will be evolved and a tool kit will be provided to schools and relevant agencies to evaluate physical fitness of all citizens, both children and adult. This tool kit would be easy to implement by anyone with the help of guidelines included in the kit.

⁴ MYAS Annual Report

A mechanism will be evolved to perform an advisory role for integration of sports and physical education. Sports will be integrated with school education as envisaged in the National Education Policy, 2020.

Funding: An annual amount of ₹ 10 crore is earmarked for this component for organizing fitness promotion events, campaigns and related activities. Funds to the extent of ₹ 25,000 for procuring equipment/developing sports facilities to 5-Star and ₹ 10,000 to 3-Star rated schools under Fit India School Certification Programme. The grant would be released as one time assistance for developing sports facilities in such certified schools suitable award scheme would also be implemented for recognizing States/UTs, Schools etc. for their achievements in the fitness sphere. Fit India quizzes and related activities with commensurate prize money awards would also be instituted and funded from this component.”

v **Promotion of Inclusiveness through Sports** : This is the fifth component of the Khelo India Scheme. Details of the same given in the Gazette are as follows:-

“Sports for Peace and Development

- The Scheme envisages the usage of sports for the promotion of peace and development in terrorism and extremism affected areas as well as other disturbed areas and areas along the international land border to promote confidence-building among the local populace and bringing the youth into the mainstream and engaging them in healthy and constructive activities.

- The Government of India, under the Special Package for Jammu and Kashmir is providing funds for enhancement of sports facilities in the Union Territory. The activities under this Package will be carried out by dovetailing with this Scheme. To ensure optimal utilization of these infrastructures, soft support in terms of coaches, equipment, consumables, technical support, etc. will be provided.
- Efforts will be made to organise village level competitions in respect of sports disciplines popular in all such areas for positive engagement of youth.
- **Funding:** An annual amount of ₹ 4 crore will be earmarked for support to State Governments and for supporting Sporting Clubs and teams in disturbed areas. Suitable criteria will be laid down in this regard by co-ordination with Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) as part of Civic Action Plan of Ministry of Home Affairs.

Promotion of Rural and Indigenous/Tribal Games

- *Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat (EBSB)* is an ambitious programme of the Ministry of Education, which aims at enhancing the interaction of people of diverse culture living in different States/Union Territories of this country to promote national integration, peace and harmony. The sports component of EBSB would be dovetailed with the Khelo India Scheme for the purpose of organising the events and implementing the objectives of peace and development inherent in this Scheme. EBSB events to be organised by the Department of Sports would include a variety of sports

disciplines, including rural and indigenous games, promotional sports, traditional games, etc. For this purpose, support and assistance would be provided to the NSFs, sports associations, and other local sports bodies specialising in respective disciplines/games.

- In order to showcase our rural and indigenous/tribal games, financial assistance may be provided under the Khelo India Scheme for organising rural and indigenous/tribal games/competitions through Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat (EBSB) programme of the Government of India and other suitable proposals received in the Department of Sports.
- In addition to the indigenous games of Mallakhamba, Kalaripayattu, Gatka, Thang-Ta, Yogasana and Silambam, organisations related to other indigenous/ traditional games of different States/Union Territories would also be provided financial assistance for their promotion and encouragement.
- Information on such games will also be made available through online and offline modes. This will not only help disseminate information and ignite the curiosity of the present generation about these games but also encourage children and youth to take up these games in a major way, paving way for their future mainstreaming.
- Proposals for organising events/promotion and upliftment of indigenous games may be sent by the associations, federations concerned or any other organisation through the Sports Department of the State/Union Territories for the purpose of receiving grants-in-aid to facilitate such activities.

- **Funding:** An annual grant of ₹ 2 crore will be earmarked for promoting indigenous games by organising national, state level and/or local competitions and installing, maintaining and upgrading the interactive website and supporting critical infrastructure wherever required. An Organising Committee comprising representatives from the Government of India, State Governments, NSFs, and other relevant stakeholders will be constituted for smooth conduct and delivery of the events/competitions under the component. The funds may be used for supporting NGOs and Sports Federations/Associations promoting rural and indigenous/tribal games. All the funding will be as per Annual Calendar of Training and Competition (ACTC) rates fixed for the National Sports Federations.

Promotion of Sports among Persons with Disabilities

- Financial assistance may be provided to States/UTs and SAI for creation of specialist sports infrastructure for persons with disabilities.
- Funds required for making stadia disabled friendly / barrier free may be accessed from Scheme for Implementation of Persons with Disabilities Act (SIPDA) of the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities.
- The funds provided under this head may be used for classification of players, equipment, training and preparation of teams for Paralympic Games and disciplines and competitions.

- Proposals for organising sports events for persons with disabilities may be sent by the proponent organisations through the Sports Department of the State/Union Territories for the purpose of receiving grants-in-aid to facilitate such events.
- **Funding:** An annual grant of ₹ 2 crore will be earmarked under this component which may be utilized for classification of athletes, training of Indian classifiers, and setting up/supporting Specialised Sports Training Centres for people with disabilities, coaching development, scholarships for coaching diploma both by differently abled persons and able-bodied persons seeking coaching for training para-athletes, and competitions.

Promotion of Sports among Women

- While all components of the Khelo India Scheme are gender neutral and afford opportunities for women for participating in sporting activities and development of sports, competitions, leagues and tournaments for women, as well as other disadvantaged groups may be organised in different disciplines at various level.
- Emphasis will be laid on such sports disciplines where there is less participation of women and other disadvantaged groups so that a greater number of women will participate in such sports disciplines.
- Proposals for organising sports events for women may be sent by the proponent organisations through the Sports Department of the

State/Union Territories for the purpose of receiving grants-in-aid to facilitate such events.

- **Funding:** The events/competitions should be held in the true spirit of the Olympic Movement in association with the Indian Olympic Association and the participating National Sports Federations as well as other organisation involved in promotion of sports among women and other disadvantaged groups. An annual amount of ₹ 2 crore will be earmarked for organising the activities under this component. Hosting of women leagues will be encouraged for various team sports disciplines through their recognised NSFs. Suitable funding and support will be provided through this component.”

Financial Implications

The funds required for the Khelo India Scheme have also been spelt out in the Gazette Notification of 04 Mar 2022. The budget has been given out in two parts. These include the following aspects:-

- The year wise, recurring and non-recurring estimated expenditure under the revised Khelo India Scheme, has been given out vide the Gazette Notification of 04 Mar 2022.
- The year-wise and component-wise financial outlay as recommended by the Expenditure Finance Committee has also been given out in the same Gazette Notification.

The details of both, the estimated expenditure as well as the total financial outlay of the Khelo India scheme from FY 2021-22 to FY 2025-26 has been tabulated and given out below:-

**Table No 2 : Estimated Recurring and Non Recurring Expenditure for
Khelo India Scheme (FY 2021-22 to FY 2025-26)**

Ser No	Financial Year	Estimated Expenditure (in Rs Crore)		
		Recurring	Non- Recurring	Total
1	2021-22	170.3	1076.5	1246.8
2	2022-23	170.3	709.26	879.56
3	2023-24	170.3	354.24	524.54
4	2024-25	170.3	87	257.3
5	2025-26	170.3	87	257.3
	Total	851.5	2314	3165.5

(Source: Gazette of India, Notification No. 40-1/MYAS/MDSD/2020 dt 04 Mar 22)

The above table depicts the estimated expenditure (recurring and non-recurring) year-wise as per the Gazette Notification of India released on March 24, 2022. However, the amount includes all 5 components i.e., Creation and Upgradation of Sports Infrastructure, Sports Competitions and Talent Development, Khelo India Centres and Sports Academies, Fit India Movement and Promotion of Inclusiveness through Sports.

Table No 3: Total Financial Outlay for Khelo India Scheme (FY 2021-22 to FY 2025-26)

Component	2021-22		2022-23		2023-24		2024-25		2025-26		Total
	R	NR	R	NR	R	NR	R	NR	R	NR	
1. Creation and Upgradation of Sports Infrastructure	0.00	989.50	0.00	622.26	0.00	267.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1879.00
a) Committed liabilities	0.00	350.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	550.00
b) New sports infra projects	0.00	237.75	0.00	211.43	0.00	176.32	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	625.50
c) Playfield Development	0.00	9.75	0.00	6.83	0.00	2.92	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	19.50
d) Netaji Subhash Sports Initiative	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
e) Sports Complex at Naranpura, Ahmedabad	0.00	292.00	0.00	204.00	0.00	88.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	584.00
2. Sports Competitions and Talent Development	112.30	0.00	112.30	0.00	112.30	0.00	112.30	0.00	112.30	0.00	561.50
a) Khelo India Games	22.00	0.00	22.00	0.00	22.00	0.00	22.00	0.00	22.00	0.00	110.00
b) Talent Identification & Development	90.00	0.00	90.00	0.00	90.00	0.00	90.00	0.00	90.00	0.00	450.00
c) Community Coaching Development	0.30	0.00	0.30	0.00	0.30	0.00	0.30	0.00	0.30	0.00	1.50
3. Khelo India Centres and Sports Academies	37.00	87.00	37.00	87.00	37.00	87.00	37.00	87.00	37.00	87.00	620.00
a) Khelo India Centres	25.00	75.00	25.00	75.00	25.00	75.00	25.00	75.00	25.00	75.00	500.00
b) Sports Academies	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	120.00
4. Fit India Movement	10.00	0.00	10.00	0.00	10.00	0.00	10.00	0.00	10.00	0.00	50.00
5. Promotion of Inclusiveness through Sports	10.00	0.00	10.00	0.00	10.00	0.00	10.00	0.00	10.00	0.00	50.00
a) Sports for Peace and Development	4.00	0.00	4.00	0.00	4.00	0.00	4.00	0.00	4.00	0.00	20.00
b) Sports for rural/indigenous/tribal	2.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	10.00
c) Sports for disabled sportspersons	2.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	10.00
d) Sports for Women	2.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	10.00
6. Monitoring	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	5.00
Total	170.30	1076.50	170.30	709.26	170.30	354.24	170.30	87.00	170.30	87.00	3165.50

(Note: R - Recurring, NR - Non-recurring) (in Rs Crore)

(Source : Gazette of India, Notification No. 40-1/MYAS/MDS/D/2020 dt 04 Mar 22)

Funds Utilisation for Implementation of the Khelo India Scheme

The budget implications for the Khelo India Scheme were spelt out in the Gazette Notification of 04 Mar 2022, were estimated figures. The details of actual funds utilised for the scheme since inception till 31 Dec 2023 have been extracted from the Annual Reports of MYAS. The details are tabulated and given out below:-

**Table No 4 : Budget Allocation and Utilization under Khelo India Scheme
Since Inception (Till 31.12.2023)**

Financial Year	Approved Allocation (in Rs Crore)		Actual Expenditure (as on 31.12.2023) (in Rs Crore)
	Budget Estimate	Revised Estimate	
2016-17	140.00	118.10	118.10
2017-18	350.00	350.00	346.99
2018-19	520.09	376.09	342.24
2019-20	500.00	578.00	575.52
2020-21	890.42	328.77	338.06
2021-22	657.71	869.00	764.29
2022-23	974.00	600.00	596.39
2023-24	1000.00	880.00	456.26

(Source : Govt of India, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Draft Annual Report 2023-24)

The Khelo India National Programme for Development of Sports aims at strengthening the entire sports eco-system to promote the twin objectives of the National Sports Policy (of broad basing of sports through mass participation and promotion of excellence in sports), through the scheme's verticals. The objective with which the Scheme has been launched and renewed, emphasizes the importance of promotion of sports and development of related infrastructure in the country. As such, keeping in view the significance of the scheme, the study has been conducted in a descriptive framework by taking up quantitative and qualitative data points. The promotion of sports and creation of the culture of sports are the instrumental signposts where the study articulates its meaning and deserves importance by taking up development of sports infrastructure in particular.

Layout of the Dissertation

The dissertation embarks on a comprehensive exploration of the Khelo India Scheme launched by the Government of India for meeting the objectives of the national Sports Policy in 2017 and revised thereafter in 2022. While doing so the Study focuses on the pivotal role played by sports infrastructures, and the Khelo India Centres in fostering a robust sports culture, promoting athletic proficiency and mass participation within the nation.

In the introductory chapter, an intricate overview of the Khelo India Programme is presented, elucidating its key components. The subsequent chapter delves into a thorough literature review, scrutinizing various reports, articles, and government documents to identify research gaps and establish a foundation for the study. Chapter three articulates the rationale, approach, objective of the study and also gives out the methods of data collection and analysis. Chapter four meticulously examines the scale, types, and year wise funding allocation for sports infrastructure created under the Khelo India scheme, since inception both

pan India and in Delhi state. The utility of these sports facilities & infrastructure in promoting sports is described in chapter five, while chapter six focuses on the critical roles played by Khelo India Centres and Sports Academies in broad-basing of sports at the grassroots level, nurturing and developing young talent and stimulating excellence in sports. This chapter also highlights the various sports disciplines supported by the program and the various categories of Khelo India games conducted under the scheme. Chapter seven undertakes a macro and micro analysis of the Khelo India Scheme, elucidating stakeholder feedback gathered through primary research tools such as questionnaires, personal meetings, and on-site visits to Sports Centres and SAI stadiums in Delhi Metropolis. The concluding chapter synthesises the findings and offers recommendations as constructive feedback for further improving the implementation and enhancing the effectiveness of the Scheme.

CHAPTER 2

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

“Wearing the victory well and learning from defeat is an important art that we learn in the sports field”⁵

- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi

The foundation of any research work rests upon a comprehensive understanding of existing literature. The review of studies and resources guide us to opt for an appropriate research direction and context based designing of the work undertaken. In this chapter, an attempt has been made to go through the available and relevant literature and research works undertaken on the subject and identify the gaps existing in study of the scheme. By critically analyzing the previous reports and articles on the topic, the current state of knowledge has come to fore thus throwing up areas for further exploration, and lay the groundwork for the contributions in this dissertation.

Literature review was carried out to identify, evaluate and interpret the work produced by researchers and scholars on the subject matter. Owing to the Khelo India Scheme being fairly recent, all reference data and published material accessible as open source on the Scheme is primarily confined to the Govt documents like the Operational Guidelines on the subject, the Gazette Notifications of the scheme. A few previous reports on the scheme have also been accessed by approaching the Department of Sports, MYAS and examined. In addition various articles in journals and newspapers have been scanned for undertaking the literature review.

⁵ PIB Delhi. (2022, April 24). [Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Khelo India University Games 2021]. Press Information Bureau. <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1819642>

The details of the literature survey carried out are enumerated in succeeding paragraphs.

Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (Department of Sports) Gazette Notification No. 29-1/MYAS/MDS/2017 dated 9th October 2017. This document issued in 2017 announced that “the the Cabinet at its meeting held on 20/09/2017 had approved the revamp of “Khelo India – National Programme for Development of Sports.” The Khelo India programme included playfield development; community coaching development; promotion of community sports; establishment of a strong sports competition structure at school, university level, rural/indigenous sports, sports for persons with disability and women sports. This programme further aimed to filling up of critical gaps in sports infrastructure, including creation of hubs of sports excellence in select universities; talent identification and development; support to sports academies; implementation of a national physical fitness drive for school children; and sports for peace and development”. The budget allocated for the scheme was Rs. 1,756 crore for the period 2017-18 to 2019-20. Being a Government Notification, there are no specific gaps in the document per se; however it recognises the need for promotion of sports with added focus on sports infrastructure as also the requirement of training young talent for excellence in sports and these aspects need to be studied further.

Study Report of Third Party Evaluation of the Khelo India Scheme - National Programme for Development of Sports, undertaken by Indian Institute of Public Administration, May 2018. The study commissioned by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports gives an independent evaluation of the scheme to assess whether the schemes are achieving the objectives for which these were introduced, whether the scheme need to be

continued and if so, whether these should be continued in current form or with some modifications. The study report gives an objective analysis of findings about the scheme and highlighted various gaps for improvement. The revised and currently ongoing scheme which is now being studied has addressed most of the recommendations of the Study Report and the pertinent gaps identified for further study are the progress of implementation of the new scheme with respect to creation of sports infrastructure, and setting up of Khelo India Centres.

‘Evaluation of the Khelo India Scheme 3’ under Evaluation Study of the Schemes of the Department of Sports : A Report by Society for Economic Development and Environmental Management (SEDEM), New Delhi, June 2020. The study contributed towards a better understanding of the functioning of Khelo India Scheme and offers recommendations to develop a result-oriented sporting environment in the country. The document gave out the need for reducing and merging verticals of the scheme in order to make it more focused to the youth. While it gives recommendations on various facets it does not study sports infrastructure in much detail. The research areas identified vide the report are focus on identification of sporting talent and coaching them in world class sports facilities.

“Evaluation Study of the Schemes of the Department of Sports – Evaluation of Khelo India Scheme 3” prepared by Society For Economic Development And Environmental Management, New Delhi, June 2020. This report contributes towards a better understanding of the functioning of Khelo India Scheme and has given recommendations to develop a result-oriented sporting environment in the country. The study is however of the erstwhile scheme and many issues brought out have been addressed in the

revised scheme. The areas identified for further study include creation / upgradation of sports infrastructure and role of Khelo India Centres in promotion of sports.

Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (Department of Sports) Gazette Notification No. 40-1/MYAS/MDS/2020 dated 4th March, 2022. Vide this Notification the extension/continuation of the Khelo India Scheme from 2021-22 to 2025- 26 was announced, for development of sports, over the 15th Finance Commission Cycle (2021-22 to 2025-26) at an outlay of ₹ 3165.50 Crore. While the basic objectives, vision and structure of the extant Khelo India Scheme were retained, however the components of the Scheme were rearranged and rationalized, thus condensing the twelve existing components into five components in the revised Khelo India Scheme (2021-22 to 2025-26) giving out renewed focus areas. Being a Government Notification, there are no identifiable gaps in the document.

Operational Guidelines of the Components under Revised Khelo India Scheme (2021-22 to 2025-26) issued by Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (Department of Sports) dated 14 Dec 2022. This 112 pages document gives out the operational guidelines of the revised Khelo India Scheme for information and appropriate action by States/UTs, SAI and other stakeholders. It lays down the aims and objectives of the scheme and explains the components of the revised scheme as also the monitoring mechanism of the programme. Being operational guidelines, there are no identifiable gaps in the document as such.

“Creating Intellectual Heritage – Development, Knowledge Resource and Making New India : A Report on Sports and Rising India – Khelo India and Fit India” prepared by The Central University of Himachal Pradesh, Dharamshala & Lakshmibai

Nationa Institute of Physical Education, Gwalior, Feb 2023. The report gives out the performance and impact of the Sports and Rising India with sub-themes of Khelo India and Fit India programme under “Creating Intellectual Heritage” initiative of Govt of India. The study gives out the facets of the Khelo India Scheme and offers recommendations on each component of the scheme. The gaps and areas identified for further study include role, types and scale of creating sports infrastructure and role of sports academies in promotion of sports.

Effect of Khelo India Programme in Spotting Culture and School Children’s of India by Pintu Debnath, (Journal of Advances in Science and Technology, Vol 16, Issue No 1, March 2019). The article highlights the objective of the Khelo India programme to build a strong framework for all sports played in our country and promote sports regardless of gender, race, or other differentiating factors. It brings out inclusive nature of sports and the Scheme, however it does not describe the support of the Centre to States for various components of the scheme.

Standing Committee Report Summary : Khelo India Scheme, Article by Anya Bharat Ram. (PRS Legislative Research, Institute for Policy Research Studies, Dec 24, 2019). The article gives out the key observations and recommendations of the report on the Khelo India scheme submitted by the Standing Committee on Human Resource Development (Chair: Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya) on December 10, 2019. It summarises the suggestions of the Committee on aspects of administration, utilization of funds, talent identification, coaching, sports infrastructure and education for improving the scheme. Being a Report, there are no specifically identifiable research gaps in the documents

Conceptual Framework for Redesigning the Sports Policy of India by AK Shirotriya. (International Research Journal of Physical Education, Health Education, and Sports Sciences. 8(1), 27-37, Jan 2019). The article is pitched at the conceptual level and highlights the requirement of a concrete sports policy to achieve results in international sporting events. The author also stresses that government should organize regular workshops to interact with stakeholders to refine sports policy and any attempt to assess the effectiveness of sports policy work be appreciated and encouraged. However, the Khelo India scheme as such has not been analysed by the paper against the recommendations offered by the author.

Sports Infrastructure: A Study of Sports Ecosystem in India by YK Kharade. (Think India (Quarterly Journal), 20 Dec 2019). This paper examines the requirement of sports infrastructure advancement in India and the different hurdles that hinder its development. It recommends the designation and usage of SSZs, encouraging PPPs and technological upgrades to sports facilities, to achieve national long-term objectives. However, the methods of talent identification and role of professional training have not been enmeshed with sports infrastructure as part of a sports eco-system.

Sports Infrastructure in India by RR William and SG Kirubakar (International Journal of Physiology, Nutrition and Physical Education, SP1: 42-46, 2019). This paper examines the state of sports infrastructure in the country and proposes a plausible guide for its improvement. The paper suggests financial and policy support for sensible improvement of metropolitan sports infrastructure in a city. It also proposes expanded budgetary allocation and utilization of PPP for infrastructure advancement. The article is conceptual & well articulated but does not give any empirical data or statistics to support the recommendations.

Khelo India Youth Games : A Springboard for Olympic Gold by G Singh, (University News, 58(09), March 02-08, 2020). This paper brings to fore the relevance of the Khelo India scheme to boost sports culture in India. It describes the main focus and thrust areas of the programme. It highlights the significance of scientific approach to promote sports and train sportspersons to include psychological preparation and nutrition based on genetic factors. The article also offers recommendations for making the Khelo India scheme a grand success. On the other hand, the study is rather silent about need of developing infrastructure and the role played by this component in preparation for sports competitions.

Play India Youth Games (Khelo India) : Scheme for Promotion of Sports in India by G Singh and A Bali, (Indian Journal of Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy, April-June 2020, Vol. 14, No. 02, 61-66). This paper describes the details of the Khelo India scheme such to include its objective, components, infrastructure, administration, financial implications and monitoring mechanisms. However, it does not bring out any analysis of the scheme nor the role of Khelo India centers' for promotion of sports.

As Tokyo Olympics Approach, a Look at India's Sporting Potential by R Bhattacharyya et al. (The Wire, 25 to 29 Jun 2021). The authors over a series of five consecutive articles pub in 'The Wire' over five days have done an in-depth analysis and expressed their views on the following questions: Does a sporting culture exist in India? Have professional leagues in various sports helped increase mass participation? How has the current governance and administration structure of sports in India impacted our performance? How other stakeholders such as NGOs can help popularise sports at the grassroots level and

work towards providing ample opportunities for all sections of society. The articles look for reasons for lack of sporting culture and suggest that a new model of corporate governance with accountability and transparency needs to be built into the system of sports governance in India. However, the five articles have neither critically examined nor factually analysed the Khelo India scheme or any of its components, per se.

Sport policy in India by J Clarke and S Mondal (International Journal of Sport Policy and Politics, 27 Sep 2022). This paper provides a detailed insight into the vast sporting ecosystem in India by exploring the policies, enablers, and barriers in relation to sports participation. The study highlights that given India's population, growing economy and heritage of sport, greater depth in research regarding its sport policy, effectiveness of sport and physical activity programmes is needed.

Schemes for Sports Development in India by J Bhatti. (www.geeksforgeeks.org dated 30 Sep 2022) This paper plainly lists out the various schemes for sports development in India, the achievements of India in sports and a few challenges of India in Sports, which as per the author are more from their environment rather than from their adversaries in sports. It concludes that India will need to invest substantially in developing a cutting-edge infrastructure, incorporate best global practices in sports training, sports medicine, giving adequate attention to all major sports to become a leading sports nation. The shift must start in primary education and educational system be changed to give sports equal weightage in a child's overall upbringing. The article has however, not analysed nor brought out the utility or usefulness of the schemes listed out towards promotion of sports in India.

Comparing Indian Sports Infrastructure with the Rest of the World by K Mahtoliya. (www.kreedon.com dated 27 Feb 2023). This paper highlights that the vital role any country's infrastructure plays to excel in sports. It describes a good sports infrastructure as a backbone of a healthy and successful sports industry which encourages young population of a country to participate in different sports events. However, there is no data or report in the article to substantiate the same.

Analysing the impact of Khelo India Program on Training and Nurturing of talent in Northeast Region of India by MS Parmar, KK Sahu and P Roy, (International Journal of Physical Education, Sports and Health 2023). The purpose of this study was to analyse the impact of Khelo India program on the training and nurturing of talent in North East region of India. On the basis of results and findings it was concluded that Khelo India program is responsible for development of training and nurturing of talent in Northeast region of India. However, the implication of sports infrastructure in training of sportspersons has not been researched by the authors in the paper.

The Impact of Coaching and Training Programs on Athlete's Development in India - Case Study of Successful Sports Academies by A Bhatti (www.kreedon.com dated 08 Apr 2023). This paper examines the impact of coaching and training programs in sports on athlete's development in India. It also brings out the importance of sports academies in India, however the implications of development of sports infrastructure for the same has not been addressed adequately in the paper.

Taking Sports to New Heights: The Finest Sports Infrastructure Company in India by S Deshpande (www.kreedon.com dated 08 Jun 2023). This article delves into the realm of Indian sports infrastructure and highlights the top eight companies that are revolutionizing the sports landscape. However, aspects of talent identification and role of professional training have not been enmeshed with sports infrastructure as part of the article.

Game-Changing Revolution: Unveiling the Remarkable Development of Sports Infrastructure in India by K Mahtoliya (www.kreedon.com dated 27 Jun 2023). This paper brings out the significant strides in sports infrastructure development in India that have contributed to significant growth and transformative impact on the sports industry leading to the promoting a culture of sportsmanship and overall development of the nation. The author feels that India has the potential to become a global sports hub, producing world-class athletes, hosting international events, and attracting investments from domestic and international stakeholders, however the funding required or the manner of utilization of allotted funds have not been analysed in the article.

Overview of Sports Challenges and Policies in India by B Pradeep (www.kautilya.org.in). The author believes that existing Indian sports governance paradigm lacks accountability and transparency, creating a climate susceptible to poor asset management and widespread corruption. The article states the need to develop policies to encourage students participation in sporting events and competitions at the university level, as also persuading media to improve public perceptions of sports and games. However there is no assessment done regarding perceptions of the community towards physical education and sports.

In summary, the results of the review of literature undertaken drew up a few gaps which are viable topics of research work on the Scheme. The major aspects relate to studying the role played by creation of sports infrastructure and Khelo India Centres and Sports academies in promotion of sports as also ascertaining scale of participation in sports in India. The above two facets have been studied, details of which are given in succeeding chapters.

CHAPTER 3

SETTING UP OF THE WORK UNDERTAKEN

“Khelega India – Khilega India”

Overview

This study intends to explore two important components of the Khelo India Scheme related to creation of sports infrastructure and setting up of Khelo India Centres and sports academies. The topic was proposed after undertaking a detailed literature review and several rounds of in-house discussion with my Guide. The research proposal was refined and presented to the faculty of IIPA, New Delhi and views of the learned scholars were incorporated to improve the proposal catalysing improved strategic findings.

The detailed rationale of the study, statement of problem, research Objectives, research questions, research strategy, method and design and data sources are elaborated upon in the ensuing text.

Rationale or Justification for Undertaking the Study

Sports are a particularly important element towards overall development of the Nation. Not only does it have the ability to channelise the energy of youth in a productive manner, but it also goes a long way to build camaraderie and foster the spirit of sportsmanship amongst all citizens. Sports have the power to transform a nation. It has the potential to showcase individual personalities on the one hand and place the country on the

global map as a collective sporting superpower, on the other. There is tremendous national pride and bonding attached to success in sports and victories achieved in sporting events cohesively unites the nation beyond caste, creed, and religion and propels the citizens to build a happier and healthier society.

India's young demographic advantage also holds the promise of a large pool of sporting talent that can be nurtured to represent India at the world stage. Sports are a type of soft power which can showcase and project India to fame at the global level. In the words of the Hon'ble Prime Minister, "The image of a country is not just about economic and military strength. The soft face of a country also makes a difference. Sports is one such soft power which can capture the world's attention to India."

We also need to inculcate a strong spirit of participation in sports by the general public. This will not only ensure a 'Fit India' but also a 'Well Knit India'. In order to inspire the youth to realise & demonstrate their true sporting potential, it is imperative that they are provided with top-notch infrastructure and the highest level of professional training.

The Khelo India Scheme was introduced to revive sports culture in India at the grass-root level and has been tailor-made with the twin aim of mass participation in sports and promoting excellence in sports. A large quantum of public funds has been allocated by the government for implementing the scheme. As such it is significant that the details of the scheme and results achieved by the policies be researched and studied in detail.

The study on the Khelo India scheme's infrastructure development component is of paramount importance as it will provide evidence-based insights into the effectiveness of government initiatives in enhancing sports infrastructure, which is critical not only for nurturing sporting talent but also for hosting national and international sporting events. Findings from this study can be of use for resource allocation reviews, policy matters, and

strategic planning to further enhance sports infrastructure across India. Improved sports infrastructure can have far-reaching positive effects, including promoting a culture of sports, boosting public health, and generating economic opportunities.

The study of role of Khelo India Centres and sporting academies will highlight the true status of their efficacy and utility and bring to fore any shortcomings in curriculum or outreach or administration which need to be addressed to improve the levels of training and facilities being provided to the sportspersons and participating athletes. The study will also serve as an academic repository for further work on the subject.

Statement of The Problem

The enunciated vision statement of the Khelo India Scheme (which is the National Programme for Development of Sports) for the period 2021-22 to 2025-26 is “to infuse a sports culture and achieve sporting excellence in the country”.

The Khelo India national programme for development of sports aims at strengthening the entire sports eco-system to promote the twin objectives of the national sports policy (of broad basing of sports through mass participation and promotion of excellence in sports), through the scheme’s verticals.

Two primary components of the Scheme include Creation and Upgradation of Sports Infrastructure and Setting up of Khelo India Centres and Sports Academies, to meet the intended purpose of the programme.

It is thus significant to study the Khelo India Scheme with respect to the role played by infrastructure development and the Khelo India Centres towards promotion of sports in the country.

Research Objectives

1. To study the scale and types of sports infrastructure created under the Khelo India Scheme,
2. To study the utility of sports infrastructure in promotion of sports,
3. To study the role of the Khelo India Centres / Sports Academies in encouraging participation in sports, and
4. To identify challenges, if any, in the Khelo India Scheme & suggest measures thereof.

Research Strategy and Design

The approach for the study is positivist and the research design stands out as a blend of exploratory and descriptive designs. The study has captured and utilised the relevant secondary data, as available in open domain, to surface the research. In addition, the study has also described the sports infrastructure at the primary level in the entire country and Delhi Metropolis. The research design has taken into consideration the interpretative financial data points. The experience and feedback of the users have also been suitably placed while also applying observations. As such, the research design has taken holistic view of the subject by interpreting its various dimensions relevant to creation of sports infrastructure as also the role of Khelo India centres and sports academies under the Khelo India Scheme.

Research Questions

1. What is the scale of sports infrastructure created under the Khelo India Scheme?
2. What are the types of sports infrastructure created through the said Scheme?
3. What is the utility/role of sports infrastructure in the promotion of sports?

4. Have the Khelo India Centres and other sports academies/ training institutions scaled up participation in sports?
5. What are the major issues and challenges in implementation and penetration of the Khelo India Scheme?

Limitations

The Khelo India Scheme being fairly recent, having been rolled out in 2017-18, there is dearth of published books/documents. Limited previously conducted researches' documents were found, given the fact that all reference data and published material accessible as open source on the scheme are primarily confined to the Operational Guidelines of the Scheme, the Gazette Notifications of the scheme and a few articles in journals and newspapers. Owing to the vastness of the subject and applicability of the programme at pan India level, it is rather difficult to individually address all aspects of the scheme in the work undertaken. Apropos, this scope of the study is planned to be limited to two components of the Khelo India Scheme, viz. Creation and Upgradation of Infrastructure and Khelo India Centres and Sports Academies. Further, due to paucity of time and resources, the primary source study on the aforesaid objectives is limited to Delhi Metropolis.

Research Methods and Data Sources

The methods applied in this research will follow a mixed method approach using both primary and secondary data to ensure qualitative findings with quantitative inputs. The study has been conducted in a positivist frame of reference wherein the unit of study/enquiry is subjected to observation, in-depth discussion and quantitative feedback of stakeholders. Data

interpretation was undertaken by applying relevant statistical tools and techniques as also by due examination and analysis of the inputs obtained.

The study was conducted using four kinds of research tools, namely, questionnaire, observation, in-depth discussion, and group interactions. The tools used in the study captured both quantitative and qualitative data points. The questionnaire provided the responses of users in quantitative terms, whereas observations, in-depth discussions and group interaction provided qualitative aspects of the scheme's outreach vis-a-vis implementation, with special reference to infrastructure creation in Delhi metropolis under the Khelo India Scheme.

Primary sources also included interactions with key stakeholders in the Department of Sports, MYAS, SAI, administrators of sports academies, and PCAs/coaches at the Khelo India Centres, besides the participating athletes in the KICs, and sports academies. Views were solicited from coaches and athletes through a semi-structured questionnaire with both close and open-ended questions. A total of 40 questions were placed in the questionnaire, categorically representing the socio-economic background of respondents and the benefits received from the Khelo India Scheme.

The secondary sources have been the study of unclassified documents and official documents/ statements/ data of the Government of India. In addition, the available articles and documents published on the subject have been used for the research. The study attempts to arrive at evidence based objective findings after views from various agencies and sources are duly considered and incorporated.

CHAPTER 4

SCALE AND TYPES OF SPORTS INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE KHELO INDIA SCHEME

“Holistic approach and 100 percent dedication are the key requirements of success in sports and life”⁶

- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi

Introduction

The component of ‘Creation & Upgradation of Sports Infrastructure’ under this Scheme aims at creating and upgrading sports infrastructure throughout the country by providing capital to States/ UTs, the Sports Authority of India (SAI) under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports and other eligible entities such as Central/State educational institutions, Defence/Paramilitary organizations, etc. to create modern sports infrastructure as well as to improve existing sports related infrastructure. Grants-in-aid will also be provided for sports science and sports equipment.

Details of the component were well spelt out in the Gazette Notification of 04 Mar 2022 and amplified in the Operational guidelines of the scheme issued by the department of Sports, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports. Pertinent aspects are mentioned in the succeeding paragraphs.

⁶ PIB Delhi. (2022, April 24). [Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Khelo India University Games 2021]. Press Information Bureau. <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1819642>

The Scheme envisages providing support to a wide range of sports infrastructure projects, both Greenfield and Brownfield projects, provided they aim at bridging critical gaps in sports infrastructure and meet existing demands. The purpose primarily being as under:-

- Creation of Sports Infrastructure for All.
- To increase the per capita availability of infrastructure for the general public at large.
- Developing critical sports infrastructure at State level by providing financial assistance.

The sports infrastructure will be offered to States/UTs and other eligible entities with critical gaps in the existing infrastructure and having capacity to utilise the same. Under this component, grants-in-aid will also be provided to Central and State Universities recognized by University Grants Commission (UGC) for creation and upgradation of sports infrastructure and purchase of sports equipment. Ministry of Education will also be requested to have Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports included in the University Grants Commission Steering Committee for Sports in Universities.

Convergence among different schemes of Government of India/State/UT, CSR/Public/Private/Corporate Sponsorships is encouraged for the creation of sports infrastructure.

Khelo India Scheme has also been converged with Members of Parliament Local Area Development (MPLAD) Scheme. Members of Parliament may contribute from their MPLAD funds for all items admissible under MPLAD Scheme. As a result of this, if a Member of

Parliament contributes at least 50% of the grant admissible for an individual project under the scheme, a matching grant is released by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports. PPP is also encouraged to create sporting infrastructure.

The States/UTs have also been requested to consider making a similar provision in their respective Member of Legislative Assembly Local Area Development (MLALAD) Schemes so as to enable a Member of Legislative Assembly to contribute from out of his MLALAD funds for the development of sports infrastructure in the respective States/UTs.

As per the Gazette Notification on the subject, the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports will be given priority for usage of the sports infrastructure created under this Scheme, whenever required. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in this regard will be signed between the Ministry and the grantee. Besides, it will also be ensured that the grantee also utilises the infrastructure judiciously. During free time, facilities would be available for use to schools, colleges, neighbourhood communities and sports associations.

Development of playgrounds in gram panchayats as well as in schools owned by the Central and State Governments is also an area of attention under this Scheme. Support is provided for development of modern playgrounds having change rooms, drinking water facilities, toilet facilities (separately for women and men), etc. in convergence with the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) and any other scheme(s) of the State Government/Central Government. Suitable grant per playground is admissible on receipt of request through the State/UT Government for this purpose.

A national inventory of playfields and sports infrastructure has also been prepared on a Geographic Information System (GIS) platform for their optimum utilisation. The database is being created and maintained by the Department of Sports.

The Gazette also laid down that grants-in-aid up to ₹ 100 crore only may be given for the development of sports infrastructure in the States/UTs of Gujarat, Manipur, Nagaland, Odisha, West Bengal, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Delhi to commemorate the 125th birth centenary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose during the course of the year 2021-22.

In order to provide for world-class sports infrastructure facilities to the sports-persons of the country, an amount of Rs.1879 Crore was earmarked for funding the creation and upgradation of sports infrastructure and bridge the critical infrastructure gaps as also ensure the development of playfields in the country.

The entities eligible to receive assistance for creation and up-gradation of sports infrastructure under this Scheme include:-

- State Governments/State Sports Council/State Sports Authority, State Schools/Universities through Department of Sports of the States/UTs.
- School, Colleges and Universities under Central Government.
- Sports Control Boards of different Central Ministries, Defence/Paramilitary organisations, Sports Authority of India (SAI).
- Other autonomous bodies under the Central Government.

Types of Infrastructure to be Funded and Disciplines Addressed

The categories of sports infrastructure for the purpose of providing grant-in-aid and the maximum admissible grant for each category under the Khelo India Scheme will be as under:-

Table No 5 : Categories of Sports Infrastructure under Khelo India Scheme

S No.	Particulars	Maximum Admissible Grant (₹ Crore)
1	Synthetic Athletic Track (8 Lane)	9.50
	Synthetic Athletic Track (4 Lane)	6.50
2	Synthetic Hockey Field	6.50
	Synthetic Hockey Field with Lighting	8.00
	Natural Hockey Field	2.60
3	Natural Football Field	3.20
	Synthetic Football Turf	6.00
4	Multipurpose Hall of size 60M x 40M x 12.5M with facilities for Badminton, Volleyball, Judo, Wrestling, Handball, Kabaddi, etc.	14.00
5	Multipurpose Hall of size 40M x 20M x 9.0M with facilities for Badminton, Volleyball, Basketball (as per respective federation guidelines) including sub base	11.83
6	Multipurpose Hall of size 36.0M x 20.0M x 9.0M with Built-up area 1000 sqm with changing room and toilets	7.50
7	Multipurpose Hall of size 18.5M x 17.5M x 7.5M with Built-up area 450 sqm with changing room and toilets	3.00
8	Multipurpose Hall of size 17.5M x 10M x 7.5M with Built-up area 275 sqm with changing room and toilets	1.75
9	Swimming Pool (25M X 25M) 3.50	3.50
	Swimming Pool (50M X 25M) 6.50	6.50
	Swimming Pool (all weather) 8.00	8.00
10	Lawn Tennis Court 1.50	1.50
11	Archery Range 1.50	1.50
12	Squash Court 6.00	6.00

(Source : Dept of Sports, Khelo India Scheme Operational Guidelines dt 14 Dec 2022)

The costs given above are based on 2021 rates. Any increase in funding required of the project over and above the maximum admissible grant is to be borne by the project proponent. A list of specifications in respect of the sports facilities mentioned above is also given out in the Operational Guidelines.

Construction of a Multi-Sports Complex and Human Performance and Recovery Laboratory will be decided by the Ministry after taking into account the various facilities available in a State/UT. The Multi-Sports Complex may include the following: -

- Multipurpose Indoor Halls for Indoor games.
- Indoor Stadium including Swimming Pool Complex.
- Outdoor Stadium with spectator galleries and elite facilities.
- Courts for sports like Tennis, Squash, Basketball, Volleyball, etc.
- Provision of FIFA standard Natural Turf in Football Grounds.
- Sports academies and training centres including hostels for sportspersons.

The items mentioned above are only indicative and any sports infrastructure other than those cited above will also be permissible under the Khelo India Scheme. In many cases hostels are being constructed under the scheme to accommodate athletes in the sports academies and other training institutes. The approximate funding provided by MYAS for a 300 bedded hostel is Rs 25 Crore. Sports infrastructure facilities may be provided at the block/sub-district areas at a lesser scale which will be evaluated by the PAC after assessing each proposal.

The operational guidelines lays down that all applications for development of sports infrastructure projects will have to include an action plan clearly demonstrating participation, especially community participation in the vicinity will be increased through the proposed project(s).

Proposals for projects will also be judged based on their potential for inclusiveness, i.e., being user-friendly, enabling the participation of women, person with disabilities, etc. and potential for multi-use demonstrating empathy and affinity between humans and infrastructure. Emphasis will also be given for collaboration with various stakeholders including educational institutions, community groups, and sports bodies as well as environmental sustainability and areas which have experienced natural disasters such as flood and drought, similar importance will also be given with strong demand for sports facilities due to popularity of one or more sports disciplines or strong population growth or significant change in circumstances (e.g.economic challenges) will be given priority.

All sports infrastructure facilities need to have changing rooms, toilet facilities, and drinking water facilities – separately for men, women, and persons with disabilities. If this facility is already available it will be attempted to upgrade the same through convergence with other applicable schemes in the State/UT.

Assessment of Proposals

Each State/Union Territory gets projects in a year based on their population, percentage of youth participation, and achievements at the National/International level. Allotment of projects depends on the merit of the projects received from the proponent State/UT, subject to receipt of valid proposals, fulfilling all the criteria laid down in the Operational Guidelines and accuracy of DPR.

All infrastructure constructed by MYAS is to be accessible to all, including the aged, the pregnant, and persons with disabilities and follow harmonized Guidelines of Accessible Sports Complex and Residential Facilities for Sportspersons with Disabilities” conceptualized as per International Standards and issued by the Department of Sports, MYAS.

In order to ensure optimum utilization of the existing infrastructure and simultaneously generating adequate revenues letting out the existing sports infrastructure to private bodies can be undertaken. However, athletes with proven success at state, national and international level will be allowed to use these facilities free of cost in addition to the schedule for sportspersons from weaker sections for using the infrastructure at nominal cost.

All proposals received from the eligible entities are examined in MYAS (MD-SD, i.e., Mission Directorate - Sports Development). A report on Sports Utility Angle in respect of valid proposals received is sought from SAI within 15 days from the receipt of the proposal.

All the proposals are appraised by the appropriate Project Appraisal Committees (PAC) from administrative, financial, and utility angles along with the past performance of the agency. The recommendations of the PAC are placed before the Departmental Project Approval Committee (DPAC) headed by the Secretary (Sports), Department of Sports, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (MYAS), Government of India, for approval of the projects and subsequent periodic monitoring.

Playfield Development

Playfield may be developed in the convergence of other schemes by States/UT at Gram Panchayat Level. The funding for this purpose may be met out of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGA), Border Area Development Programme (BADP), District Mineral Fund and other schemes under which the development of playfields is an authorized scheme of expenditure. The States/UT may utilise financial resources either from state Government schemes or from any Central Government scheme. For Example, a modern playground will have change rooms, drinking water facilities, bio-toilets, etc. provision exists under the Swachh Bharat Mission of the Government of India for

the construction of toilet facilities. Funds under that scheme may be utilized for the construction of toilet facilities on the playground premises.

Development of playfields up to the district level should have change rooms, a drinking water facility and bio-toilets for both boys and girls. All the playfields should have proper fencing (up to 6ft. height) and an efficient drainage system. Grant is only given to upgrade or maintain playfields fulfilling the specification mentioned above. A suitable grant per playground may be given on receipt of request through the State/UT Government for this purpose. Standards of playfield/informal play areas to be developed by adopting International norms and best practices. Setting up of Subsidiary Statutory body/Committee will be done by the respective Sports Department of State/UT.

As part of the Development of Play Fields a National inventory of play fields and sports infrastructure is being prepared on a Geographic Information System (GIS) platform for their optimum utilisation and a total of 13682 play fields have already been geo-tagged. *(Source : MYAS Annual Report 2022-23)*

Geo-Tagging of Sports Infrastructure

A National inventory of playfields and sports infrastructure has been prepared on a Geographic Information System (GIS) platform for their optimum utilisation and a strong institutionalized mechanism for preserving, protecting, developing and promoting playfields is being ensured. The Department of Sports of all States/UTs formulate mechanisms to have proper control over them. The compilation of geo-tagged sports infrastructure data is done through assistance from multiple stakeholders like Central / Autonomous bodies, State machinery through municipal corporations or District Collectorates, PSU's, schools, colleges, and other similar entities. The database created is maintained by Ministry of Youth Affairs

and Sports. All the data pertaining to sports facilities/ infrastructure, and playfields has been put in the public domain on a website created by the Department of Sports and the data is regularly reviewed and updated.

As part of the plan, in due course of time, the campaign would invite the public at large to “suggest a playfield” for geo-tagging based on crowd sourcing through which citizens can map/geolocate the available assets in an area using mobile or web applications along with their associated attributes. The public will be encouraged to use this portal for easy access to the playfield. The information gathered in the portal shall be used for the allotment of funds under the infrastructure component as well.

The implementation of Geo-tagging within the Khelo India Scheme is a significant achievement in leveraging technology to streamline processes and enhance accessibility in the sports sector. These initiatives can greatly contribute to better organization, management, and participation in sporting activities across the country. Additionally, Geo-tagging facilitates transparency and accountability in the utilization of funds allocated for sports development, as it allows stakeholders to monitor progress and assess the impact of investments in real-time. Overall, the implementation of a Geo-tagging system within the Khelo India scheme marks a significant step towards fostering a culture of sports excellence and promoting active lifestyles nationwide.

Creation and Upgradation of Sports Infrastructure

The Khelo India Scheme aims at creating and upgrading sports infrastructure throughout the country by providing support to a wide variety of sports infrastructure projects, both Greenfield and Brownfield projects, so long as they aim at bridging critical gaps in sports infrastructure to meet existing demands.

Pan India Sports Infrastructure Projects & Funding Sanctioned in Khelo India Scheme

Under the Khelo India Scheme, a total of 307 new sports infrastructure projects (185 complete and 122 ongoing) have been approved in 32 States / Union Territories at a total sanctioned cost of ₹ 2974.55 crore. Under the component of 'Creation and Upgradation of Sports Infrastructure' the Govt. renders financial support for creation of sports infrastructure, such as Synthetic Athletic Track, Synthetic Hockey Field, Synthetic Turf Football Ground, Multipurpose Hall, Swimming Pool, Playground etc. The details are as follows:-

Table No 6 : State Wise Details of Sports Infrastructure Projects & Funds under Khelo India Scheme

S. No.	State / UT	Total No. of Projects	Amount Sanctioned (in ₹ Crore)	Amount Released (in ₹ Crore)	Amount Remaining (in ₹ Crore)
1	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	Andhra Pradesh	8	41.62	21.91	19.71
3	Arunachal Pradesh	21	180.68	148.91	31.77
4	Assam	8	47.68	42.68	5.00
5	Bihar	9	36.42	20.50	15.92
6	Chandigarh	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
7	Chhattisgarh	4	20.65	17.85	2.80
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
9	Delhi	8	88.68	55.28	33.40
10	Goa	1	4.24	4.24	0.00
11	Gujarat	5	606.37	307.38	298.99
12	Haryana	10	89.85	64.92	24.93
13	Himachal Pradesh	8	191.57	10.98	180.60
14	Jammu and Kashmir	5	27.74	20.84	6.90
15	Jharkhand	4	26.38	4.15	22.23

S. No.	State / UT	No. of Projects	Amount Sanctioned (in ₹ Crore)	Amount Released (in ₹ Crore)	Amount Remaining (in ₹ Crore)
16	Karnataka	20	134.50	99.10	35.40
17	Kerala	5	62.58	37.41	25.17
18	Ladakh	3	17.28	13.02	4.26
19	Lakshadweep	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
20	Madhya Pradesh	17	101.26	71.08	30.18
21	Maharashtra	14	117.82	72.47	45.35
22	Manipur	8	80.45	46.71	33.74
23	Meghalaya	6	28.00	8.27	19.74
24	Mizoram	7	39.00	31.73	7.27
25	Nagaland	8	48.00	43.30	4.70
26	Odisha	5	55.23	27.25	27.98
27	Puducherry	2	12.00	8.00	4.00
28	Punjab	11	96.71	76.23	20.48
29	Rajasthan	48	125.09	102.94	22.15
30	Sikkim	5	25.84	24.64	1.20
31	Tamil Nadu	5	29.50	20.40	9.10
32	Telangana	6	23.58	17.77	5.81
33	Tripura	7	38.34	23.94	14.39
34	Uttar Pradesh	30	501.79	424.80	76.99
35	Uttarakhand	6	31.28	23.78	7.50
36	West Bengal	3	44.42	10.44	33.98
	Total	307	2974.55	1902.92	1071.63

(Source : Govt of India, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Annual Report)

Further, under this component, 15 new sports infrastructure projects have been approved in 13 States / Union Territories, at a total sanctioned cost of ₹ 127.64 crore. The details are as follows:-

Table No 7 : Details of New Sports Infrastructure Projects Approved under Khelo India Scheme

S.No.	State / UT	No. of Projects	Amount Sanctioned (in ₹ Crore)
1	Andhra Pradesh	1	9.50
2	Assam	1	4.50
3	Haryana	1	8.00
4	Jharkhand	2	16.00
5	Karnataka	1	7.76
6	Maharashtra	1	7.50
7	Mizoram	1	4.50
8	Nagaland	1	3.00
9	Odisha	1	27.23
10	Punjab	1	10.00
11	Rajasthan	1	4.50
12	Uttarakhand	1	7.50
13	West Bengal	2	17.65
	Total	15	127.64

(Source : Govt of India, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Annual Report)

Types of Sports Infrastructure Projects Sanctioned & Completed Pan India Under Khelo India Scheme - State Wise Details:

Various types of sports infrastructures have been created under the Khelo India scheme. Pan India, a total of **307 new sports infrastructure projects** were **sanctioned** in 32 States / Union Territories at a total sanctioned cost of ₹ 2974.55 Crore. The different types of sports infrastructure approved for creation or upgradation under the Scheme include the following:-

- 116 x Multipurpose Halls.
- 52 x Athletic Tracks.
- 22 x Football Fields.
- 28 x Hockey Fields.
- 16 x Swimming Pools.
- 17 x Hostels and accommodation facilities.
- 20 x Playgrounds.
- 36x Other types of infrastructure to include
 - 2 x Archery Ranges.
 - 3 x Shooting Ranges.
 - 1 x Ice Hockey Rink.
 - 1 x Fencing Hall.
 - 1 x Tennis Court.
 - 1 x Wrestling Hall.
 - 27 Upgradation related projects.

The above mentioned 307 sports infrastructure projects, are spread out at various locations across the country. The projects have been allotted based on the

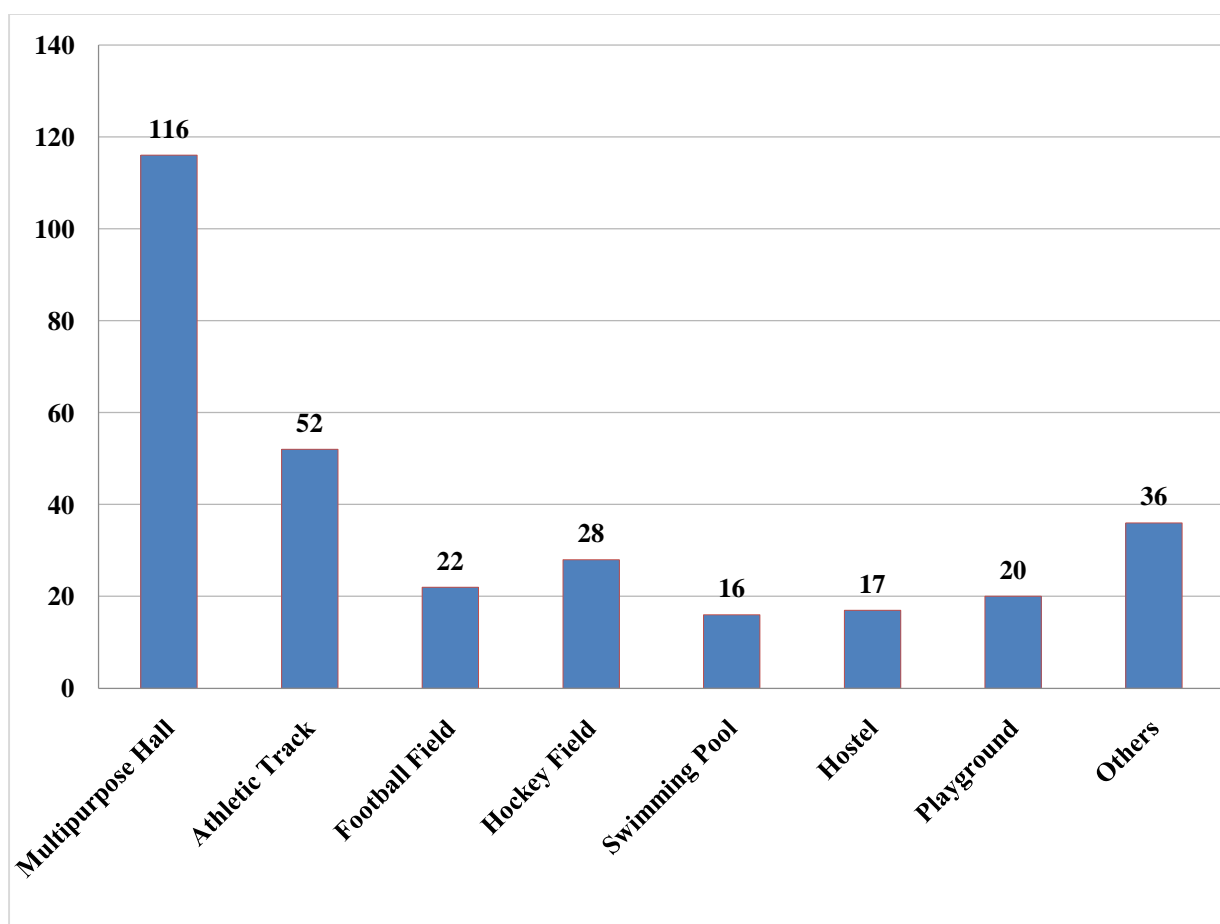
requirement projected by respective states and their typical sporting culture. The details of various types of sports infrastructure in each State/UT is tabulated below:-

Table No 8 : State Wise Details of Sanctioned Sports Infrastructure Projects under Khelo India Scheme

S. No	State / UT	MP Hall	Athletic Track	Football Field	Hockey Field	Swim Pool	Hostel	Play ground	Others	Total
1	A & N Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	Andhra Pradesh	5	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	8
3	Arunachal Pradesh	19	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	21
4	Assam	1	2	0	2	0	0	0	3	8
5	Bihar	5	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	9
6	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	Chhattisgarh	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	4
8	Dadra Nagar Haveli, Daman Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	Delhi	0	1	0	1	0	4	0	2	8
10	Goa	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
11	Gujarat	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	5
12	Haryana	3	2	0	2	1	1	0	1	10
13	Himachal Pradesh	4	2	0	1	0	0	0	1	8
14	J & K	1	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	5
15	Jharkhand	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	4
16	Karnataka	9	3	1	3	1	1	0	2	20
17	Kerala	0	4	0	0	0	1	0	0	5
18	Ladakh	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	3
19	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20	Madhya Pradesh	1	4	0	1	2	1	0	8	17
21	Maharashtra	3	1	0	2	2	3	0	3	14
22	Manipur	1	0	4	0	1	1	1	0	8
23	Meghalaya	4	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	6
24	Mizoram	1	0	5	1	0	0	0	0	7
25	Nagaland	5	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	8
26	Odisha	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	5
27	Puducherry	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
28	Punjab	4	2	0	2	0	2	0	1	11
29	Rajasthan	15	4	0	2	0	0	18	9	48
30	Sikkim	2	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	5
31	Tamil Nadu	0	4	0	0	1	0	0	0	5
32	Telangana	0	4	0	0	1	0	0	1	6
33	Tripura	0	2	3	1	1	0	0	0	7
34	Uttar Pradesh	24	2	0	1	0	1	0	2	30
35	Uttarakhand	3	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	6
36	West Bengal	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	3
	Total	116	52	22	28	16	17	20	36	307

(Source : GoI, MYAS Khelo India Dashboard <https://mdsd.kheloindia.gov.in/infrastructure>)

Types of Sports Infrastructure Projects Sanctioned Pan India: The total projects sanctioned have also been represented graphically below to get a sense of the type of asset which is more popular and projected by the states as compared to the others. The utility of multipurpose halls being more broad based and catering to multiple games is a versatile and sought after project. States have also probably examined the existing availability of sports infrastructure already held with them prior to seeking funds for these types of assets under the Khelo India scheme.



(36 Other include: 2xArchery Range, 3xShooting Range, 1x Ice Hockey Rink, 1xFencing Hall, 1xTennis Court, 1xWrestling Hall and 27xUpgradation & related projects)

Graph No 1 : Types of 307 x Sports Infrastructure Projects Sanctioned Pan India vide Khelo India Scheme

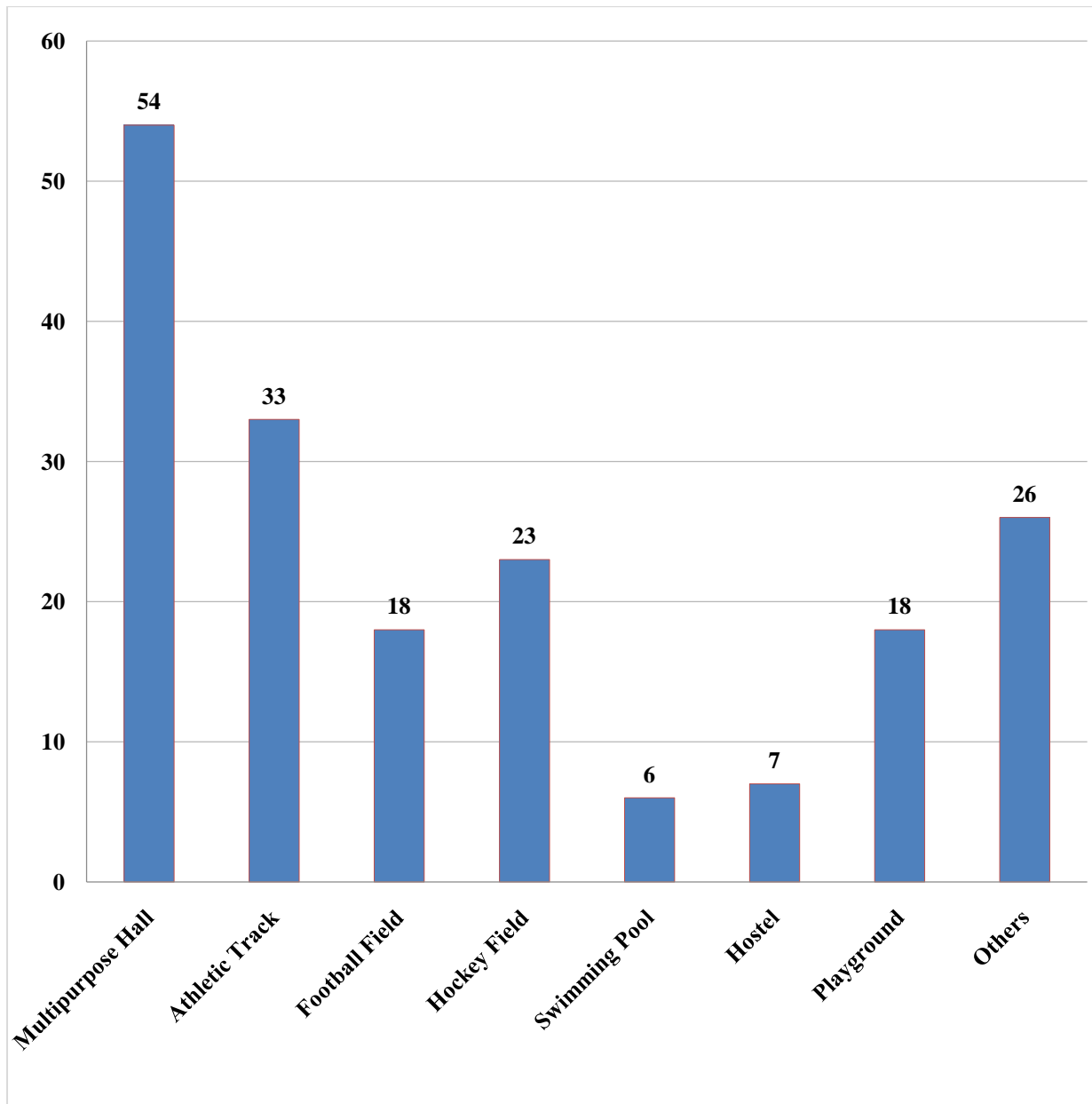
Sports Infrastructure Projects Completed Pan India : A total of 185 assets have so far been created under the Scheme. Details of each State/UT are tabulated below:-

Table No 9 : State Wise Details of Completed Sports Infrastructure Projects under Khelo India Scheme

S. No	State / UT	MP Hall	Athletic Track	Football Field	Hockey Field	Swim Pool	Hostel	Play ground	Others	Total
1	A & N Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	Andhra Pradesh	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	3
3	Arunachal Pradesh	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
4	Assam	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	3	6
5	Bihar	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
6	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	Chhattisgarh	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	3
8	Dadra Nagar Haveli, Daman Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	Delhi	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	2	5
10	Goa	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
11	Gujarat	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	4
12	Haryana	3	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	6
13	Himachal Pradesh	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	2
14	J & K	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	3
15	Jharkhand	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
16	Karnataka	4	2	1	2	0	1	0	1	11
17	Kerala	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
18	Ladakh	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
19	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20	Madhya Pradesh	1	4	0	1	2	1	0	7	16
21	Maharashtra	1	0	0	2	1	0	0	2	6
22	Manipur	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	4
23	Meghalaya	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
24	Mizoram	0	0	5	1	0	0	0	0	6
25	Nagaland	4	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	6
26	Odisha	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	4
27	Puducherry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
28	Punjab	3	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	7
29	Rajasthan	6	4	0	2	0	0	17	9	38
30	Sikkim	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	4
31	Tamil Nadu	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
32	Telangana	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
33	Tripura	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2
34	Uttar Pradesh	18	2	0	1	0	1	0	1	23
35	Uttarakhand	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	5
36	West Bengal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	54	33	18	23	6	7	18	26	185

(Source : GoI, MYAS Khelo India Dashboard <https://mstd.kheloindia.gov.in/infrastructure>)

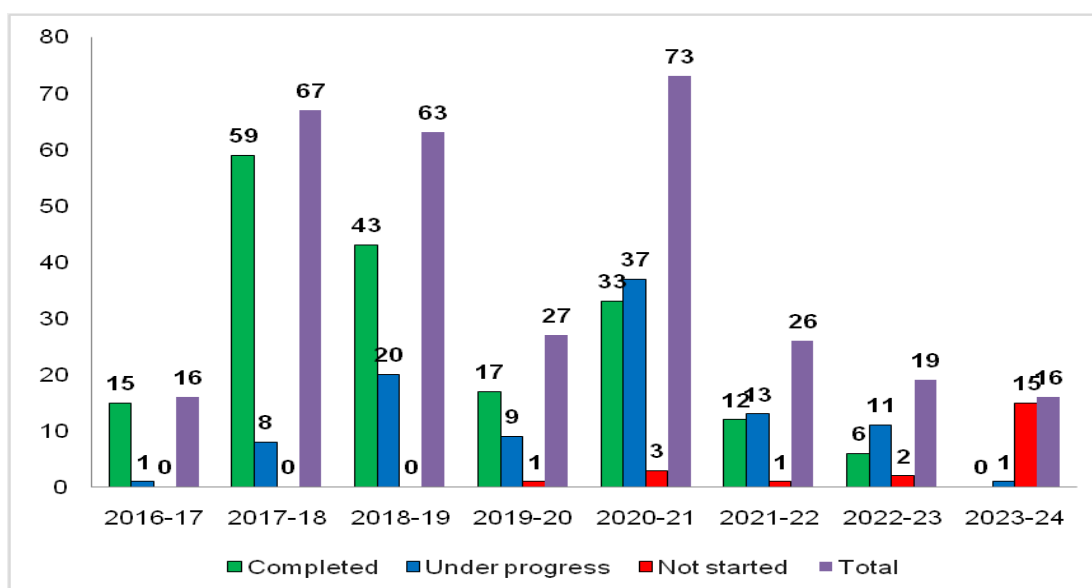
Sports Infrastructure Projects Completed Pan India: A total of 185 sports infrastructure projects have been completed since inception of the Khelo India Scheme in 2016-17. A graphical representation of the assets created (as of February 2024) has been given below. It can be observed that a number of useful infrastructure has been created all over the Nation for the promotion of sports.



Graph No 2 : Types of 185 x Sports Infrastructure Projects Completed Pan India Since Inception of Khelo India Scheme

Year Wise Progress of Creation of Sports Infrastructure Projects Under Khelo India Scheme - Pan India Details

The Khelo India scheme since inception had the vertical of creation and upgradation of sports infrastructure and playgrounds, these components being of utmost importance for promotion of sports and achieving excellence in sporting events. Since 2016-17 a number of infrastructure projects were sanctioned and over the years the initial ones have borne fruition. The average time to complete a major project and creation of new infrastructure varies from 4-6 years. While some smaller projects may take lesser time to be executed, however, it has been observed from the data examined on the aspect that a period of more than 3 years has generally been taken from the sanction of the project to the submission of completion certificate. The projects which have been completed pertain to the years 2016 to 2021, the projects in progress generally pertain to the years 2018-19 to 2022-23 and the projects yet to start are of the current FY 2023-24 or the previous one 2022-23, barring a few odd exceptions which are probably held up due to encumbrances.



Graph No 3 : Year Wise Progress of Sports Infrastructure Projects Sanctioned in Khelo India Scheme

The details of year wise progress of all the infrastructure projects alongwith fund utilisation has been obtained from the Dept of Sports and tabulated below:-

**Table No 10 : Year-Wise Progress of Sports Infrastructure Projects
Sanctioned under Khelo India Scheme**

F.Y.	Completed	Amt Sanc	Amt Rel	In progress	Amt Sanc	Amt Rel	Not Started	Amt Sanc	Amt Rel	Total	Amt Sanc	Amt Rel
2016-17	15	81.16	80.86	1	5.00	3.25	0	0.00	0.00	16	86.16	84.11
2017-18	59	294.06	287.81	8	56.00	50.18	0	0.00	0.00	67	350.06	337.99
2018-19	43	165.70	153.87	20	234.69	150.74	0	0.00	0.00	63	400.39	304.61
2019-20	17	167.49	156.53	9	157.83	85.80	1	6.98	2.00	27	332.30	244.33
2020-21	33	174.04	141.67	37	180.27	101.57	3	11.73	5.56	73	366.05	248.80
2021-22	12	81.29	62.60	13	661.22	317.62	1	4.50	0.00	26	747.01	380.22
2022-23	6	25.50	25.50	11	369.96	276.06	2	11.50	0.00	19	406.96	301.56
2023-24	0	0.00	0.00	1	4.50	1.31	15	281.11	0.00	16	285.61	1.31
Total	185	989.25	908.84	100	1669.47	986.53	22	315.82	7.56	307	2974.55	1902.92

(Source : GoI, MYAS Khelo India Dashboard <https://mdsd.kheloindia.gov.in/infrastructure>)

State / UT-Wise Progress of Sports Infrastructure Projects Sanctioned under Khelo India Scheme

The details of percentage progress of the sanctioned projects have also been studied in detail. It has been observed that the performance of some states is better than others as regards the execution and progress of cases. While some states would have proactively got sports infrastructure projects sanctioned and have taken a major portion of the funds allotted each year, however work to execute the projects is still at hand. Other states which have closely monitored and followed up the works have benefitted and achieved construction of the required assets for promotion of sports, talent identification and most importantly ensured good governance wherein the citizens and beneficiaries of the scheme can avail of the infrastructure created.

It has already been seen that out of a total of 307 projects sanctioned, 185 have been completed. The remaining 122 projects are still in progress, however 22 of these are yet to start and the balance 100 projects are at different levels of progress. While 45 projects are at 76-99% progress level, 11 are at 0-25 % progress. 16 of the cases are at 26-50% progress level and the balances 28 are at 51-75% mark. It can thus be expected that another 45 types or categories of sports infrastructure will soon get added to the facilities available to athletes for training and conduct of sporting events in the country. It can also be assessed that 77 more assets which will be accessible for sports in the country on completion will further improve our infrastructure for furthering the vision of achieving excellence in sports. Also additional assets as required by the States will continue to be proposed and accordingly approved for construction over the next two years till the scheme has a mandate, thereby ensuring that our infrastructure grows steadily over the forthcoming years and a sporting culture gets fully imbibed in the country and the citizens in the days ahead.

The details of State/UT wise progress of sports infrastructure projects sanctioned under the Scheme as obtained from Dept of Sports is tabulated below:-

Table No 11 : State/UT Wise Progress of Sports Infrastructure Projects under Khelo India Scheme

S. No	State / UT	Nil	1-25%	26-50%	51-75%	76-99%	100%	Total	Under Progress
1	A & N Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	Andhra Pradesh	2	0	0	2	1	3	8	3
3	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	2	5	9	5	21	16
4	Assam	1	0	0	1	0	6	8	1
5	Bihar	0	2	2	1	3	1	9	8
6	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	Chhattisgarh	0	0	0	1	0	3	4	1
8	Dadra Nagar Haveli, Daman Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	Delhi	0	0	1	0	2	5	8	3
10	Goa	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
11	Gujarat	0	0	1	0	0	4	5	1
12	Haryana	1	0	0	1	2	6	10	3
13	Himachal Pradesh	3	0	1	1	1	2	8	3
14	J & K	1	0	0	1	0	3	5	1
15	Jharkhand	2	0	0	0	1	1	4	1
16	Karnataka	1	1	1	0	6	11	20	8
17	Kerala	0	0	0	0	1	4	5	1
18	Ladakh	0	0	1	0	0	2	3	1
19	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20	Madhya Pradesh	1	0	0	0	0	16	17	0
21	Maharashtra	2	0	1	1	4	6	14	6
22	Manipur	0	0	1	2	1	4	8	4
23	Meghalaya	0	4	0	1	0	1	6	5
24	Mizoram	1	0	0	0	0	6	7	0
25	Nagaland	1	0	0	0	1	6	8	1
26	Odisha	1	0	0	0	0	4	5	0
27	Puducherry	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	2
28	Punjab	1	0	0	2	1	7	11	3
29	Rajasthan	1	1	2	3	3	38	48	9
30	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	1	4	5	1
31	Tamil Nadu	0	0	2	1	0	2	5	3
32	Telangana	0	1	0	0	1	4	6	2
33	Tripura	0	0	1	1	3	2	7	5
34	Uttar Pradesh	0	2	0	2	3	23	30	7
35	Uttarakhand	1	0	0	0	0	5	6	0
36	West Bengal	2	0	0	1	0	0	3	1
	Total	22	11	16	28	45	185	307	100

Legend

	States moving ahead at a good pace
	States with high percentage of projects at Nil level

(Source : GoI, MYAS Khelo India Dashboard <https://mdsd.kheloindia.gov.in/infrastructure>)

Sports Infrastructure Available in Delhi Metropolis

Delhi Metropolis has been a sporting hub of the country since independence. Being the national capital, most of the big ticket projects came up in Delhi even before the Khelo India Scheme was launched and remain as the mainstay of international level sports infrastructure held in the country.

The MYAS Annual Report 19-20 gives out that “the following Stadia in Delhi which were constructed/ renovated for the IXth Asian Games held at New Delhi in 1982 and subsequently renovated for the XIXth Commonwealth Games held at New Delhi in 2010 are being maintained and utilized by SAI:-

- Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium Complex.
- Indira Gandhi Sports Complex.
- Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Swimming Pool Complex (Formerly known as Talkatora Swimming Pool).
- Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium (Formerly known as National Stadium).
- Dr. Karni Singh Shooting Ranges (Formerly known as Shooting Range Tughlakabad).

The five Stadia mentioned above were built for holding the Asian Games in 1982 and were later renovated / remodeled for conducting the Commonwealth Games in 2010. All the stadia have state-of-art facilities. The objectives of these sports establishments are to provide facilities & venues for:-

- National/International competitions.
- National Coaching Camps.
- National Sports Academies and Centre of Excellence.

It also brings out that, “to optimize utilization of sporting facilities and to promote sporting culture, the scheme of ‘Come & Play’ was launched in May’2011. Further, the sports infrastructure at SAI Stadia in Delhi has been made accessible without fee, to all sports persons across the country from 1st November 2019. National and State Sports Federations, league and Club are allowed / encouraged to organize sports events in all sporting facilities owned by the Government, free of cost. The sporting facilities is also accessible free of cost to coaches training athletes who are not part of camps organized in Sports Authority of India Centres. Admission can be done through offline or the web portal sportsauthorityofindia.nic.in/online_sports_facility.

These stadia are also being provided to Educational Institutions/Federations/other organizations to conduct their sports tournament(s) at different levels, Meetings & Seminars, Food Festival under Sports and Non-Sports events and space (exclusively not meant for sports purposes) are rented out to Govt. Offices to generate the revenue which can be used for the maintenance of these stadia.

- **Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium Complex (JNS)** has 100 Acres land area. The out-door stadium (Synthetic Athletic Track & Football Ground) has 60,000 fixed seats, covered by PTFE membrane roof, a fully Air-conditioned Weightlifting Auditorium (26000 sq.mtr.) with 2172 fixed seats and a 140 bedded Sports Hostel. The available sports facilities include Athletics, Football, Volleyball, Weightlifting, Badminton, Table Tennis, Lawn Tennis, Cricket, Basketball, Archery, recreational track for cycling and walking, Fitness Centre, Billiard & Snooker, Chess Hall, Yoga.
- **Indira Gandhi Stadium Complex (IGSC)** has 104 Acres land area. It has a Gymnastic Hall wooden floor (fully AC) with 15000 fixed seats, a Wrestling Hall (fully AC) with 6000 fixed seats, a Cycling Velodrome (fully AC) with 3800 fixed

seats and a 150 bedded Sports Hostel. The available sports facilities include Badminton, Basketball, Boxing, Gymnastic, Judo, Table Tennis, Volleyball, Sepaktakraw, Wushu, Cycling, Wrestling, recreational track for cycling and walking, Fitness Centre, Billiard & Snooker, Yoga.

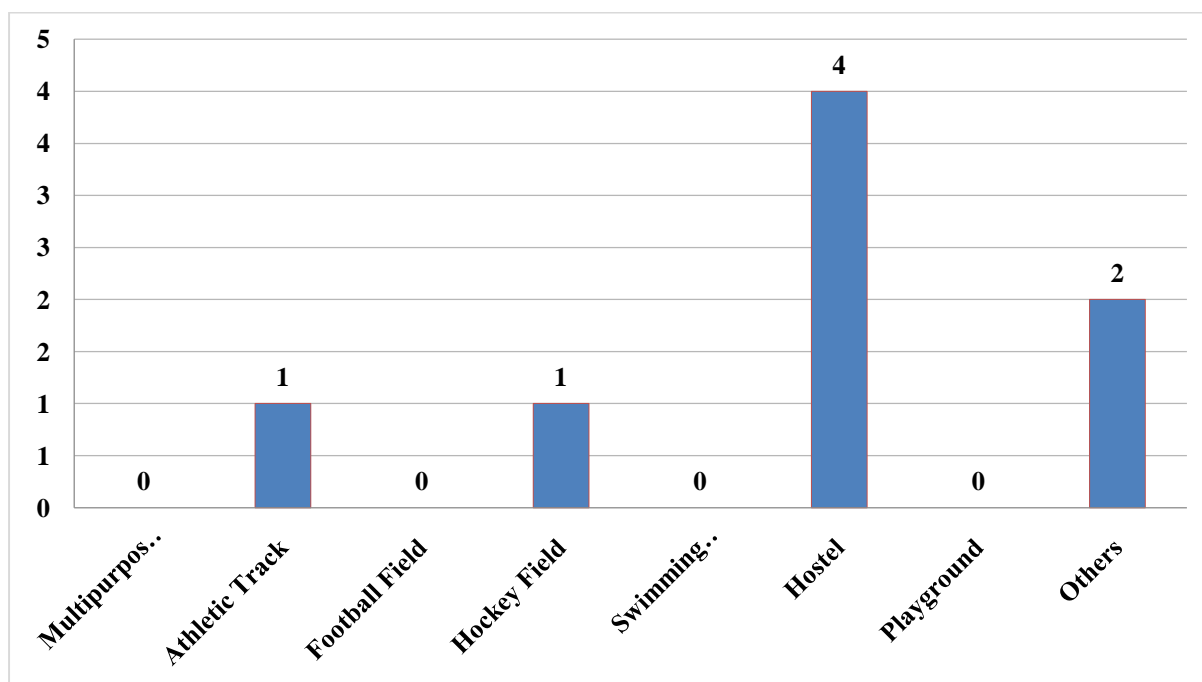
- **Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Swimming Pool Complex (Dr. SPMSPC)** has 12.3 acres land area. It is a fully AC Indoor Stadium with 5000 fixed seats, 50 Mtr. Swimming pool (10 lane), 25 Mtr. Diving pool, and a 50 Mtr. Warm-up pool (six lane). The available sports facilities include Swimming & Diving Volleyball, Skating, Billiard & Snooker.
- **Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium (MDCNS)** has 37 acres land area. It is an outdoor Stadium with VIP seating covered with standing seam roof, 14,000 fixed seats in new open gallery and 6000 seats in covered area. It has three international standard Hockey Astroturf surfaces. The available sports facilities include Hockey, Kabaddi, Tennis, Swimming, Cricket, Multi Gym and Billiard & Snooker.
- **Dr. Karni Singh Shooting Ranges (Dr. KSSR)**, Tuglakabad, New Delhi is a facility where the final Range capable of converting from a fully air conditioned 10 Mtr. Range to non-air conditioned 25 Mtr. and 50 Mtr. Ranges within 10 minutes. It has a Fully covered Air conditioned 10 Mtr. with 80 firing points, 25 Mtr. range with 50 firing points and 50 M range with 80 firing points and 6 ranges for Trap and Skeet. It has a newly constructed 162 bedded Sports Hostel. The available sports facilities include Volleyball, Basketball, Skating, Billiard & Snooker, Carrom, recreational track for cycling and walking and a Fitness Centre.”

Sports Infrastructure Projects Sanctioned in Delhi under Khelo India Scheme

While the existing stadiums in Delhi are being run and maintained under the aegis of the Sports Authority of India, new infrastructural requirements are now also being met by the Khelo India Scheme in addition to the funds available with SAI for the purpose.

Out of the total **307** new sports infrastructure projects **sanctioned** in the country, 08 projects are being undertaken in Delhi at a cost of Rs 88.68 Crore. The types of sports infrastructure approved for creation or upgradation under the Scheme in Delhi include:-

- 01 x Athletic Track.
- 01 x Hockey Field.
- 04 x Hostels and accommodation facilities.
- 01 x Squash Court.
- 01 x Other upgradation project.



Graph No 4 : Types of 08 x Sports Infrastructure Projects Sanctioned in Delhi vide Khelo India Scheme

Details of Sports Infrastructure Projects Sanctioned In Khelo India Scheme in Delhi:

All the projects sanctioned are being executed under the aegis of SAI. Details of the 08 projects are tabulated below:-

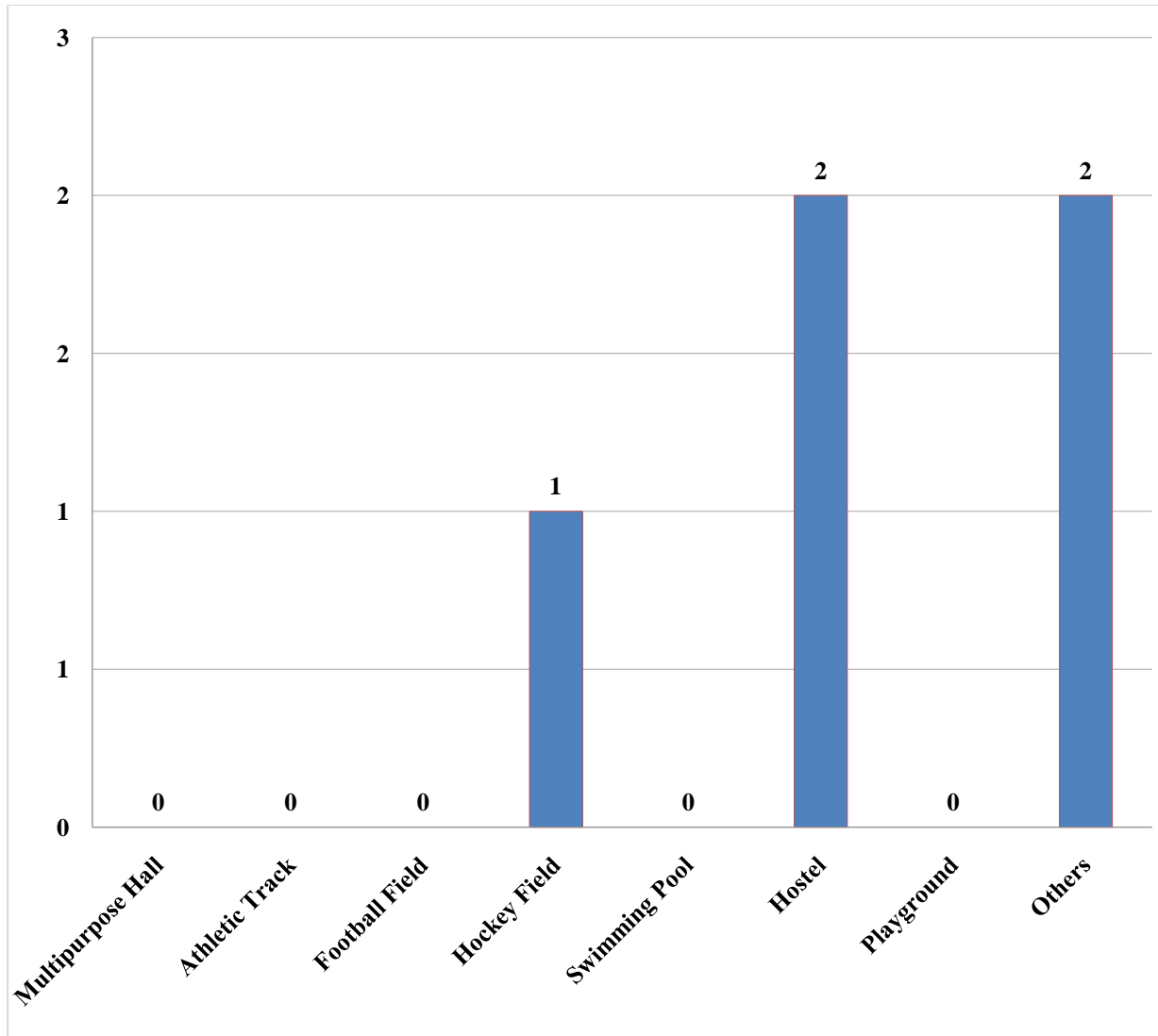
Table No 12 : Sports Infrastructure Projects Sanctioned in Delhi under Khelo India Scheme

S. No.	Name of the project	Year of sanction	Amount sanctioned (₹ crore)	Amount released (₹ crore)	Amount Balance (₹ crore)	% of work completed	Duration
1	Replacement of Synthetic Athletic Track at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, New Delhi	2017-18	7.00	5.00	2.00	95%	6 Years, 9 Months
2	Construction of 162 Bedded Sports Hostel at Dr. Karni Singh Shooting Ranges, Tughlakabad, New Delhi	2017-18	7.00	6.00	1.00	100%	6 Years, 7 Months
3	Construction of 100 Bedded Sports Hostel at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, New Delhi	2017-18	9.00	9.00	0.00	100%	6 Years, 7 Months
4	Replacement of Synthetic Hockey Turf at Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium, New Delhi	2017-18	4.50	4.50	0.00	100%	6 Years, 7 Months
5	Creation of sports infrastructure at New Moti Bagh Complex, New Delhi	2019-20	2.80	2.80	0.00	100%	4 Years, 7 Months
6	Construction of 300 Bedded (Triple Occupancy) Hostel at SAI Centre, Dr. Karni Singh Shooting Ranges	2019-20	26.77	20.19	6.58	93%	4 Years, 5 Months
7	Construction of 300 Bedded (Triple Occupancy) Hostel at SAI Centre, Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium	2019-20	26.77	2.95	23.82	30%	4 Years, 5 Months
8	Construction of Squash Court at Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium, New Delhi	2020-21	4.84	4.84	0.00	100%	3 Years, 4 Months
Total			88.68	55.28	33.40		

(Source : GoI, MYAS Khelo India Dashboard <https://mdsd.kheloindia.gov.in/infrastructure>)

Progress of Sports Infrastructure Projects Sanctioned Under Khelo India Scheme in Delhi:

A total of 08 assets have so far been sanctioned under the Khelo India Scheme in Delhi. Out of these 08 projects five assets have been completed so far .Details of the projects completed are given below:-



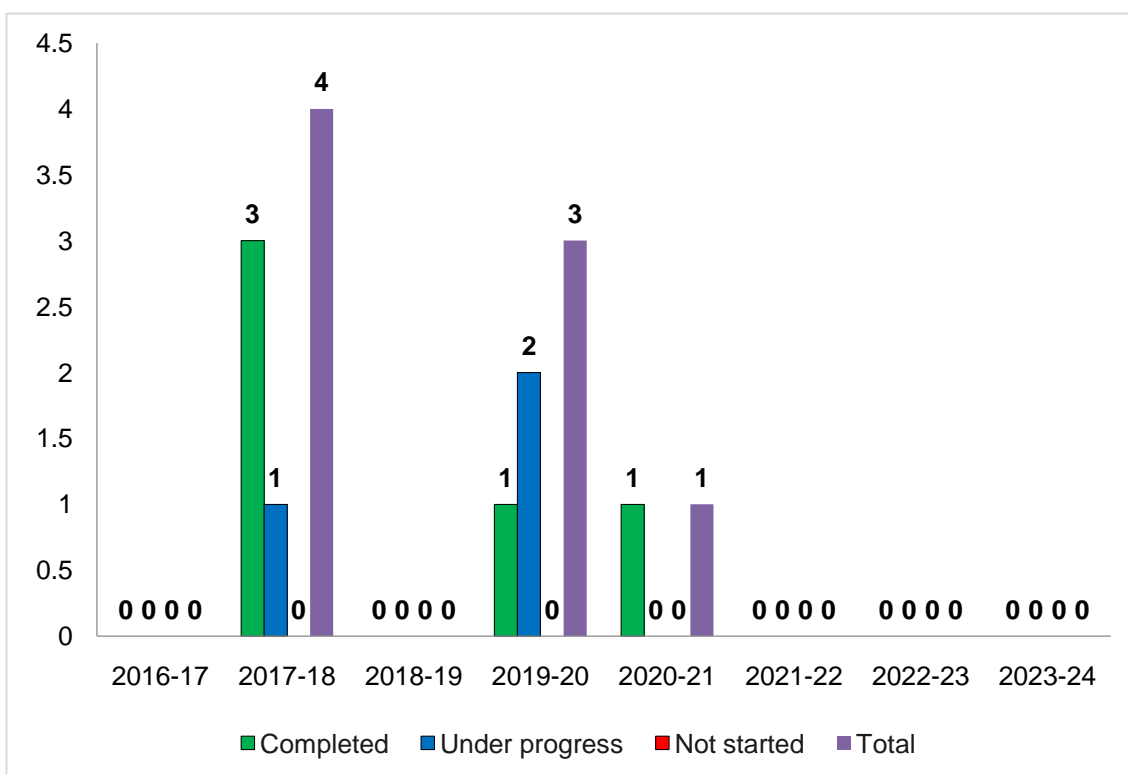
(02 x Others include 1 x Squash Court and 01 x Sports Infrastructure Upgradation related projects)

Graph No 5 : 05 x Sports Infrastructure Projects Completed in Delhi since Inception of Khelo India Scheme

Year Wise Progress of Creation of Sports Infrastructure Projects Under Khelo India Scheme in Delhi

A total of 08 assets have so far been sanctioned under the Khelo India Scheme in Delhi. Out of these 08 projects five assets have been completed and three are under progress .Details of the projects completed are given below:-

. The average time to complete a major project and creation of new infrastructure varies from 4-6 years. While one project pertaining to construction of a Squash Court at Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium, New Delhi was completed in just over three years, however other projects have taken longer inspite of being in the national capital.



Graph No 6 : Year-Wise Progress of Sports Infrastructure Projects in Delhi

The details of year wise progress of all the infrastructure projects alongwith fund utilisation has been obtained from the Dept of Sports and tabulated below:-

**Table No 13 : Year-Wise Progress of Sports Infrastructure Projects Sanctioned
under Khelo India Scheme**

F.Y.	Completed	Amt Sanc	Amt Rel	In progress	Amt Sanc	Amt Rel	Yet to Start	Amt Sanc	Amt Rel	Total	Amt Sanc	Amt Rel
2016-17	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
2017-18	3	20.50	19.50	1	7.00	5.00	0	0.00	0.00	4	27.50	24.50
2018-19	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
2019-20	1	2.80	2.80	2	53.54	23.14	0	0.00	0.00	3	56.34	25.94
2020-21	1	4.84	4.84	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	1	4.84	4.84
2021-22	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
2022-23	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
2023-24	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
Total	5	28.14	27.14	3	60.54	28.14	0	0.00	0.00	8	88.68	55.28

(Source : GoI, MYAS Khelo India Dashboard <https://mdsd.kheloindia.gov.in/infrastructure>)

The details of percentage progress of infrastructure projects sanctioned under the Khelo India Scheme in Delhi, as obtained from Dept of Sports, is tabulated below:-

Table No 14 : Details of Sports Infrastructure Projects Sanctioned In Khelo India Scheme in Delhi

State / UT	Nil	1-25%	26-50%	51-75%	76-99%	100%	Total	Under Progress
Delhi	0	0	1	0	2	5	8	3

(Source : GoI, MYAS Khelo India Dashboard <https://mdsd.kheloindia.gov.in/infrastructure>)

It can be observed from the above given data that the pace of progress of the infrastructure projects in Delhi is fairly good and two more projects which are above 75 % progress should get completed soon.

Special Infrastructure Projects under the Khelo India Scheme

Besides the above mentioned projects two special infrastructure projects have also been initiated under this component of Khelo India Scheme, which will add to the niche sporting facilities available in India. The details are as under:-

- **Construction of Sports Complex at Naranpura, Ahmedabad, Gujarat:**
 - Construction of Sports Complex at Naranpura, Ahmedabad, Gujarat is being constructed in 115636.99 (BUA) Sq.Mt. having Excellence Sports Centre (Academy & Hostel with food facilities), Indoor Multisport Arena (Olympic Competitions), Aquatic Stadium, Community Sports Centre (with outdoor courts & Fit India Zone) and other sports related facilities.

- The Complex will have both wet and dry Sports and Indoor Facilities of international Standards besides training & coaching facilities for various sports etc. The main aspects of the Sports complex include the following:-
 - ❖ Aquatic Stadium,
 - ❖ Centre for Sports Excellence and Accommodation,
 - ❖ Indoor Multi Sports Arena,
 - ❖ Community Sports Complex,
 - ❖ Outdoor Tennis Courts,
 - ❖ Courts for Basketball, Volleyball, Kabaddi, Kho-Kho & Skating Rink, and
 - ❖ FIT INDIA ZONE & Parking Facility.
- Total Financial outlay of the project is ₹ 583.99cr, out of which ₹ 285 crores are already released. As of Jan 2024, the physical progress project is 49% and financial progress is 41% (overall). The likely date of completion of this project is October, 2024.
- **Development and Modernization of Sagra Stadium, Varanasi:**
 - One megaproject of redevelopment of Dr.Sampurnanand Sports Stadium, Sagra, , Varanasi, U.P. has been sanctioned in 2022-23. Development and modernization of the Sagra Stadium is being undertaken in three phases within the area of 64,182 Sq.Mt. The project includes the design and construction of a Community and Competition Area with facilities for swimming, Gymnasium, Squash, Library, Sports Museum, a National Centre of Excellence for combat sports like Boxing, Wrestling, Fencing, Shooting, a sports hostel and open fields with facilities for Athletics, Kabaddi, Volleyball, Lawn Tennis, Cricket field, Football cum Hockey Field and Open Gym.

- The facility would serve as a venue for conducting national and international sporting events and would promote sports/athletes across the nation. The development of the project will ensure that various sports are easily accessible to the general public and especially to athletes of Uttar Pradesh.
- The foundation stone of the project was laid by the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 07 Jul 2022 in Varanasi. The sports complex will adhere to the standards of International and National Sporting Bodies and will accommodate all essential needs and services.
- Phase I of the project involves creation of an International Sports Competition venue, including an Olympic size swimming pool with a spectator capacity of 2000. In Phase II and phase III of the project various indoor and outdoor sports facilities will be created. Total Financial outlay of the project is ₹ 315.48 crore, out of which ₹ 165 crore has already been released. As of Jan 2024, the physical progress project is 95% and financial progress is 70% (overall). The likely date of completion of this project is March, 2024.
- ❖ The Sigra Stadium will exude excellence in every facility. It will be inclusive to all sections of society: Persons with Disabilities, Women, Children, & Senior Citizens. It will be a place that enriches and deepens the sports experience for all athletes & spectators through state-of-art facilities, including retractable/ portable seating. The complex will be aesthetically pleasing and culturally representative. All buildings and outdoor facilities will comply with the 3Rs of sustainable development: Reduce, Recycle, and Reuse.

Conclusion

Overall, the component of Creation and Upgradation of Sports Infrastructure is being pursued vigorously by both the Central and State Govts alike which has resulted in increased availability of sports facilities to the citizens of the Nation. The vertical of infrastructure development is pivotal to ensure the success of the Scheme and achieve the twin objectives of the national sports policy (of broad basing of sports through mass participation and promotion of excellence in sports). Concerted efforts from all ends coupled with a close oversight and monitoring from the highest levels has created the right environment for infusing a sporting culture in India and creating a definite impact in the field of sports in the country.

CHAPTER 5

UTILITY OF SPORTS INFRASTRUCTURE IN PROMOTION OF SPORTS

“Wearing the victory well and learning from defeat is an important art that we learn in the sports field”⁷

- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi

Introduction

Sports infrastructure plays a fundamental role in shaping the levels of sports participation and excellence within a country. From local Khelo India Centres to National Stadiums, the availability of sports facilities at various levels not only facilitates the conduct of sports competitions but also fosters a sporting culture of active living, inclusivity, and achievement.

In the previous chapter, the various types of sports infrastructure, the scale and the funds allotted/released for creation of assets as part of the key component of the Khelo India Scheme was studied in detail. The complete canvas of sports infrastructure being made available in the country was tabulated and placed in this dissertation. In this chapter, it has been attempted to bring out the usefulness of availability of sports infrastructure, both at the local and national levels, and how it promotes participation, nurtures talent, enhances societal well-being, and has the potential to project a nation's identity on the global platform.

⁷ PIB Delhi. (2022, April 24). [Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Khelo India University Games 2021]. Press Information Bureau. <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1819642>

Initially, sports infrastructure was restricted to larger cities and towns, with aspiring athletes from Tier 2 and 3 cities not getting easy access to sporting infrastructure. However, with the Khelo India Scheme having been rolled out and being implemented in all States/UTs, 307 infrastructure projects stand sanctioned of which 185 have since been completed. Thus the athletes from all strata of society and across the geographic expanse of the country have better and improved access to sporting facilities. In addition Khelo India Centre of Excellence in states and Khelo India Centres in districts have also come up which ensure that citizens have access to infrastructure.

A few points and features highlighting the effects and significance of availability, non-availability, and creation of sports infrastructure are discussed in the subsequent paragraphs.

Usefulness and Utility of Sports Infrastructure

The availability, non-availability, and creation of sports infrastructure significantly influence the promotion of sports by allowing accessibility, up scaling participation, providing consequential health benefits, promoting social equity, boosting economic development, and of course ensuring overall development of sporting talent. Creation and upgradation of sports infrastructure is not only about constructing physical structures but also about fostering a sports culture, all round well-being, and inclusivity in the country.

Availability of sports infrastructure offers accessibility to sporting and training facilities at an affordable cost. Sports facilities tend to serve as meeting places for communities, fostering social connections. Community sports events, leagues and competitions organized around these facilities promote a sense of belongingness and unity among residents, strengthening the social fabric of society. This feeling is not limited to small

neighbourhoods but extends to a Nation as well. The euphoria and cohesion created in country's citizens during national and international sports events and matches such as Olympics or Asian Games etc. has been experienced by one and all. Further, having a vast range and multiple types of sports infrastructure caters for the masses and allows participation in multifarious sports disciplines. For e.g., having infrastructure for both indoor and outdoor facilities, for team sports arenas as also for individual or niche sports caters to a wide range of choices among the population. Conveniently accessible sports facilities provide opportunities for exercise, which can boost physical health as well as mental well being of citizens.

Another positive that accrues from availability of sports infrastructure is the ability to host and conduct competitions. World-class sports infrastructure is essential for hosting national and international competitions and championships. Venues which meet international standards for safety, capacity & technical specifications offer our athletes with a fair and competitive environment to compete worldwide. Investing in sports infrastructure supports talent identification, development, and guidance for aspiring athletes. Availability and easy access to good quality training facilities and coaching expertise helps nurture the next generation of sporting talent, thereby ensuring a steady flow of skilled athletes in the country who would be capable of competing and performing at the highest levels.

On the other hand, non-availability of adequate and easily accessible sports infrastructure may act as a barrier to participation, especially in modest communities or rural areas where facilities are scarce or non-existent. Lack of facilities or limited opportunities to engage in organised sports, receive quality coaching, or possess equipment and resources restrict and hinder the skill development necessary to even engage in sports or compete in any form of physical activity. Such non-availability of sports infrastructure can also aggravate social disparities, as people from fortunate backgrounds may have better access to facilities as compared to those from disadvantaged communities.

In areas where sports infrastructure is lacking, individuals may find it challenging to engage in physical activities. This lack of access can discourage participation, particularly among marginalized groups such as low-income communities, rural populations, or people with disabilities, who may face additional barriers. This can hinder the holistic development of individuals, as sports offer not only physical benefits but also opportunities for learning teamwork, discipline, and leadership. This unequal distribution of resources can further widen the gap in health outcomes and quality of life between different socio-economic groups.

Necessity and Benefits of Creating Modern Sports Infrastructure

Creation of sports infrastructure has far-reaching implications for individuals, communities, and societies as a whole, impacting health, social inclusion, economic development, and national identity. New facilities attract attention and generate excitement, encouraging people to try out different activities and join sports programs. Creation and upgradation of sports infrastructure is not just about building sports venues but also about furthering a way of life of physical activity, health consciousness, social equity and ensuring that everyone has equal opportunity to reap the benefits of participation in sports. Youth sports programs and facilities offer a positive outlet for energy, teach valuable life skills such as teamwork and leadership, and help in the prevention of going astray by keeping young people engaged in constructive activities.

Investing in the creation of sports infrastructure, such as new stadiums, upgrading existing facilities, or sponsoring Khelo India Centres can also stimulate economic benefits through job creation, increased revenue from sporting events thereby contributing to local development and prosperity. Building larger sports infrastructure can have significant economic benefits for the broader region. Major sporting events hosted in modern facilities

bring in tourists, create jobs in sectors such as hospitality and tourism, and boost revenue for businesses. Additionally, ongoing maintenance and operation of sports facilities contribute to local employment and economic activity.

High-quality sports infrastructure also has the means to provide conducive environments for talent identification of athletes and enhancing the country's sporting prowess. State-of-the-art facilities equipped with modern training equipment, sports science support, and expert coaching help aspiring athletes reach their full potential and compete at the highest levels.

Owning world class and modern sports facilities allows opportunities of hosting major sporting events and can enhance the prestige and international image of a city or country, attracting investments, tourists, and global attention. It showcases the destination as a hub for sports excellence and innovation, attracting investments, sponsors, and partnerships. Moreover, successful hosting of events gets a sense of identity, purpose and belongingness within a community, city, state or country and can leave a lasting legacy of improved infrastructure and increased sports participation within the entity.

Modern sports infrastructure can be designed to be inclusive and accessible to people of all ages, genders, abilities, and backgrounds. Facilities with adaptive equipment and sensory-friendly spaces ensure that everyone can participate in sports and recreation, promoting diversity and social inclusion. Khelo India Scheme also promotes sports for women and persons with disabilities and conducts separate tournaments for these categories.

Sports infrastructure serves as a platform for promoting health and well-being initiatives within communities. Public parks, fitness trails, and outdoor gyms encourage physical activity among residents, contributing to public health goals such as reducing obesity rates, improving cardiovascular health, and enhancing overall well-being. Upgrading

underutilised areas into modern sports complexes and playgrounds rejuvenates localities and improves the quality of life for residents, and creates vibrant community spaces.

Public-Private Partnerships are also being encouraged in this component of Khelo India Scheme. Collaboration between public entities, private businesses, and non-profit organizations in the creation of sports infrastructure can leverage resources, expertise, and funding to maximize impact and sustainability. This facet also promotes incorporation of technology and innovation to enhance training methods and performance analysis that helps athletes refine their techniques and optimize their training regimens. PPP models may also ensure efficient management of facilities, ensuring long-term viability and success.

The development of modern, state-of-the-art infrastructure enhances the country's sporting capabilities, attracting athletes and teams for training camps, competitions, and international collaborations. National-level sports infrastructure enables a country to host major sporting events such as international championships, tournaments, and multi-sport games like the Olympics or the World Cup. Hosting these events brings global attention to the country, showcasing its capabilities in organizing large-scale sporting spectacles and enhancing its reputation on the international stage. These events attract thousands of athletes, spectators, media representatives and tourists. Besides the conduct and participation in sports, the spinoff is generation of revenue for the hospitality industry, including hotels, restaurants, and entertainment venues. The influx of visitors during major events creates job opportunities and stimulates economic activity in sectors such as tourism, retail, transportation, and infrastructure development. Additionally, the exposure gained from hosting international events can lead to long-term benefits by positioning the country as a desirable tourist destination and encouraging repeat visits from sports enthusiasts and travellers.

The availability of sports infrastructure at the national level not only facilitates the conduct of sports competitions but also presents significant opportunities for cultural, and

diplomatic advancement for a country. By leveraging these opportunities effectively, nations can showcase their strengths, promote sustainable development, and leave a lasting legacy for future generations to enjoy.

Hosting sports competitions instils a sense of national pride and unity among citizens. Success in competitions elevates national and regional morale, strengthens social cohesion, and reinforces a positive national/ regional image. Sporting achievements serve as symbols of national/ regional identity and resilience, celebrating the talent, dedication, and achievements of athletes representing their country/ state on the sporting stage.

Sports competitions provide opportunities for cultural exchange and diplomacy, fostering international cooperation and understanding through shared experiences and interactions. By hosting sports events the home state or have the chance to showcase their culture, heritage, and hospitality to visitors from diverse backgrounds, promoting cross-cultural dialogue and fostering positive relationships with other nations. Sporting events serve as platforms for promoting peace, unity, and mutual respect among participating countries, transcending political differences and promoting the values of sportsmanship and fair play. Promoting and showcasing the soft power of our country can only be possible by developing sports infrastructure of international acclaim and standards.

The availability of sports infrastructure at the local level plays a pivotal role in promoting sports at the grassroots level and fostering a sporting culture within a country. Local sports infrastructure fosters community engagement and social cohesion by bringing people together for events, and competitions. It strengthens bonds among residents and builds a supportive network within neighbourhoods. Grassroots sports programs and events provide opportunities for local athletes to showcase their talents and achievements. Recognizing and celebrating local sporting heroes and role models inspires others to pursue their athletic aspirations and contributes to the overall sporting culture. Sports infrastructure at the local

level encourages leadership development within communities where people can contribute their time, skills and resources as mentors, referees, and event organizers, fostering a culture of civic engagement and service.

In sum, sports infrastructure plays a dual role in both promoting sports participation among the general population and providing the necessary resources and support systems for athletes to excel in their respective sports. By investing in accessible, inclusive, and high-quality infrastructure, societies can not only encourage active lifestyles and community engagement but also cultivate a sporting culture of excellence and achievements in sports.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the availability of sports infrastructure stands as a cornerstone in the promotion of sports participation and excellence. At the grassroots level, local sports facilities provide accessible spaces for community engagement, youth development, and the cultivation of a vibrant sporting culture. Meanwhile, at the national level, world-class sports venues enable countries to host prestigious competitions, attract tourism, and showcase their capabilities on the global stage. By investing in sports infrastructure at all levels, nations can harness the transformative power of sports to inspire individuals, strengthen communities, and leave a lasting legacy of health, unity, and achievement for generations to come.

CHAPTER 6

PROMOTION OF SPORTS:

KHELO INDIA CENTRES AND SPORTS ACADEMIES

“India will become the next sporting super power in the world and the way the sports ecosystem is evolving every passing day is a testament to this transformation.”⁸

*- Hon’ble Union Minister for Youth Affairs & Sports
Shri Anurag Singh Thakur*

Introduction

Khelo India Scheme is a structured intervention which is being implemented in India by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports with the intention of promoting sporting culture at the grassroots level. The key themes and tag lines of "Sports for Excellence" and "Sports for All" are indicative of the primary focuses of this initiative.

Amongst its five components, the third vertical is of “Khelo India Centres and Sports Academies” and comprises of two obvious sub-components. Viz. ‘Khelo India Centres’ and ‘Sports Academies’. The important features of these sub-components to include their role, numbers notified, operational status, implementation mechanism of the Khelo India Scheme for promotion of sports, and details of specialised National Centres of Excellence (NCOEs) are discussed in this chapter. Khelo India Centres, sports academies

⁸ PIB Delhi. (2024, January 31). [Anurag Singh Thakur gives away trophies to KIYG 2023 Champions in Chennai]. Press Information Bureau.
<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetailm.aspx?PRID=2000988#:~:text=On%20the%20occasion%20Union%20Minister,platform%20to%20showcase%20their%20talent.>

and NCOEs being the prime entities for development of sports in the country, the various sporting disciplines being addressed by these centres is also given out in this chapter. Finally, the various Khelo India Games conducted in the country and the scale of participation by athletes and sportspersons in these events over the past few years has also been brought out in this part of the work undertaken.

Khelo India Centres

It was observed that a large number of sports infrastructure available throughout the country were not being utilised optimally due to lack of coaches/part-time coaches, support staff such as physiotherapists and masseurs, equipment, the proper field of play, consumables, day boarding facilities, etc., as well as lack of adequate financial support for meeting recurring expenditure. It was proposed to support better utilization of sports infrastructure belonging to State/UTs and other eligible agencies through a suitable Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). Accordingly, the following three categories of centres were supported under this component of the Scheme:-

- **Khelo India State Centres of Excellence:** As part of India's pursuit for excellence in the Olympics, these centres are an endeavour to scale up State/UT's best academies to world standard by supporting an existing Sports training facility of State/UT's government by way of financial support for Sports science back-up, engagement of coaches and support staff, sports equipment, etc. The number of KISCE shall be one for smaller States and Union Territories and up to 3 for larger states (as per the NITI Aayog classification of States).

- **Khelo India Centres:** In order to augment the utilisation of existing sports infrastructure available at State, PSU, autonomous bodies, Schools, Universities (including Private universities) and other organisations, small Khelo India Centres were proposed to strengthen the sports ecosystem at the grassroots level. A low-cost, effective sports training mechanism was worked out wherein “Past Champion Athletes” would be engaged as coaches and mentors for young and budding athletes. Approximately 1250 Khelo India Centres are to be established in the country by the end of FY 2023-2024, minimum one centre in each district across the State/UT’s. Upon reaching the target, the DPAC may decide to establish more such Centres depending upon the level of saturation attained.
- **Other Centres:** Grants-in-aid may be extended to residential centres like Army Boys Sports Companies (ABSCs), Sports Schools, Central Armed Police Force (CAPF) Sports Schools like Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), Border Security Force (BSF) Schools etc. for recurring expenditure like boarding, education, competition exposure, consumable sports equipment etc.

Implementation Mechanism of Khelo India Centres

Capacity building and Viability Gap Funding support will be provisioned for State/UT Centres of Excellence and Khelo India Centres that may include universities (including private universities). The emphasis would be on the up-gradation of sports science facilities and sports science resources. Provision of maximum funding to the State/UT Centres of Excellence and Khelo India Centres will be done for the priority sport (s) selected by the State/UT under the “One State One Game (OSOG)” initiative.

Identification of talent pool and talent development for attaining high levels of performance is to be done by State/UT or implementation partner, however, the necessary tools and expertise may be provided by Central Nodal Agency as decided by MYAS. To be eligible for successive grants, centres where the per-discipline grant is provided are required to have a minimum of 30 regular trainees per discipline. In centres where the per-athlete grant is provided, the sanctioned strength will be finalized by the DPAC.

- **Khelo India State Centre of Excellence:** The Sports Department of the respective State/UT will be the implementing agency. The Project Appraisal Committee (PAC) constituted by the Competent Authority shall select the best centre(s) from each State/UT/other organisation for consideration for viability gap funding. Preference shall be accorded to the centres having facilities for sports included in the 14 priority Olympic disciplines. The proposals recommended by the PAC would be put in front of the DPAC for notifying the centre as the State/UT Centre of Excellence and approval to conduct a viability gap analysis. A thorough on-site inspection / detailed deliberations and in-depth analysis of the centre will be conducted through SAI for funding of the selected centre and coordinate with the concerned State/UT department to prepare cost estimates of interventions to fill the viability gap. The assessment report along with the budgetary requirement for viability gap funding after completion of necessary verification and/or inspection shall be placed in front of the DPAC for approval. Upon approval of the identified gaps and the financial estimates from DPAC, sanction of funding for the Excellence Centre shall be issued by the Ministry.
- **Khelo India Centres:** The Sports Department of the respective State/UT is the implementing agency. Selection of grantee is at the discretion of State/UT Govt,

and in districts it is done through respective District Sports Officer (DSO), for both government and private entities, although in the case of Government organisations, the Sports Department may directly nominate the training centre. Subsequently, the State/UT Government will forward shortlisted proposals from each district along with the proposed sports discipline to the Ministry. The PAC shall examine the proposals and recommend KIC's to be notified to the DPAC for approval. For any Centre converted into Khelo India Centre, the administrative control will be under State/UT. Once a training facility has been notified as Khelo India Centre, a past Champion Athlete, as per eligibility norms, must be engaged at the centre by State/UT to provide sports training.

- **Other Centres:** In this case, the nodal agency overlooking the management of the given residential centre will be the implementing agency. For example, Director General Military Training (DGMT) for ABSCs, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) for KV's, School Management Committee for CAPF Sports Schools, etc. Existing centres having a good track record in academics & sports, adequate boarding & lodging (hostel) facilities, sufficient space and inclination to develop Olympic sports especially may be selected. Inter-ministerial partnership (with MHRD, MHA, MOD, MoTA, MoR, etc.), Public Private Partnership (PPP) model, tie-up with Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) for private schools/training centres, CAPF based schools like BSF schools, ITBP schools etc. Expenditure related to boarding, education expenses, competition exposure, Insurance & medical, sports training & support, etc. shall be borne by the Government. Any other expenditure will be borne by the implementing partner.

- The MYAS Annual Report has informed that, “with a view to utilize the disciplined atmosphere of the Army and the infrastructure available, Army Boys Sports Company Scheme was introduced in association with Army in which young talent is identified in the age group of 8- 14 years and admitted in the Scheme. At present there are 26 ABSCs, 01 Navy Boys Sports Company and 01 Air force Boys Sports Company Squadron in the country.

- As a pilot project 09 public schools have been designated as sports school. Out of these 09 schools, 04 Kendriya Vidyalayas with residential facilities are operational at present as Sports Schools. Students are selected through parameters based on scientific assessment. Their expenses regarding boarding, lodging, education, training, competition exposure, medical, etc. is being incurred by the Government of India.”

Budget of Khelo India Centres:

Each State Level Khelo India Centre will be provided with an annual grant for the purpose of engagement of coaches/part-time coaches, and expenditure on equipment, proper field of play, consumables, day boarding facilities, physiotherapists, etc., as well as the requirement for recurring expenditure including beneficiary support, repair & maintenance. An appropriate budget will be earmarked for this purpose.

- **Khelo India State/UT Centre of Excellence:** Need-based support for recurring & non-recurring expenditure for a maximum of 03 OSOG disciplines and sports science will be provided. The quantum of assistance will be determined through a comprehensive viability gap assessment.

- **Khelo India Centres:** Each Khelo India Centre shall be supported at a maximum annual recurring grant of ₹ 5 lakhs per discipline for remuneration of past champion athletes, purchase of sports equipment, sports kit, competition exposure, etc. Out of ₹ 5 lakhs, ₹ 3 lakhs shall be mandatorily earmarked for the remuneration of past Champion Athlete @ ₹ 25,000 per month. The respective state governments may take up the initiative for Awareness Campaigns among the Past Champion Athletes in their states which will ensure local Past Champion Athletes' availability in every KICs. For new centres/disciplines notified under KIC, a one-time grant of ₹ 5 lakhs per discipline will be provided for preparation/up-gradation of sports fields, purchase of sports equipment, sports kits, etc.

Sports Academies

The talent identified from sports competitions and other talent identification mechanisms is given an option to join SAI NCoE, TOPS NCoE, non-SAI NCoE or a Khelo India accredited academy so that adequate training support can be provided. Need-based support / Grants-in-aid for both recurring and non-recurring items shall be provided for the establishment, operation and maintenance of such sports academies in respect of identified disciplines to Sports Authority of India, State/UT Governments or to the private sector or sports person under Public Private Partnership (PPP)/CSR mode for facilitating and supplementing Long Term Athlete Development (LTAD) programme. Inter se rating of academics is done to facilitate selection of appropriate academics to be supported, based on which quantum of funds to be given is decided. Facilities for para-athletes are also a parameter for rating of academies.

- **Implementation Mechanism of Sports Academies**

The project is implemented through SAI/States/UTs/NSFs/Public or Private entities, including eminent sports persons. Evaluation criteria are devised for the selection of academies with the approval of the DPAC. Need-based support is provided for the engagement of High-Performance Director and Coaching staff, including foreign coaches, sports scientists, support staff, monitoring & performance measurement systems and non-recurring equipment. Common norms have been evolved for the purpose of identification of sports talent, training methodology, monitoring and performance measurement systems, LTAD, requirements of sporting facilities, sports science backup, sports medicine etc., so that there is some uniformity of processes to be implemented by various Institutes and Academies. The non-recurring expenditure may also be utilised to fund critical infrastructure gaps in such academies.

- **Budget of Sports Academies**

An appropriate budget is earmarked for need-based support for both creations of sports infrastructure and technical assistance in terms of coaches, sports science support, etc. to Sports academies on merit. Recurring expenditure is incurred for engagement of High-Performance Director, Coaches, Support Staff, Consumables, monitoring and performance measurement systems, competition exposure, education, etc., while non-recurring expenditure is incurred to fund critical infrastructure gaps, including equipment, in such academies.

The total cost per trainee per annum under the current norms for the funding of residential Khelo India Athlete (KIA) under accredited sports academies is ₹ 6,28,400. These KIAs are entitled for the financial support in tune of ₹ 5.00 Lakhs per annum and in addition to that ₹ 10,000/- per month as Out of Pocket Allowance (OPA). The KIAs, who have not joined any academy, are provided only OPA.

National Centres of Excellence (NCOEs)

The MYAS Annual Reports explains NCOEs as follows. “In its endeavour to train athletes to achieve excellence in Olympics and other International Events, Sports Authority of India has established NCOEs across the country to impart specialized training to promising athletes by providing state of the art infrastructure and playing facilities, sports science backup, individualized diet prescribed by trained nutritionists and overall supervision under the best coaches, qualified support staff and High Performance Directors. The National Centres of Excellence operate as regular coaching camps for the best available talent among juniors in India and provide concurrent layers of prospective sports persons, giving a wider choice of talent and continuity for selection to National Teams and providing alternative second and third options too. NCoE is capable of accommodating elite to development athletes.

- **Disciplines covered by NCOEs:** NCOEs cover 13 focused/priority disciplines and 11 other disciplines where Indian athletes are performing well and have chances to win medals in the International Events/ Championships/ Games. ‘**Focused Sports Disciplines**’ include Archery, Athletics, , Boxing, Cycling, Fencing, Hockey, Judo, Rowing, Swimming, Shooting, Table Tennis, Wrestling, and Weightlifting. While ‘**Other Disciplines**’ include Football, Gymnastics, Badminton, Basketball, Handball, Kabbadi, Kho-Kho, Kayaking & Canoeing, Para Sports, Taekwondo, Volleyball, Wushu
- **Admission Criteria:** Talent Identification and Development Committees of all the disciplines comprising eminent athletes, eminent coaches, NSF Representatives etc. of their respective disciplines have been entrusted with the responsibilities to select/weed out athletes from NCOEs.

.Sanctioned Strength: Depending on infrastructure availability, medal prospects, sport's popularity, and several other factors SAI from time to time prescribes the number of athletes which can be trained in each discipline at each NCOE. Total sanctioned strength is further divided into residential and non-residential athletes and further into male and female athletes to ensure adequate representation for all genders. As per the MYAS Annual Report of 2022-23, the approved sanctioned strength of athletes in the NCOEs is 4662 (2272 residential, 2390 non-residential). However, the working strength for the said year was 3108 athletes (1678 Boys & 1430 Girls).

Table No 15 : Number of SAI Centers and Strength of Athletes 2022-23

S.No	Name of the Schemes	No. of Centres	(Resi.)			(Non-Resi.)			Grand Total
			Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	
1	SAI National Centres of Excellence (NCOE)	24	1571	1362	2933	107	68	175	3108

(Source: MYAS Annual Report 2022-23)

- **Trained and Skilled Manpower:**

- **Coaching Staff:** NCOEs are providing the best training environment and coaching to the athletes training at NCOEs. To provide the best training to the athletes, apart from qualified SAI Coaches, reputed and experienced coaches are being hired or taken on deputation from other departments.

- **Scientific Staff:** In order to evaluate/support the performance of young athletes, scientific experts in the specialized field of Sports Anthropometry, Exercise Physiology, Strength & Conditioning, biomechanics, Sport Psychology, Sports Medicine, Physiotherapy etc. are being hired at each NCOEs.
- **Sports Science Facilities:** As regard to scientific back up at NCOEs, the specialised equipment required for evaluating/ enhancing the performance of young athletes are being made available in the NCOEs. The latest scientific equipment has been/ is being procured in the NCOEs. The total cost for setting up scientific facilities across NCOEs is Rs.80.00 Crores. The departments being set up in NCOEs include Anthropometry, Biometry, Biomechanics, Nutrition, Performance analysis, Physiology, Physiotherapy, Psychology and Strength and Conditioning.”



Fig No 2 : Five Pillars of NCOEs & Approach to Achieve Excellence

Details of Khelo India Centres and Sports Academies

Khelo India Centres

Establishment of Khelo India Centres has been vigorously pursued by the MYAS and most of the States/UTs. The spread of the KICs and KISCEs has a pan India imprint and much progress has been achieved in the creation of these structured places of sporting activity. The progress made in the establishment of Khelo India Centers (up to 31/12/23) is listed below:-

Table No 16 : Details of KICS and KISCEs Established

Details	KICs	KISCEs
Centres Planned	1250	-
Centres Notified	1031	32
Centres Operational	867	28
Funds Released/ Disbursed	₹ 62.71Crore (Recurring : ₹ 36.46 Crore and Non-Recurring : ₹ 26.25 Crore)	₹ 30.88 Crore (Recurring : ₹ 22.76 Crore and Non-Recurring : ₹ 8.11 Crore)
Athletes Trained	20,495	2,090

(Source : Govt of India, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Dept of Sports)

Details of the KICs and KISCEs which have been notified and their operational status has been obtained from Dept of Sports, MYAS. The details are elaborated hereafter and tabulated data is also appended below.

Out of total 786 districts in the country, KICs have been established at 730 districts. Some districts even have more than one KIC and cover more than one sporting discipline based on the geographical reasons, community centres and interest in sports of their populace. Out of the 730 districts having, 560 have one KIC, 136 have two KICs, 08 have three, 05 have four and 21 have five KICs. The maximum number of KICs established in one district of J&K is 20.

The sporting discipline being followed in the KICs is generally limited to only one sport, however out of the total 1031 KICs notified as on date 16 Centres have been notified for more than one game and go upto a maximum of seven sports disciplines (in Chandigarh) in each KIC.

The Past Champion Athletes employed as coaches in the KICs pan India have a mix of male and female athletes. Out of a total of 853 PCAs in the KICs 636 are males and 217 are females.

A total of 32 KISCEs have been notified in 31 States/UTs, of which 23 are fully operational and five are under process. Proposals for four KISCEs are awaited.

In Delhi State, a total of five districts have KICs and in remaining six districts KICs have yet not been set up. A total of seven KICs have been notified and operationalised covering seven sports disciplines. All KICs have total 8 PCAs (07 male and 01 female).

The details of the KICs and KISCEs with respect to their State wise Operational Status, District Covered Status and imprint of these Centres pan India is tabulated and marked on a geo tagged map and given out below.

Table No 17 : KICs – State Wise Operational & Non-Operational Status

Sr. No.	State/UTs	No. of Centres Operational	No. of Centres Non-operational	Total KICs Notified
1	Andaman & Nicobar	0	3	3
2	Andhra Pradesh	26	0	26
3	Arunachal Pradesh	43	11	54
4	Assam	55	10	65
5	Bihar	38	0	38
6	Chandigarh	1	1	2
7	Chhattisgarh	24	7	31
8	Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	1	3	4
9	Delhi	7	0	7
10	Goa	2	0	2
11	Gujarat	23	10	33
12	Haryana	15	8	23
13	Himachal Pradesh	15	1	16
14	Jammu & Kashmir	91	9	100
15	Jharkhand	23	1	24
16	Karnataka	28	3	31
17	Kerala	23	1	24
18	Ladakh	2	1	3
19	Lakshadweep	1	0	1
20	Madhya Pradesh	49	0	49
21	Maharashtra	43	0	43
22	Manipur	30	4	34
23	Meghalaya	24	0	24
24	Mizoram	12	10	22
25	Nagaland	32	0	32
26	Odisha	6	20	26
27	Puducherry	0	4	4
28	Punjab	28	0	28
29	Rajasthan	41	1	42
30	Sikkim	11	0	11
31	Tamil Nadu	38	0	38
32	Telangana	19	13	32
33	Tripura	11	3	14
34	Uttar Pradesh	78	2	80
35	Uttarakhand	17	0	17
36	West Bengal (NVS)	10	3	13
37	Indian Railways	0	35	35
Total		867	164	1031

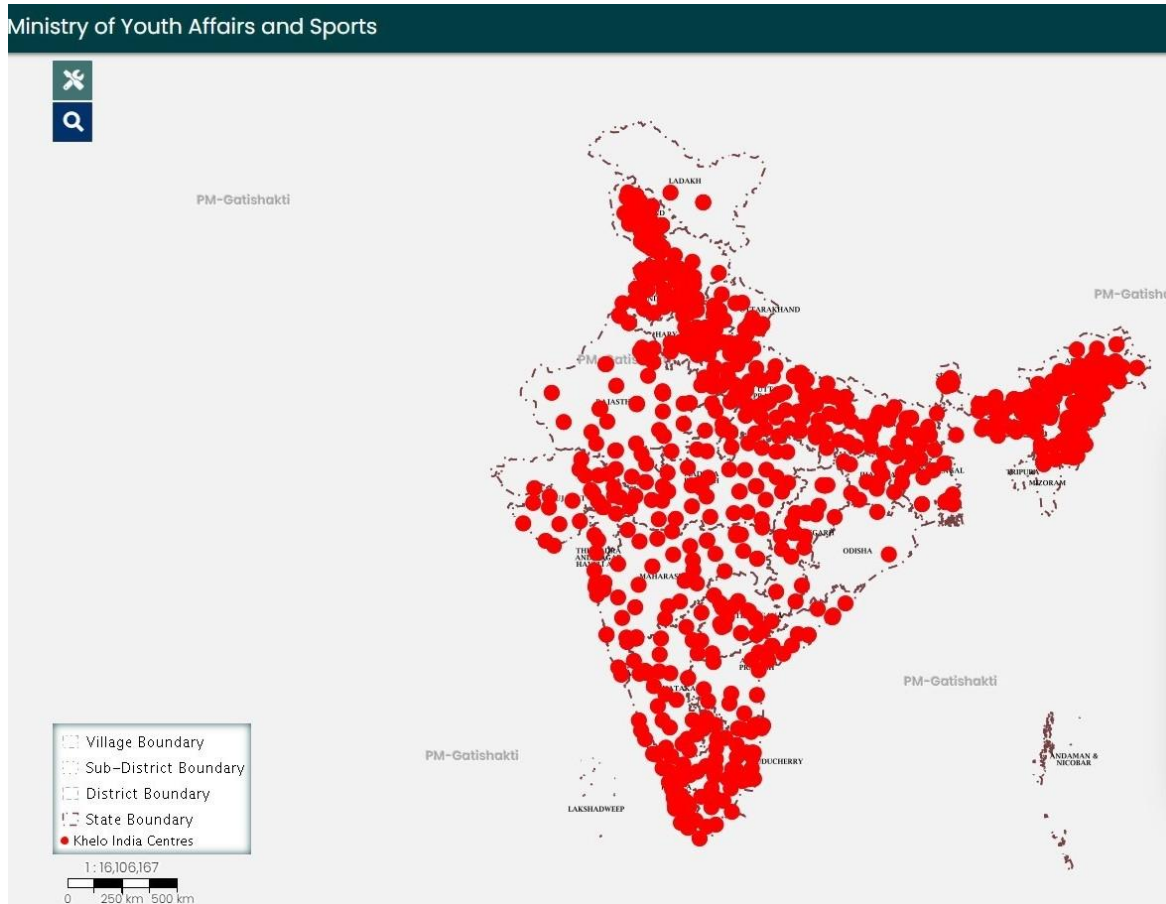
(Source : Govt of India, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Dept of Sports)

Table No 18 : Khelo India Centres - KICs (District Covered Status)

Sr. No.	State/UTs	Total Districts	No. of District Covered	No. of District Not Covered
1	Andaman & Nicobar	3	3	0
2	Andhra Pradesh	26	25	1
3	Arunachal Pradesh	26	26	0
4	Assam	35	33	2
5	Bihar	38	38	0
6	Chandigarh	1	1	0
7	Chhattisgarh	33	31	2
8	Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	3	3	0
9	Delhi	11	5	6
10	Goa	2	2	0
11	Gujarat	33	32	1
12	Haryana	22	18	4
13	Himachal Pradesh	12	12	0
14	Jammu & Kashmir	20	20	0
15	Jharkhand	24	24	0
16	Karnataka	31	31	0
17	Kerala	14	14	0
18	Ladakh	2	2	0
19	Lakshadweep	1	1	0
20	Madhya Pradesh	55	49	6
21	Maharashtra	36	36	0
22	Manipur	16	16	0
23	Meghalaya	12	12	0
24	Mizoram	11	11	0
25	Nagaland	16	16	0
26	Odisha	30	25	5
27	Puducherry	4	4	0
28	Punjab	23	23	0
29	Rajasthan	50	33	17
30	Sikkim	6	6	0
31	Tamil Nadu	38	37	1
32	Telangana	33	32	1
33	Tripura	8	8	0
34	Uttar Pradesh	75	75	0
35	Uttarakhand	13	13	0
36	West Bengal	23	13	10
Total		786	730	56

(Source : Govt of India, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Dept of Sports)

The spread of the Khelo India Centres across the country has been geo tagged and is shown out on a map given below:-



(Source : Govt of India, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Dept of Sports)

Fig No 3 : Map Showing Pan India Imprint of KICs

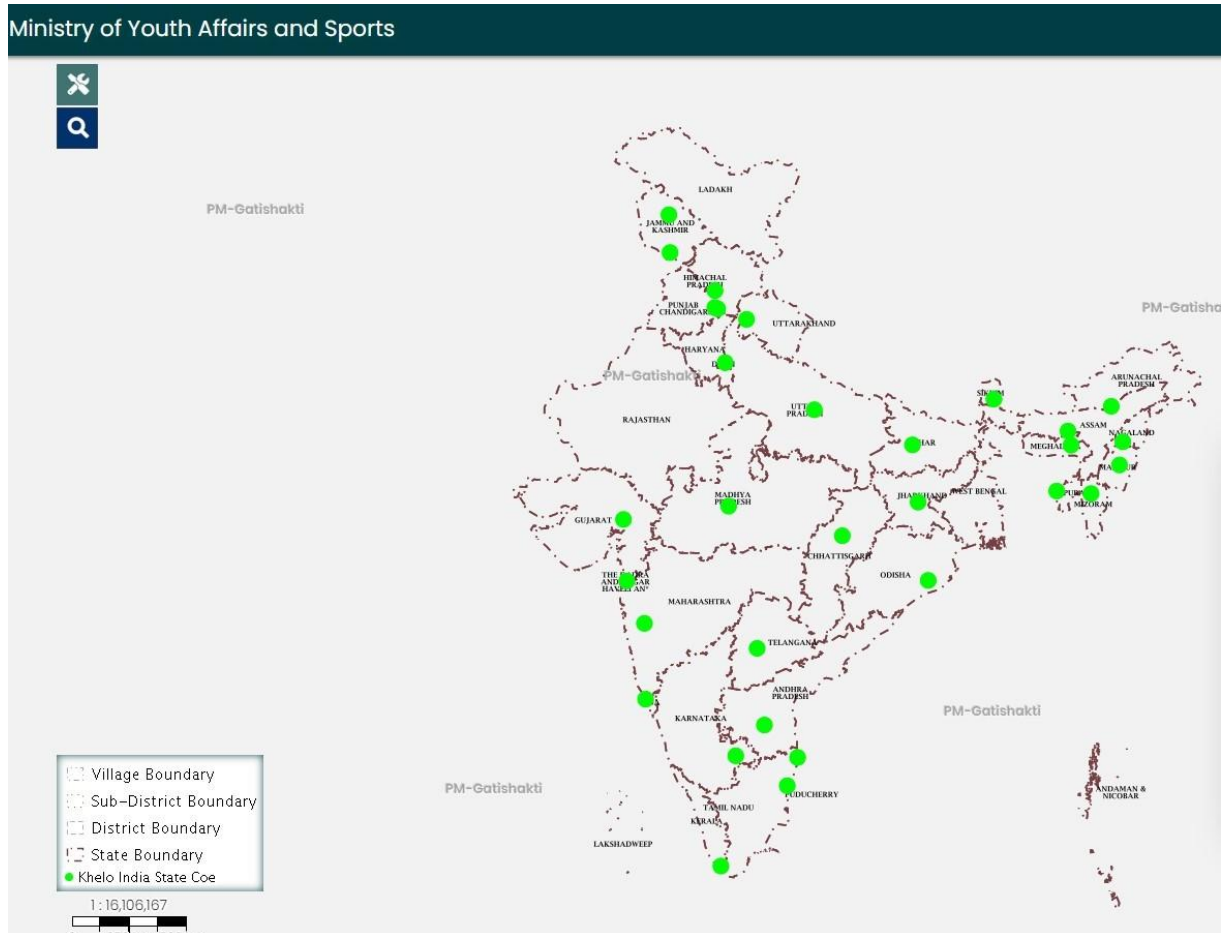
Table No 19 : State-Wise Operational Status Of KISCES

SN	States/UTs	Operational Status
1	Andaman and Nicobar	Revised Proposal Not Received
2	Andhra Pradesh	Operational
3	Arunachal Pradesh	Operational
4	Assam	Operational
5	Bihar	Operational
6	Chandigarh	Operational
7	Chattisgarh	Operational
8	DNH & DD	Operational
9	Delhi	Operational
10	Goa	Operational
11	Gujarat	Operational
12	Haryana	Operational
13	Himachal Pradesh	Operational
14	Jammu & Kashmir	Operational
15	Jharkhand	Viability Gap Funding approved. MoU pending
16	Karnataka	Operational
17	Kerala	Operational
18	Ladakh	Viability Gap Funding approved. MoU pending
19	Lakshadweep	Proposal Not Received
20	Madhya Pradesh	Operational
21	Maharashtra	Operational
22	Manipur	Operational
23	Meghalaya	Operational
24	Mizoram	Operational
25	Nagaland	Operational
26	Odisha	Operational
27	Puducherry	Operational
28	Punjab	Remarks of HPMs awaited for Athletics and Boxing for finalization of Viability Gap Funding
29	Rajasthan	Revised proposal awaited
30	Sikkim	Operational
31	Tamil Nadu	Operational
32	Telangana	Operational
33	Tripura	Operational
34	Uttar Pradesh	Meeting to be held with RC and State for finalization of VGF
35	Uttarakhand	Viability Gap Funding to be placed in DPAC for approval
36	West Bengal	Proposal Not Received
Total Notified KISCES (as on 21.02.2024)		32

Table No 18

(Source : Govt of India, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Dept of Sports)

The spread of the Khelo India Centres across the country has been geo tagged and is shown out on a map given below:-



(Source : Govt of India, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Dept of Sports)

Fig No 4 : Map Showing Pan India Imprint of KISCEs

Accredited Sports Academies

Details of the accredited sports academies have been obtained from Dept of Sports, MYAS. The details are elaborated hereafter and tabulated data is also appended below.

A total of 296 academies (222 Non-SAI and 74 NCOE & SAI) have been accredited for the training of the Khelo India athletes (KIAs). The total cost per trainee per annum under the norms for the funding of residential Khelo India Athlete under accredited sports academies is ₹ 6,28,400. KIAs who opt to train at any sports academy accredited under the Khelo India Scheme are entitled ₹ 10,000/- per month as 'Out of Pocket Allowance (OPA)'. The total amount of Rs 1.20 Lacs is disbursed quarterly to the KIAs. Besides the OPA, medical insurance of Rs 5000/- and funding of Rs 5,03,000 per athlete per annum is provided to the KI accredited academy where the athlete chooses to train.

It has been observed that Maharashtra has 41 sports academies accredited under the Khelo India Scheme, which offers their athletes multiple locations and facilities within their State to train. Similarly Karnataka has 35 and Punjab 26 accredited academies. Such sporting facilities offsets the limited number of completed sports infrastructure sanctioned under the Khelo India Scheme in these states.

In Delhi NCR, there are a total of 22 Khelo India accredited sports academies which cover 11 different sporting disciplines. Seven of these are non-residential type and remaining 15 have residential facilities for the athletes. Delhi State has 11 of these sports academies catering to nine disciplines and includes the five NCOEs being run in the five main stadia of Delhi. Eight are residential academies and three non-residential.

The State-wise Summary of Khelo India Accredited Sports Academies and details of the same in Delhi NCR and Delhi State are tabulated and given out below.

Table No 20 : Khelo India Accredited Academies

Sr. No.	State/UTs	Total Numbers in the State
1	Andaman & Nicobar	0
2	Andhra Pradesh	0
3	Arunachal Pradesh	3
4	Assam	7
5	Bihar	0
6	Chandigarh	4
7	Chhattisgarh	3
8	Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	0
9	Delhi	11
10	Goa	1
11	Gujarat	15
12	Haryana	17
13	Himachal Pradesh	7
14	Jammu & Kashmir	0
15	Jharkhand	2
16	Karnataka	35
17	Kerala	15
18	Ladakh	0
19	Lakshadweep	0
20	Madhya Pradesh	17
21	Maharashtra	41
22	Manipur	12
23	Meghalaya	0
24	Mizoram	0
25	Nagaland	0
26	Odisha	8
27	Puducherry	0
28	Punjab	26
29	Rajasthan	7
30	Sikkim	0
31	Tamil Nadu	19
32	Telangana	14
33	Tripura	0
34	Uttar Pradesh	14
35	Uttarakhand	0
36	West Bengal	8
Total		296

(Source : Govt of India, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Dept of Sports)

Table No 21 : Khelo India Accredited Academies in Delhi-NCR

S.No.	State/UT	Accredited Academies	Sports Discipline	Residential / Non-Residential
1	Haryana	Shining Star Academy, Bahadurgarh (Boys & Girls)	Badminton	Residential
2	Delhi	United Shuttlers, Delhi (Boys & Girls)	Badminton	Non-Residential
3	Uttar Pradesh	Olympus Sports Club, Noida, Uttar Pradesh (Boys & Girls)	Badminton	Non-Residential
4	Uttar Pradesh	United Shuttlers, Noida (Boys & Girls)	Badminton	Residential
5	Delhi	NCOE, IGSC, Delhi (Boys & Girls)	Cycling	Residential
6	Delhi	Sudeva Delhi Football Club, Civil lines	Football	Residential
7	Delhi	NCOE, IGSC, Delhi (Boys & Girls)	Gymnastics	Residential
8	Delhi	NCOE, MDNS, Delhi (Boys & Girls)	Hockey	Residential
9	Uttar Pradesh	Noida College of Physical Education, Gautm Budda Nagar (Girls)	Kabaddi	Residential
10	Haryana	Manav Rachna Centre of Excellence, Faridabad (Boys & Girls)	Shooting	Residential
11	Delhi	NCOE, KSSR, Delhi (Boys & Girls)	Shooting	Residential
12	Uttar Pradesh	Gyanshree School, Noida, Uttar Pradesh (Boys & Girls)	Shooting	Non-Residential
13	Delhi	NCOE, Dr. SPMSPC, Delhi (Boys & Girls)	Swimming	Residential
14	Delhi	Kendriya Vidyalaya S.P.G, Dwarka (Boys & Girls)	Swimming	Non-Residential
15	Uttar Pradesh	Gyanshree School, Noida, Uttar Pradesh (Boys & Girls)	Swimming	Non-Residential
16	Delhi	Stag Table Tennis Academy, Delhi (Boys & Girls)	Table Tennis	Non-Residential
17	Delhi	Table Tennis Foundation TT Academy, Sujan Singhji International School, Delhi (Boys & Girls)	Table Tennis	Residential
18	Haryana	Prana Pinnacle Sports Pvt. Ltd, Gurugram (Boys & Girls)	Table Tennis	Residential
19	Uttar Pradesh	Noida College of Physical Education, Gautm Budda Nagar (Boys & Girls)	Weightlifting	Residential
20	Haryana	Inderawati Charitable Trust, Gurgaon (Boys & Girls)	Wrestling	Non-Residential
21	Uttar Pradesh	Noida College of Physical Education, Gautm Budda Nagar (Girls)	Wrestling	Residential
22	Delhi	Virendera Sports & Education Academy, Narela (Boys & Girls)	Wrestling	Residential

(Source : Govt of India, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Dept of Sports)

Table No 22 : Khelo India Accredited Academies in Delhi

S.No.	State/UT	Accredited Academies	Sports Discipline	Residential / Non-Residential
1	Delhi	United Shuttlers, Delhi (Boys & Girls)	Badminton	Non-Residential
2	Delhi	NCOE, IGSC, Delhi (Boys & Girls)	Cycling	Residential
3	Delhi	Sudeva Delhi Football Club, Civil lines	Football	Residential
4	Delhi	NCOE, IGSC, Delhi (Boys & Girls)	Gymnastics	Residential
5	Delhi	NCOE, MDNS, Delhi (Boys & Girls)	Hockey	Residential
6	Delhi	NCOE, KSSR, Delhi (Boys & Girls)	Shooting	Residential
7	Delhi	NCOE, Dr. SPMSPC, Delhi (Boys & Girls)	Swimming	Residential
8	Delhi	Kendriya Vidyalaya S.P.G, Dwarka (Boys & Girls)	Swimming	Non-Residential
9	Delhi	Stag Table Tennis Academy, Delhi (Boys & Girls)	Table Tennis	Non-Residential
10	Delhi	Table Tennis Foundation TT Academy, Sujan Singhji International School, Delhi (Boys & Girls)	Table Tennis	Residential
11	Delhi	Virendera Sports & Education Academy, Narela (Boys & Girls)	Wrestling	Residential

(Source : Govt of India, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Dept of Sports)

Sports Competitions Conducted and Disciplines Supported Under Khelo India Scheme

The Khelo India Athletes undergoing coaching at the KICs, KISCEs or the sports academies and NCOEs are selected based on their performance in various sports competitions to include the Khelo India Games.

Khelo India Games are the basic platform to showcase sporting skills and spotting talent and providing development pathways for gifted and talented children to achieve excellence. The following National-level competitions are to be conducted annually in respect of high priority/priority sports disciplines and indigenous games.:-

- Khelo India Youth Games.
- Khelo India University Games.
- Khelo India Winter Games.
- Khelo India Paralympic Games.

The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports provides a suitable administrative and financial mechanism to organise the conduct of competitions. The State Government takes care of host city infrastructure and sports infrastructure wherever required. MYAS may provide financial assistance for a top-up of sports infrastructure of the State and/or University through the Creation and Upgradation of Sports Infrastructure or other relevant components in case the need arises.

The Khelo India Scheme supports all Olympic sports. Besides these, the Scheme also encourages sports that promote inclusiveness. These include promotion of rural and indigenous/tribal games, sports for persons with disabilities and sports among women. Sporting activities for promotion of fitness to citizens such as Fit India Cyclothon, Fit India Run, Mountain-biking, Trans Himalayan expedition, Fit India Games, etc. also fall under the ambit of the Scheme and can be funded from the programme.

The details of sports supported by the Khelo India Scheme during the Khelo India University Games & Youth Games, conducted over the past few years are tabulated below:-

Table No 23 : Sports Disciplines in Khelo India University Games

S.No.	KIUG 2020 Odisha (17)	KIUG 2021 Karnataka (20)	KIUG 2022 Uttar Pradesh (21)	KIUG 2022 Guwahati (20)
1	Archery	Archery	Archery	Archery
2	Athletics	Athletics	Athletics	Athletics
3	Badminton	Badminton	Badminton	Badminton
4	Basketball	Basketball	Basketball	Basketball
5	Boxing	Boxing	Boxing	Boxing
6	Fencing	Fencing	Fencing	Fencing
7	Football	Football	Football	Football
8	Hockey	Hockey	Hockey	Hockey
9	Judo	Judo	Judo	Judo
10	Kabaddi	Kabaddi	Kabaddi	Kabaddi
11	Swimming	Swimming	Swimming	Swimming
12	Table Tennis	Table Tennis	Table Tennis	Table Tennis
13	Tennis	Tennis	Tennis	Tennis
14	Volleyball	Volleyball	Volleyball	Volleyball
15	Weightlifting	Weightlifting	Weightlifting	Weightlifting
16	Wrestling	Wrestling	Wrestling	Wrestling
17	Rugby	Yogasana	Yogasana	Yogasana
18		Mallakhamb	Mallakhamb	Mallakhamb
19		Shooting	Shooting	Shooting
20		Karate	Rugby	Rugby

(Source : Govt of India, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Dept of Sports)

Table No 24 : Sports Disciplines in Khelo India Youth Games

S.No.	KISG 2018 (16)	KIYG 2019 (18)	KIYG 2020 (20)	KIYG 2021 (25)	KIYG 2022 (27)	KIYG 2023 (28)
1	Archery	Archery	Archery	Archery	Archery	Archery
2	Athletics	Athletics	Athletics	Athletics	Athletics	Athletics
3	Badminton	Badminton	Badminton	Badminton	Badminton	Badminton
4	Basketball	Basketball	Basketball	Basketball	Basketball	Basketball
5	Boxing	Boxing	Boxing	Boxing	Boxing	Boxing
6	Football	Football	Football	Football	Football	Football
7	Gymnastics	Gymnastics	Gymnastics	Gymnastics	Gymnastics	Gymnastics
8	Hockey	Hockey	Hockey	Hockey	Hockey	Hockey
9	Judo	Judo	Judo	Judo	Judo	Judo
10	Kabaddi	Kabaddi	Kabaddi	Kabaddi	Kabaddi	Kabaddi
11	Kho-Kho	Kho-Kho	Kho-Kho	Kho-Kho	Kho-Kho	Kho-Kho
12	Shooting	Shooting	Shooting	Shooting	Shooting	Shooting
13	Swimming	swimming	Swimming	Swimming	Swimming	Swimming
14	Volleyball	Volleyball	Volleyball	Volleyball	Volleyball	Volleyball
15	Weight Lifting	Weight Lifting	Weight Lifting	Weight Lifting	Weight Lifting	Weight Lifting
16	Wrestling	Wrestling	Wrestling	Wrestling	Wrestling	Wrestling
17		Table Tennis	Table Tennis	Table Tennis	Table Tennis	Table Tennis
18		Tennis	Tennis	Tennis	Tennis	Tennis
19			Cycling	Cycling	Cycling	Cycling
20					Fencing	Fencing
21					Rowing	Rowing
22			Lawn Bowl	Handball	Kayaking & Canoeing	Kayaking & Canoeing
23				Thang-Ta	Thang-Ta	Thang-Ta
24				Gatka	Gatka	Gatka
25				Kalari Ppayattu	kalari Ppayattu	Kalari Ppayattu
26				Mallakhamb	Mallakhamb	Mallakhamb
27				Yogasana	Yogasana	Yogasana
						Silambam

Legend

	Host State Choice
	Indigenous Sports
	Conventional Sports

(Source : Govt of India, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Dept of Sports)

The Department of Sports in consultation with States has also emphasized on ‘One State- One Sports’ and has identified 14 disciplines to be developed as medal prospects for the forthcoming Olympic Games. Due priority is accorded to proposals related to identified disciplines in order to have a focused approach to broad base and create excellence in these disciplines. The 14 identified disciplines are as follows: -

- Archery
- Shooting
- Wrestling
- Weightlifting
- Athletics
- Judo
- Fencing
- Boxing
- Badminton
- Hockey
- Cycling
- Table Tennis
- Swimming
- Rowing

Annual Sports Competitions

Under “Sports Competition and Talent Development” component, Khelo India helps to provide a platform for talented athletes for development of pathways for gifted and talented children to achieve excellence. The Central Government organizes National –level competitions, i.e., Khelo India Youth Games and Khelo India University Games, in r/o high priority/priority sports disciplines, like, Archery, Athletics, Badminton, Basketball, Boxing, Cycling, Football, Gymnastics, Handball, Hockey, Judo, Kabaddi, Kho-Kho, Shooting, Swimming, Table Tennis, Tennis, Volleyball, Weightlifting, Wrestling etc. at various places across the country.

The Khelo India Youth Games and University Games are organized in association with various stakeholders such as NSFs, States/UTs, AIU etc. The athletes in Khelo India Youth Games represent the States / UTs. The details of various Khelo India Games conducted so far are tabulated below: -

Table No 25 : Details of Various Khelo India Games Conducted Till 2023

S. No.	Name of the Event	Venue	Dates	No. of Athletes Participated
1.	Khelo India School Games, 2018	New Delhi	31 st Jan to 08 th February 2018	3507
2.	Khelo India Youth Games, 2019	Pune	09 th to 20 th January, 2019	5922
3.	Khelo India Youth Games, 2020	Guwahati	10 th to 22 nd January, 2020	6130
4.	Khelo India Youth Games, 2021	Panchkula	4 th June to 13 th June, 2022	4453
5.	Khelo India Youth Games, 2022	Bhopal	30 th January to 11 th February, 2023	4783
6.	Khelo India Youth Games, 2023	Chennai	19 th to 31 st Jan 2024	4454
7.	Khelo India University Games, 2020	Bhubaneswar	22 Feb to 01 Mar, 2020	3182
8.	Khelo India University Games, 2021	Bengaluru	23 rd April to 3 rd May 2022	3894
9.	Khelo India University Games, 2022	Lucknow	25 th May to 3 rd June 2023	3613
10.	Khelo India Winter Games, 2020	Gulmarg	7 th to 11 th March, 2020	1123
11.	Khelo India Winter Games, 2021	Gulmarg	26 th February to 2 nd March, 2021	1208
12.	Khelo India Winter Games, 2023	Gulmarg	10 th to 14 th February, 2023	2023
13.	Khelo India Para Games, 2023	New Delhi	10 th to 17 th December, 2023	1370

(Source : Govt of India, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Dept of Sports)

Talent Search and Development

Based on the laid down guidelines, selected talent is identified as Khelo India Athletes (KIAs) and they are given an option to join SAI or Non-SAI accredited academy for training purpose. The previous table of details of Khelo India Games conducted till date shows a very healthy and well subscribed participation of sportspersons in the Khelo India Games over the past few years. The Games have gained tremendous popularity in all states who are now vying for organising the conduct of the event in their cities and stadiums. The Games also serve as a feeder source of athletes for higher training .

Out of a sanctioned strength of 3000 KIAs a total of 2760 athletes have currently been selected and are training under the Scheme. Of these 1044 athletes were added in 2023 itself in various disciplines. The KIAs have been performing well over the past few years and have even participated in international sporting events. The details of international participation and achievements of the KIAs since 2018 is as follows:-

Table No 26 : International Achievements of Khelo India Athletes

<u>Achievements of KIAs</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
Participation	92	275	24	238	495	417
Medals	82	206	9	140	312	382

(Source : Govt of India, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Dept of Sports)

Conclusion

The component of 'Khelo India Centres and Sports Academies' is playing a key role in implementation of the Khelo India Scheme. While the Khelo India Centres are 'infusing sports culture' in the country at the grassroots level and are being established at the district level for 'broad-basing of sports, the Khelo India State Centres of Excellence targets the 'excellence in sports' part of the vision and mission of the Scheme. By augmenting the utilization of existing sports infrastructure available in the State, PSU, autonomous bodies, Schools, Universities (including Private universities), and other organizations and provision of a Past Champion Athlete as a coach, there is visible and voluntary participation observed in sporting activity in the KICs (especially in Delhi) at the local level and the trend is encouraging with participation likely to increase.

The role of the NCOEs and other KI accredited sports academies is also well defined with laid out structure and funding. Khelo India Athletes are being selected and trained in these academies and provided with state of art facilities, constructive coaching, incorporation of sports science and sports medicine. The results have started being seen in international championships and national events.

Thus the scheme strengthens the sports ecosystem at both the grassroots level as also at the professional and competitive level. Ownership of the subject and concerted efforts by States coupled with oversight and additional resources and funds from the Centre is the way ahead to meet the stated aims of the Khelo India Scheme.

CHAPTER 7

A MACRO AND MICRO ANALYSIS OF KHELO INDIA SCHEME IN DELHI METROPOLIS

“Sports must become an indispensable and inseparable part of our social life. Competitiveness is just a by-product.”⁹

- *Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi*

Overview

The analysis in this chapter is based on data collected from primary sources in Delhi and info gathered from diverse stakeholders associated with the Khelo India Scheme both, within the government agencies and in the field. The researcher personally visited sports complexes, stadiums, and engaged in interviews and conversations with sports coaches, administrators, and athletes in Delhi, who are the true beneficiaries and prime target stakeholders of the Scheme.

To understand the holistic policy and procedural facets of the scheme, the researcher visited and interacted with the officials of Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (MYAS), Dept of Sports as well as Sports Authority of India, New Delhi SAI. For a realistic and comprehensive and on ground assessment, five sports institutions in Delhi, which include two Khelo India Centres and three Khelo India accredited sports academies, which are National Centres of Excellence, were also visited and studied. Varying sporting events were covered

⁹ Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports. (2023). *Khelo India Booklet*

across the spectrum of these sporting institutions to include Swimming, Hockey, Table Tennis, Gymnastics and Athletics. Details of sports institutions visited are tabulated below and few photographs of visit to these places are enclosed as *Annexure 1*:-

Table No 27 : Details of Khelo India Centres and NCOEs Visited

S.No	State/UT	Accredited Academies	Sports Discipline	Residential/ Non residential
1	Delhi	National Centre of Excellence, Indira Gandhi Spots Complex (Boys & Girls)	Gymnastics	Residential
2	Delhi	National Centre of Excellence, Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium, (Boys & Girls)	Hockey	Residential
3	Delhi	National Centre of Excellence, Dr. Shyam Prasad Mukherjee Swimming Pool Complex, (Boys & Girls)	Swimming	Residential
4	Delhi	Sports Complex F-Block Vikaspuri, West	Table Tennis	Operational
5	Delhi	East Vinod Nagar Sports Complex	Athletics	Operational

Findings of the Research Survey

For the study, a questionnaire on various facets of the Khelo India Scheme was prepared and distributed to respondents by means of a Google Form. A total of 201 responses made up the sample and inputs received were duly analysed. The Questionnaire circulated to the environment is appended to this Dissertation as *Annexure 2*, and the findings of the survey are elucidated in the succeeding paragraphs.

Beneficiary Profile

The findings indicated that the participants belonged to various schools, colleges, universities and were locals as well as athletes from other states undergoing training at NCOEs. As per the data collected, **21.9%** of students in the 14–16 age group and **20.4%** of students in the 16–18 age group were the main participants in the program. Education profile of the participants was **25.4%** studying in class 9th and 10th, another **21.4%** were senior school children of 11th & 12th standard and **16.4%** were from junior classes of 8th standard and below. **21.9%** were pursuing graduation and post graduate composition was a mere **6%**. This data elucidates that majority of the participants of the Khelo India scheme comprises younger age profile participants.

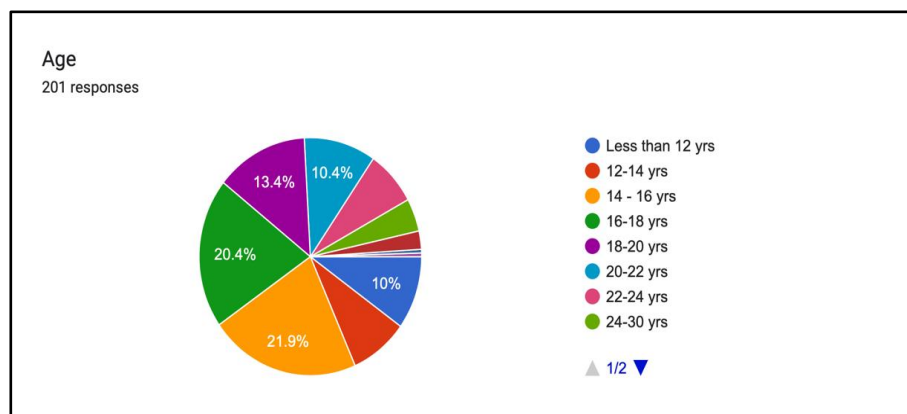


Fig No 5 : Age Profile

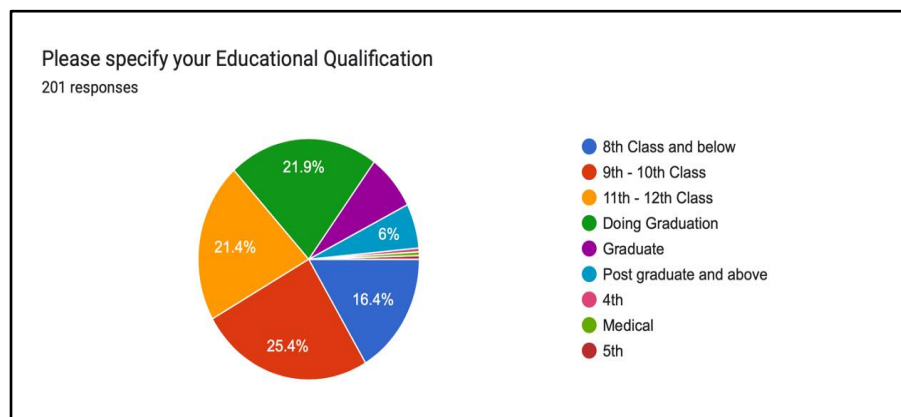


Fig No 6 : Educational Profile

In terms of *gender distribution*, the percentage of female versus male participants was (53.2% versus 46.8%), respectively, indicating that male athletes participate in these programs at a rate that is approximately just slightly (6%) higher. This is a positive trend because as it shows that almost equal numbers of female athletes are participating and competing in sports.

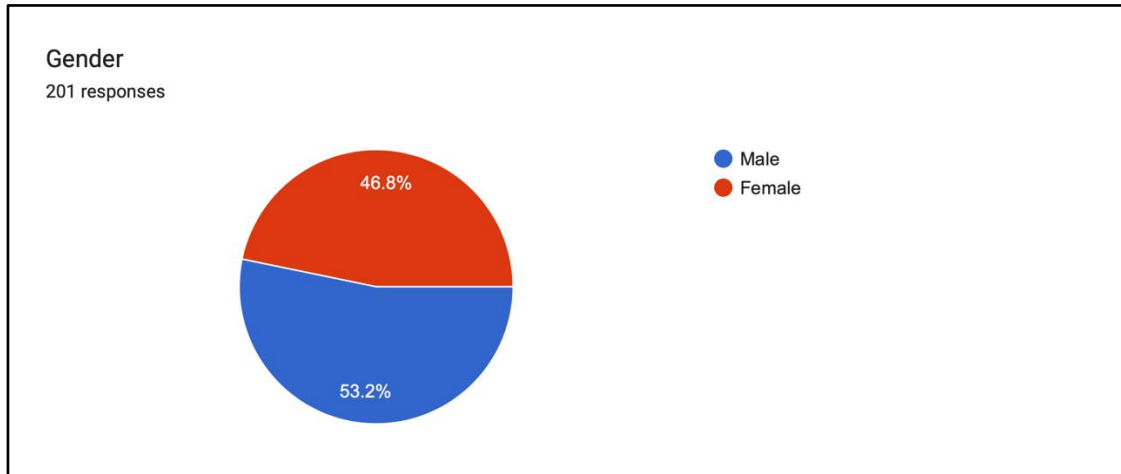


Fig No 7 : Gender Distribution Profile

When the *professional backgrounds* of the scheme's beneficiaries are examined, it can be shown that 84.6% of the respondents were students, with the remaining respondents being coaches or senior athletes, public & private sector employees.

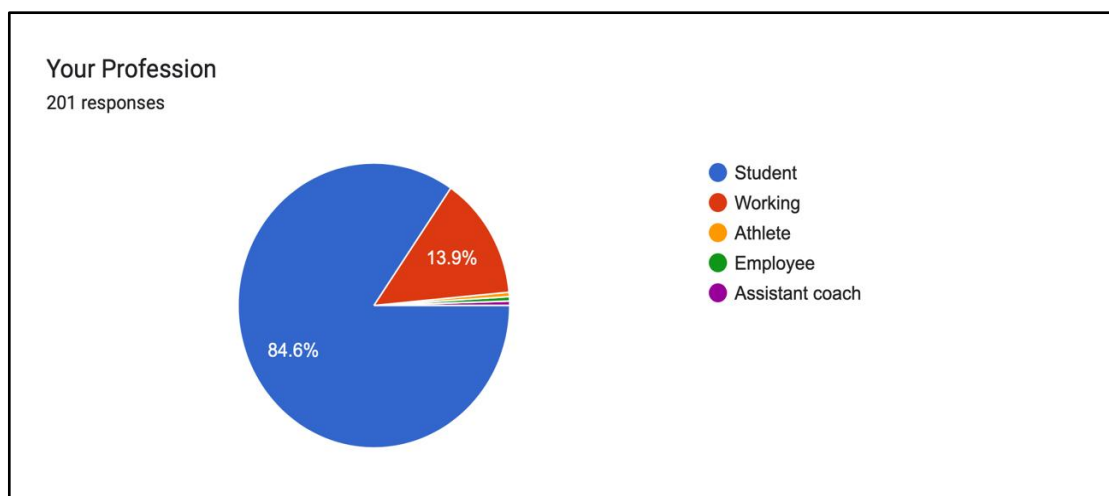
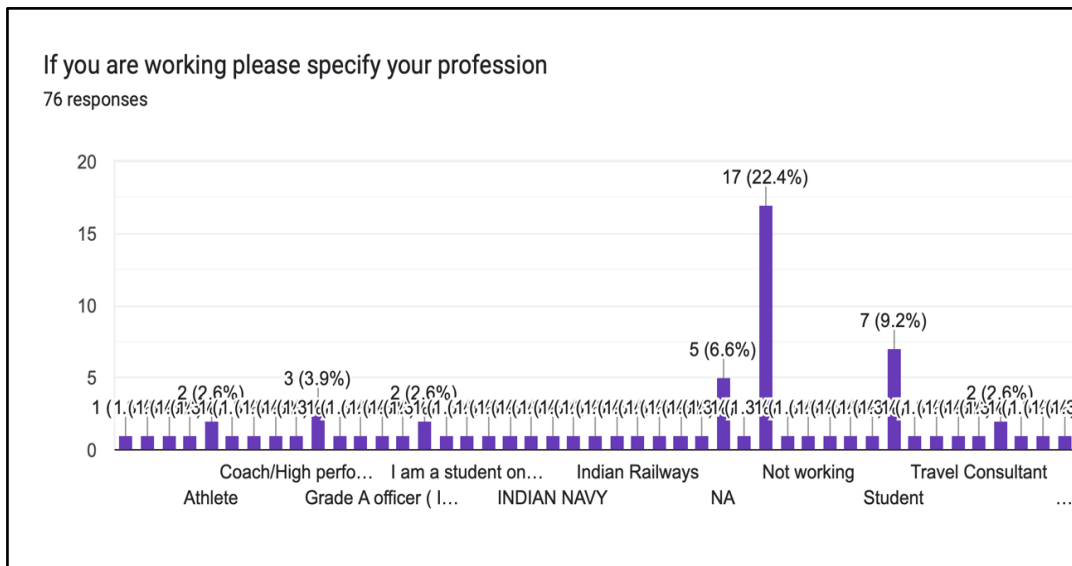


Fig No 8 : Profession Profile



Graph No 7 : Work Profile

The deeper analysis on the *social milieu data*, reveals the demographic breakdown of respondents with a diverse representation, with **57.2%** hailing from the general category, **29.4%** from the Other Backward Classes (OBC), **10.4%** from the Scheduled Castes (SC), and **3%** from the Scheduled Tribes (ST). This distribution sheds light on the nuanced engagement of various societal groups with sporting facilities and schemes.

The significance of these statistics lies in understanding the societal impact of sports participation. The data suggests that more than half of the respondents (**53%**), being from the general category, are actively involved in or benefiting from these sports-related initiatives. This information could be pivotal for policymakers and stakeholders aiming to tailor their strategies to different demographic groups.

The findings also suggest that a significant proportion of respondents from the combined categories of OBC, SC, and ST (approximately **47%**) are involved in sports. This challenges stereotypes and highlights the inclusivity of sporting initiatives. It demonstrates that, when provided with adequate opportunities and resources, individuals from diverse backgrounds actively embrace a healthy and sporty lifestyle. Understanding these dynamics

can guide the formulation of policies and initiatives that are more responsive to the diverse needs and preferences of various demographic segments, ultimately fostering a healthier and more integrated society.

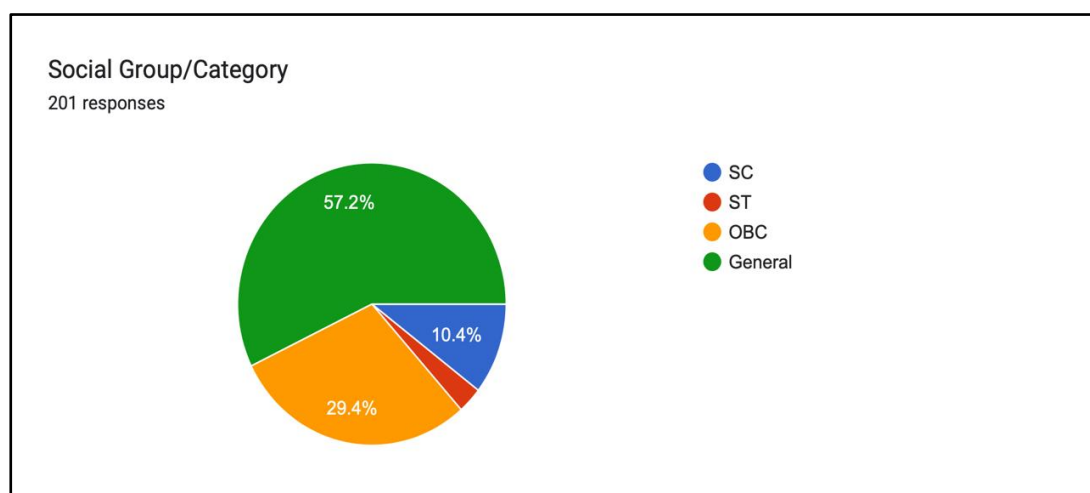


Fig No 9 : Social Group Profile

Analysing the *income profile of participants* in the Khelo India scheme is essential for gaining a comprehensive understanding of the program's impact and effectiveness. Examining the income levels of participants helped gauge the inclusivity of the Khelo India scheme. It indicated whether individuals from various income brackets are actively engaging in sports activities promoted by the program. Understanding the accessibility of the scheme across income groups is crucial for ensuring that it reaches a broad demographic and does not inadvertently exclude individuals due to financial constraints. Data showed that almost **21%** of the participants were in the income bracket of less than Rs 10,000/- per month and another **34.8%** of the participants belonged to the income category of monthly income between Rs 10,000-25,000. Analysing income profiles identifies challenges, such as, lack of resources for kit and equipment and travel expenses to place of training due to distances and time constraints, enabling policymakers to address barriers hindering participation from economically disadvantaged backgrounds. It also provides inputs on the program's impact on

social mobility, and gives insights into reach of the Scheme, breaking of socio-economic barriers and fostering sustainable sports engagement and development over time.

To enhance the effectiveness and equity of the Khelo India scheme, further examination of the income profile of participants may be integrated into the program evaluation process, in order to ensure that the Scheme continues to address the needs of a diverse range of individuals, fostering a more inclusive sports development landscape.

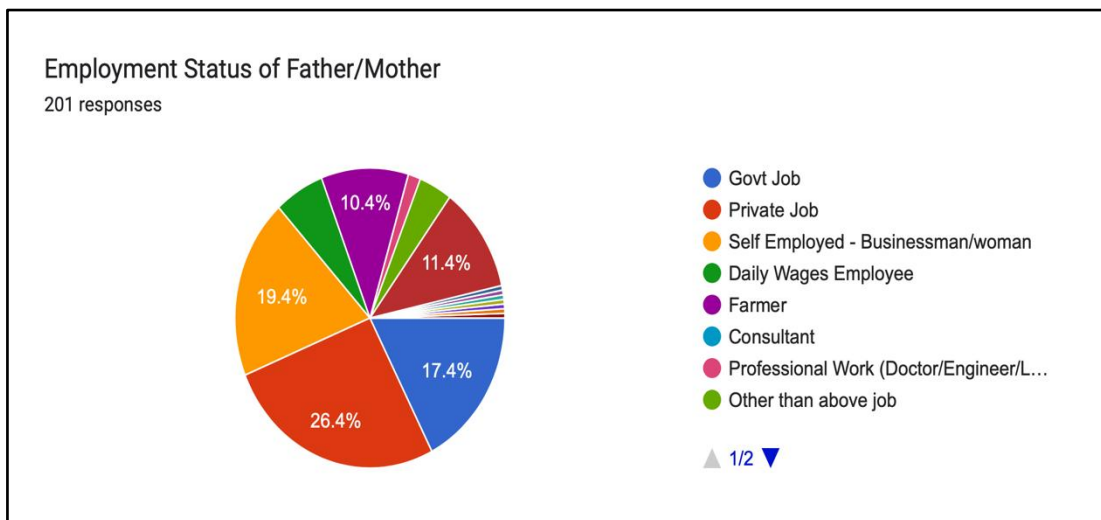


Fig No 10 : Family's Employment Status

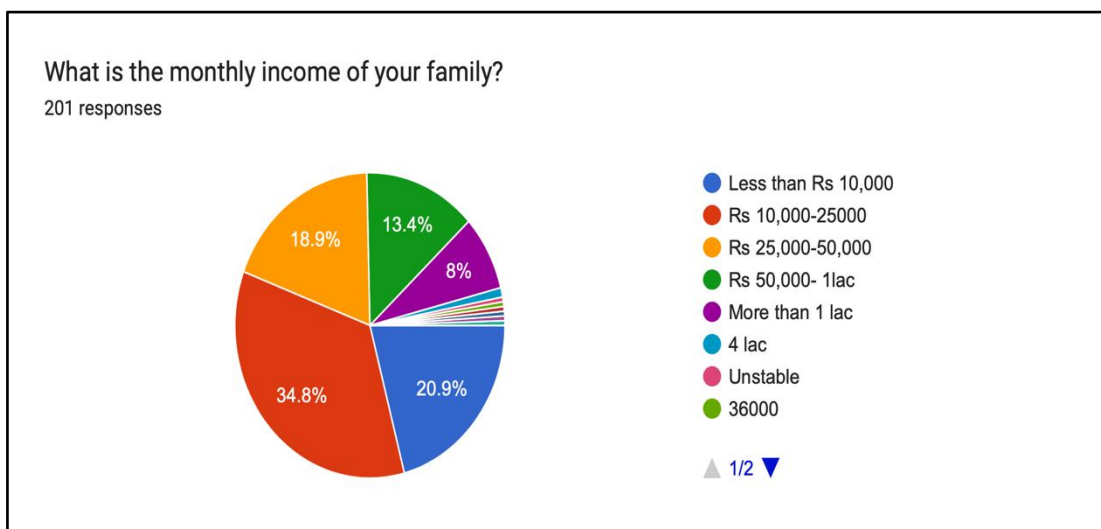


Fig No 11 : Family's Monthly Income statistics

Knowledge About the Khelo India Scheme

A significant majority of the 201 respondents (**88.1%**) said they were aware of the Khelo India program and only about (**11.9%**) did not know about the Scheme. However, (**33.3%**) of the information about the Khelo India Schemes was learnt through their educational institutions. And around (**18.4%**) from friends, family, and co-workers. Approximately (**16.9%**) of the participants learned about the program through social media and (**30 %**) through other means.

The instructors and sports coaches were the biggest motivators for the respondents to join the sports academies (**52.2%**). Though many of them joined out of their own choice (**24.4%**), about (**17.9%**) of the respondents were instructed by their parents to avail of the sporting schemes & facilities, whereas (**3.5%**) were influenced by their friends.

While about **55%** of the respondents brought out that most people were aware about the scheme, almost **30%** said that the details were limited to only those who were interested in sports or found out about it. About **15%** people are absolutely unaware about the program. These figures of awareness may be slightly exaggerated too since the respondents were those who were themselves participants.

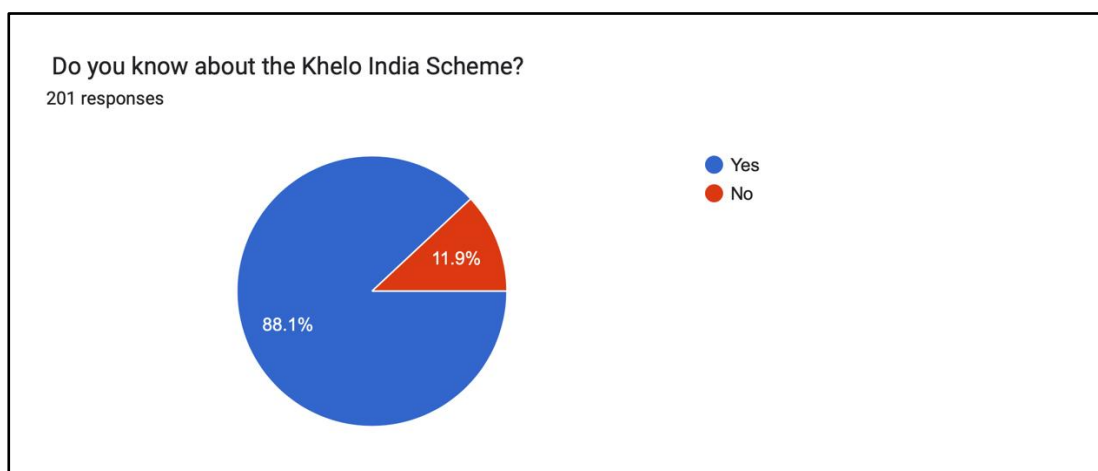


Fig No 12 : Awareness About the Scheme

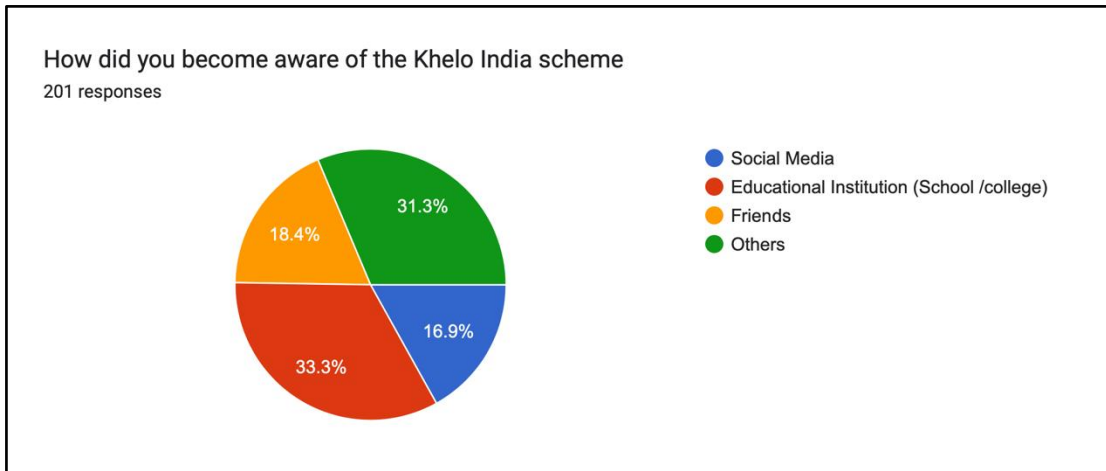


Fig No 13 : Means of Awareness

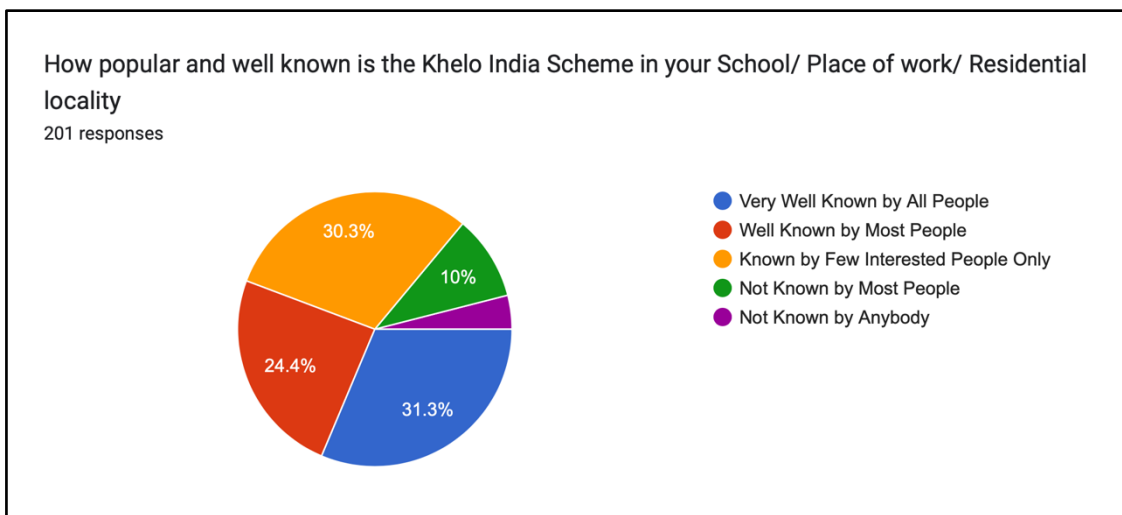


Fig No 14 : Popularity Levels

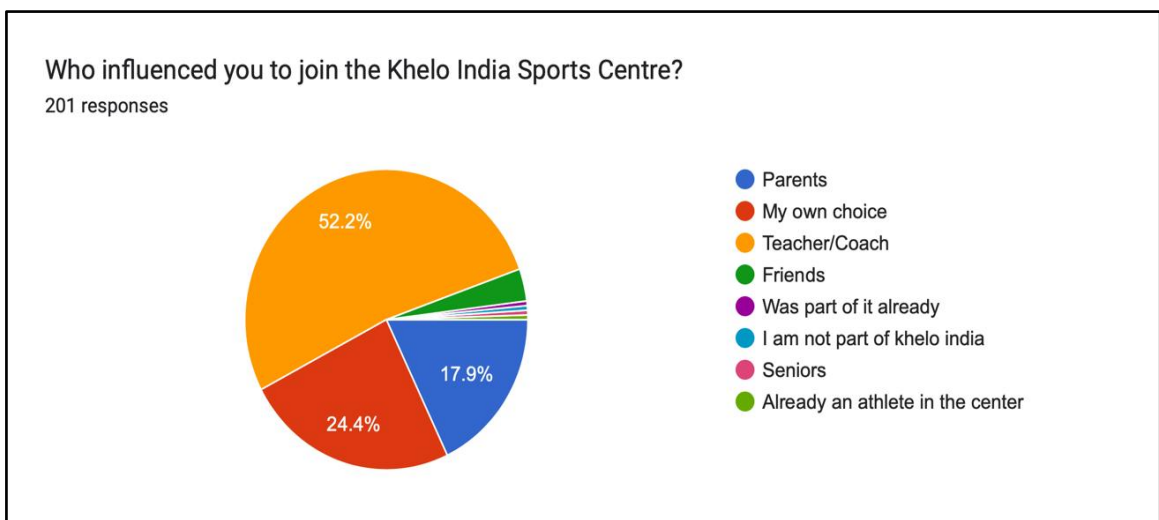


Fig No 15 : Details of Influencers

Participation Of Family Members In Khelo India Games.

In the questionnaire, respondents were asked if they or any family members had ever taken part in any Khelo India activities or programs. Just **14.4%** of respondents said that family members had previously taken part in sports programs, with **80.1%** of respondents giving a negative response. It was observed that even people from non-sporting background have come forward to join the scheme, thereby giving a positive indicator regarding promotion of sports. Moreover, the frequency of students visiting the sports center every day is **85.1%** and on alternate days it is **14.9%**. This seems to be an encouraging trend.

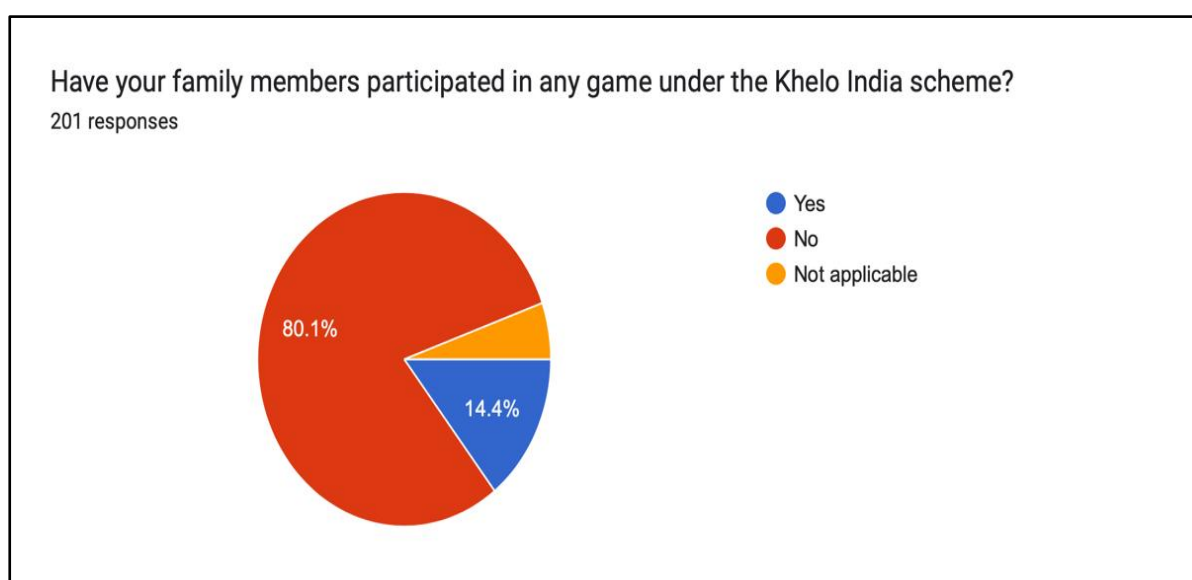


Fig No 16 : Family Member Participation

Playfields & Local Sports Facility

In Delhi, the availability of adequate playfields and sports facilities varies across different localities. While some areas boast well-maintained grounds and state-of-the-art sports facilities, others face challenges in providing sufficient infrastructure for recreational and competitive sports. However, certain localities may still lack accessible and well-equipped playfields, limiting opportunities for residents, especially children and aspiring

athletes, to engage in sports activities. Addressing these disparities and ensuring equitable access to quality sports facilities remains a crucial goal for promoting a healthier and more active lifestyle among Delhi's diverse population.

The respondents of the survey (**72.6%**) stated that there were enough playfields and sports facilities available in their residential locality, while **17.4%** highlighted distance constraint to the venues. However only **39.3%** were used by their families regularly for sporting activities or even for basic exercise or yoga, and **34.8%** of such facilities were used for non-sporting activities. While use of playfields for non sporting activities is against the spirit of sports, however requirement of open spaces for many other public activities cannot be brushed aside and there are mixed views about this aspect in society. Apropos, while optimal use and utility of sports venues perhaps needs to be monitored by the local administrative authorities, however this aspect warrants further deliberation.

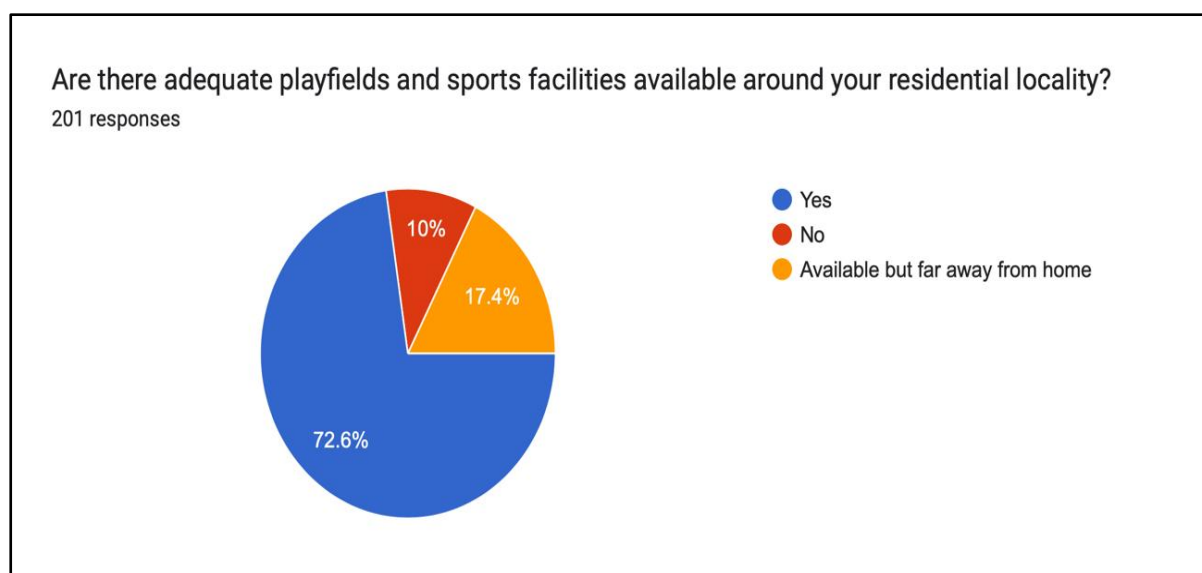


Fig No 17 : Sports Facilities near Residential Localities

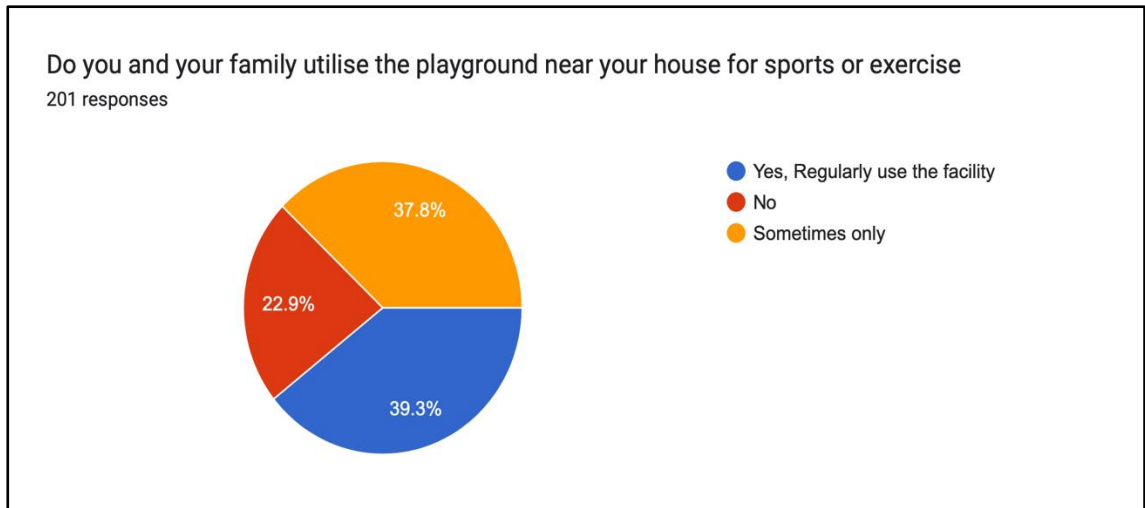


Fig No 18 : Utilisation of Local Playgrounds

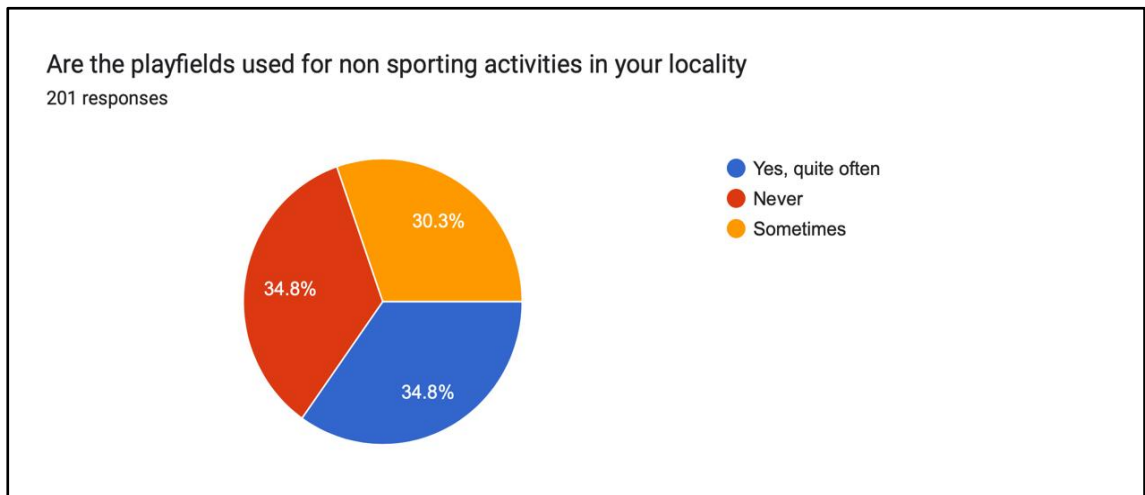


Fig No 19 : Use of Playgrounds for Non Sporting Activity

Approximately **85.1%** of the respondents regularly go for training & practice sessions every day and the bulk of the remaining **13.4%** go on alternate days. This may be attributable to either a deep passion for sports or also due to proximity and easy accessibility of the sporting venues from their place of residence, as felt by almost **95%** of respondents. This aspect of convenience of venue was more applicable to residential athletes in the sports academies and NCOEs. While in the case of KICs within a district the accessibility to the playfields is largely good, there is scope of better siting of facilities or increasing their numbers by creating more playfields in more pockets of communities.

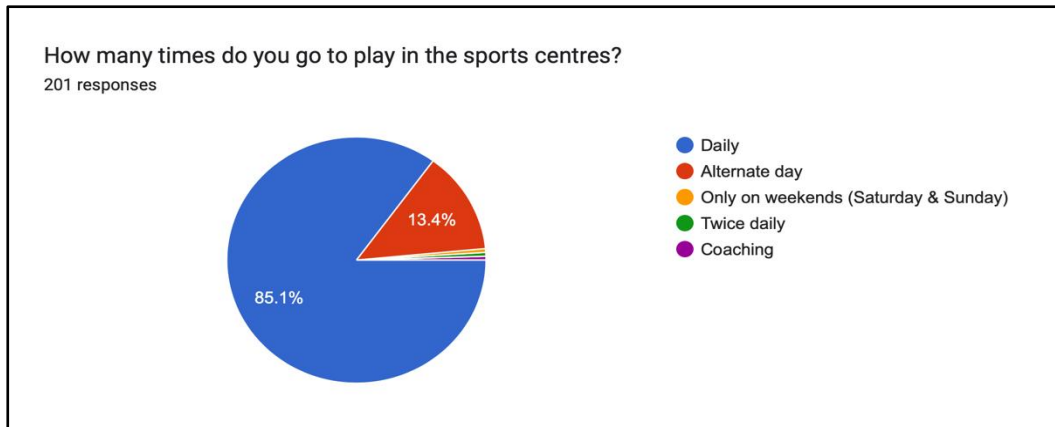


Fig No 20 : Frequency of Visits to Sports Centre

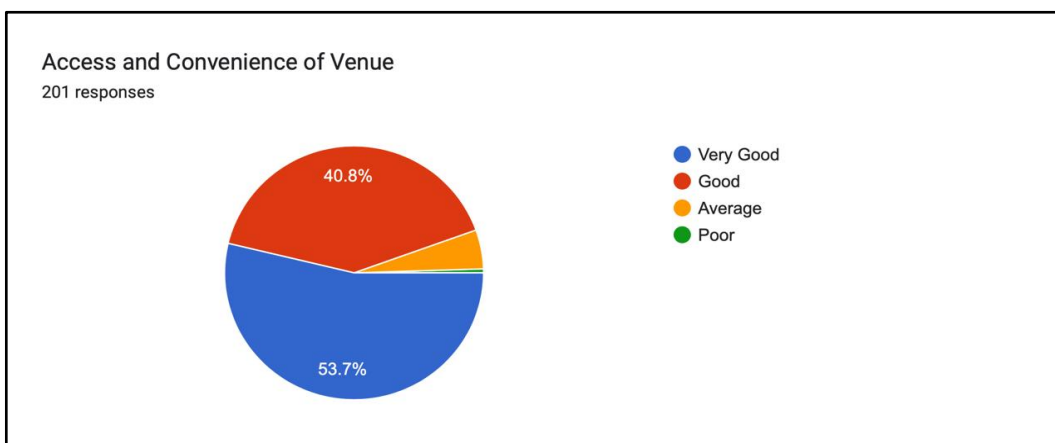


Fig No 21 : Access and Convenience of Venue

Academic Performance, Confidence, Community Engagement & Social Relationships

The inputs from the research questionnaire showed an upward graph with respect to the overall academic performance of the students in their respective schools and colleges due to participation in sports activities. Almost **50%** had improved in academics while about **44%** felt no change and only balance **6%** had issues in coping with studies.

About **94.5%** of the respondents were emphatic about the immense and positive impact of sports on their Self-esteem & Confidence. The players' psychological & emotional growth also benefited from this. **4.5%** respondents however were questioning of its contribution, with balance **1%** opining that it had no effect on their self-esteem & confidence.

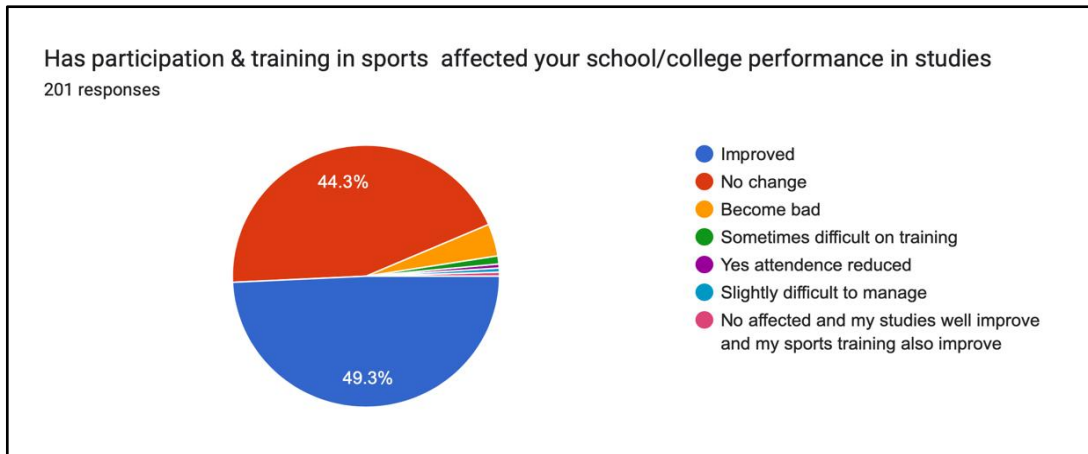


Fig No 22 : Effect on Academic Performance



Fig No 23 : Confidence Level

As per the data analysed more than **86.6%** of the respondents agreed their social network and circle of acquaintance had greatly expanded by participating in sports activities. This had further helped in building and boosting their self-confidence and honed their personality. Though **4%** felt otherwise and around **9.5%** were not sure about the impact of the scheme on their social circle. Participation in sporting activities not only serves as a means of physical well-being but also acts as a catalyst for social interaction. As individuals engage in sports, they form connections and relationships, contributing to the development of a more interconnected and supportive community. This analysis underscores the important role of sports in fostering community linkages.

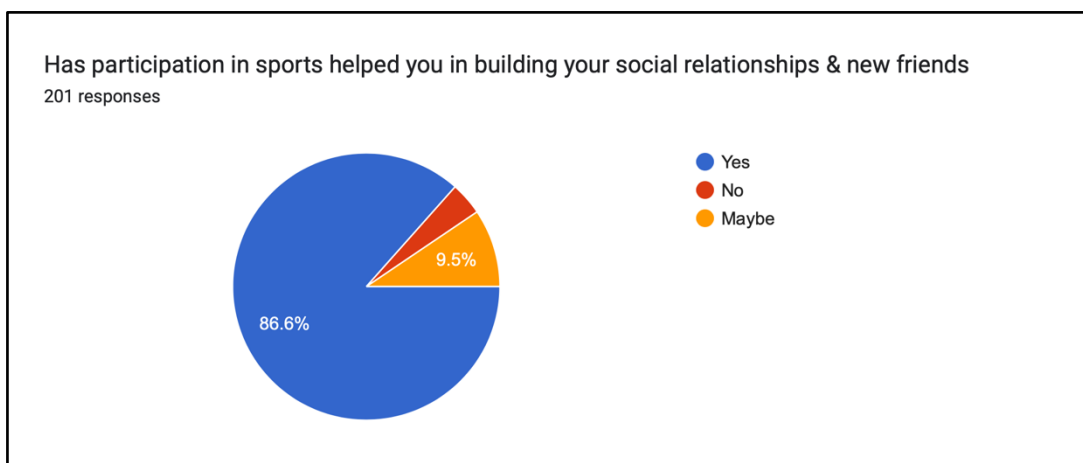


Fig No 24 : Community Relationship

Quality of Sports Infrastructure, Equipment, and Training

As seen from the data below, around **90%** athletes found the sports infrastructure to be **good**. In fact **52.2%** of the beneficiary of the schemes responded by agreeing that the sports infrastructure in the academy was **very good**. In fact, almost **94%** of the athletes felt that the equipment available in sports centres was of good quality or above however **1 %** felt that it was not up to the mark and was of poor standard.

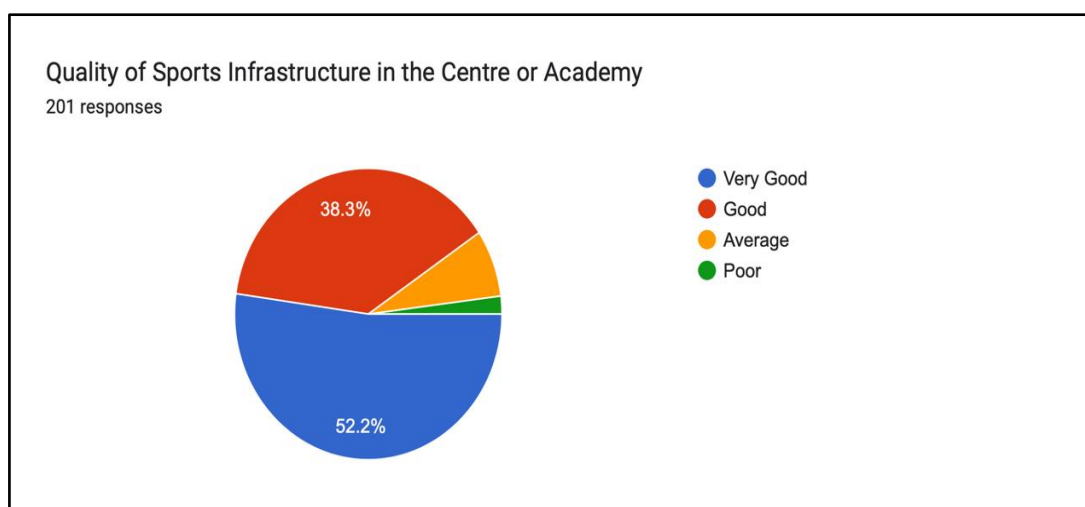
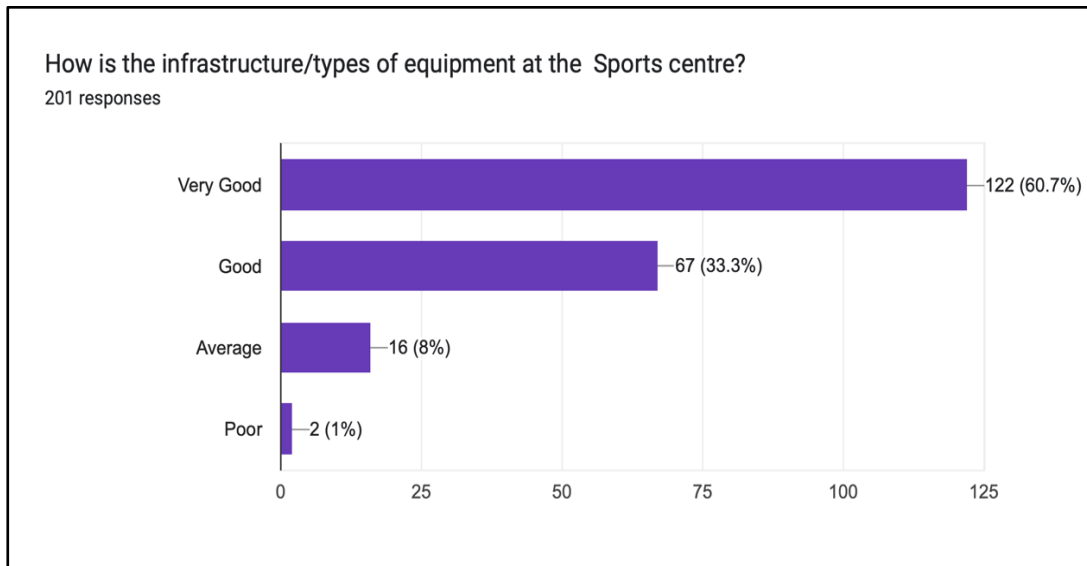


Fig No 25 : Quality of Sports Infrastructure



Graph No 8 : Quality of Sports Equipment

An encouraging input was that an overwhelming majority **96.5%** respondents said that the sports training activities was scheduled as per their convenience and understanding. The types and equipment was also appreciated by the survey respondents. Sport medicine facility and awareness is also provided in these centres for the athletes and coaches and 71.6% respondents confirmed incorporation of this feature in training schedules.

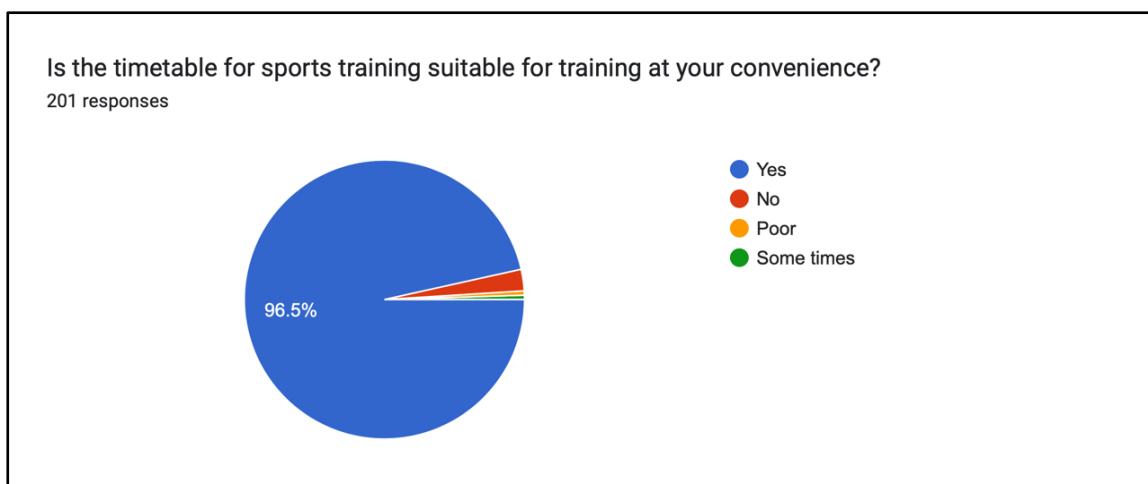


Fig No 26 : Convenience of Training Schedule

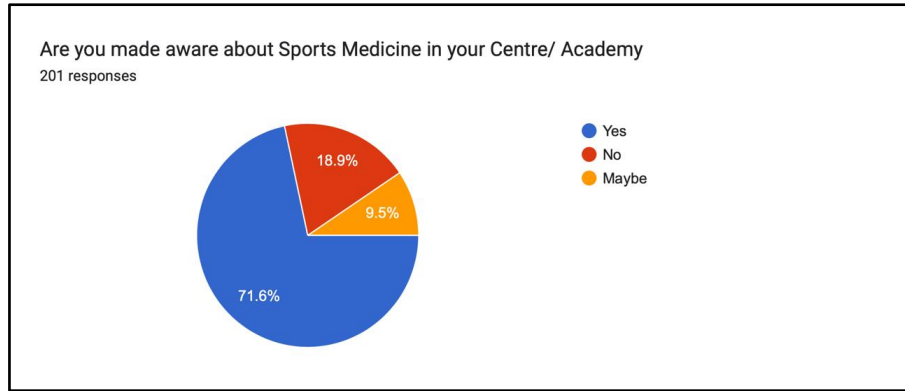


Fig No 27 : Awareness about Sports Medicine

Accommodation, Messing and Hygiene

The Khelo India initiative in Delhi has made commendable strides in enhancing the quality of sports infrastructure, with a keen focus on maintaining acceptable standards of hygiene and sanitary conditions, including toilet facilities. Equally crucial is the accommodation, which should provide a comfortable and conducive environment for rest and recuperation. Quality sleep is paramount for an athlete's recovery and performance, and a well-appointed accommodation ensures a peaceful and restorative atmosphere.

As regards the residential facility, around **60.7%** of the respondents found the residential sporting complex with very good infrastructure facilities, whereas **21.9%** of the respondents felt that they were just average.

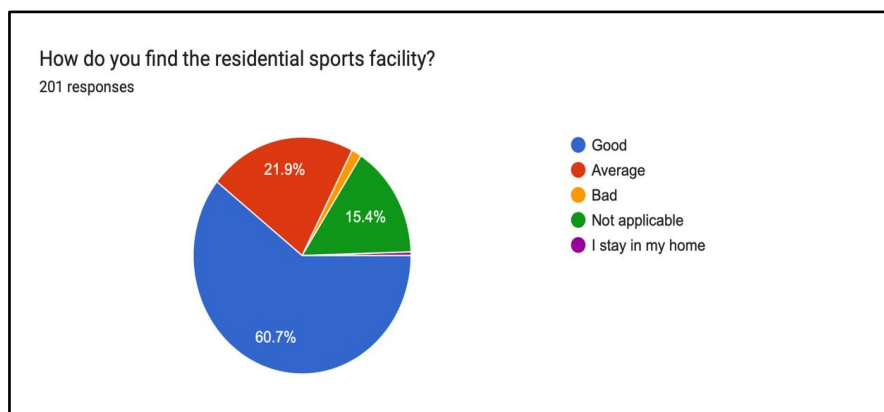


Fig No 28 : State of Residential Sports Facility

The quality of food and accommodation plays a pivotal role in optimizing performance and overall well-being of a sportsperson. Nutrient-dense meals tailored to meet the specific nutritional needs of athletes are essential for sustained energy, muscle recovery, and peak physical condition. A well-balanced diet rich in proteins, carbohydrates, vitamins, and minerals not only fuels intensive training sessions but also aids in faster recovery and injury prevention.

Attention to detail in both the nutritional and housing aspects contributes significantly to an athlete's ability to focus on training, maintain peak physical condition, and excel in their chosen sport. As per the data collected from the respondents with regards to their respective facilities provided by Khelo India Scheme, **63.1%** agreed that the quality of food and accommodation provided to them at their respective Centres in Delhi were good. Availability of a dietician was confirmed only by a similar **65%** of people. This parameter needs more focus & attention to ensure provision of correct nutrition to athletes under specialist training.

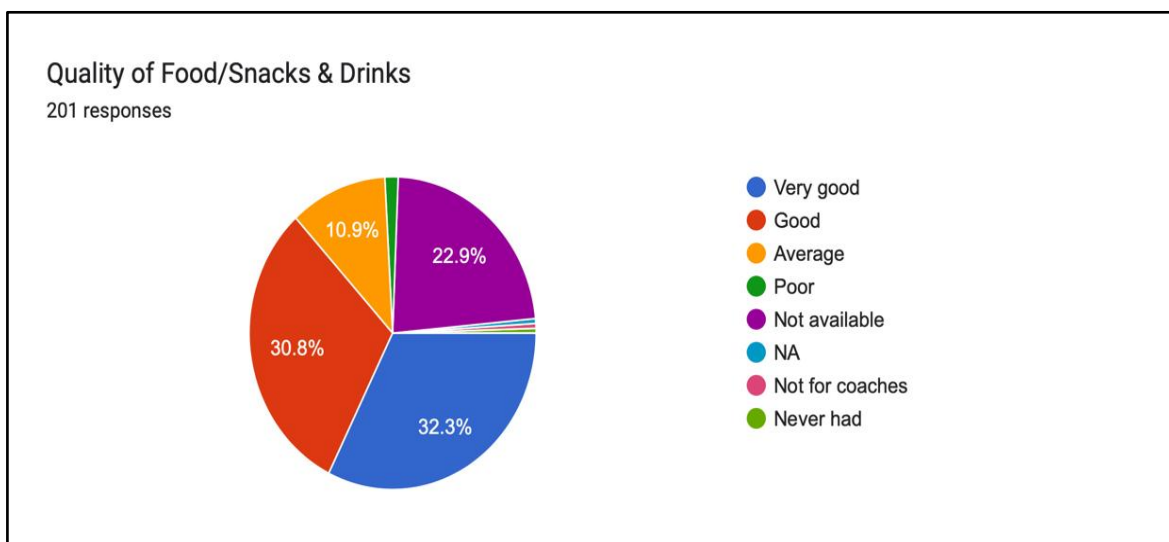


Fig No 29 : Measurement of Food Quality

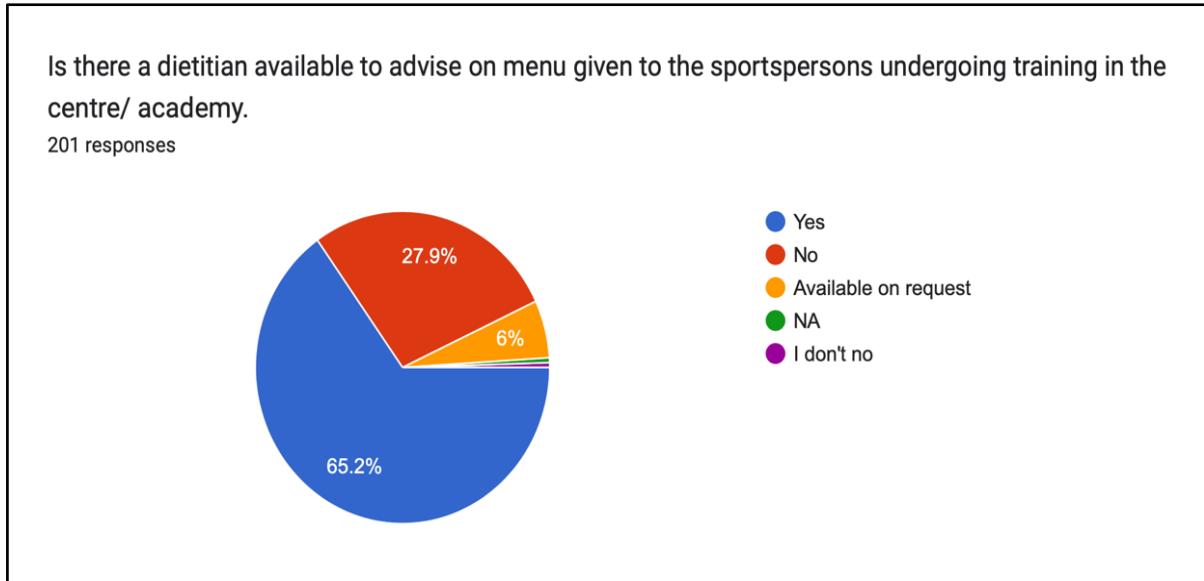


Fig No 30 : Status of Availability of Dietician

Only **71.2%** of the survey respondents felt that the toilet hygiene was good or above. This figure needs to be improved and focussed efforts may be put in on this particular aspect.

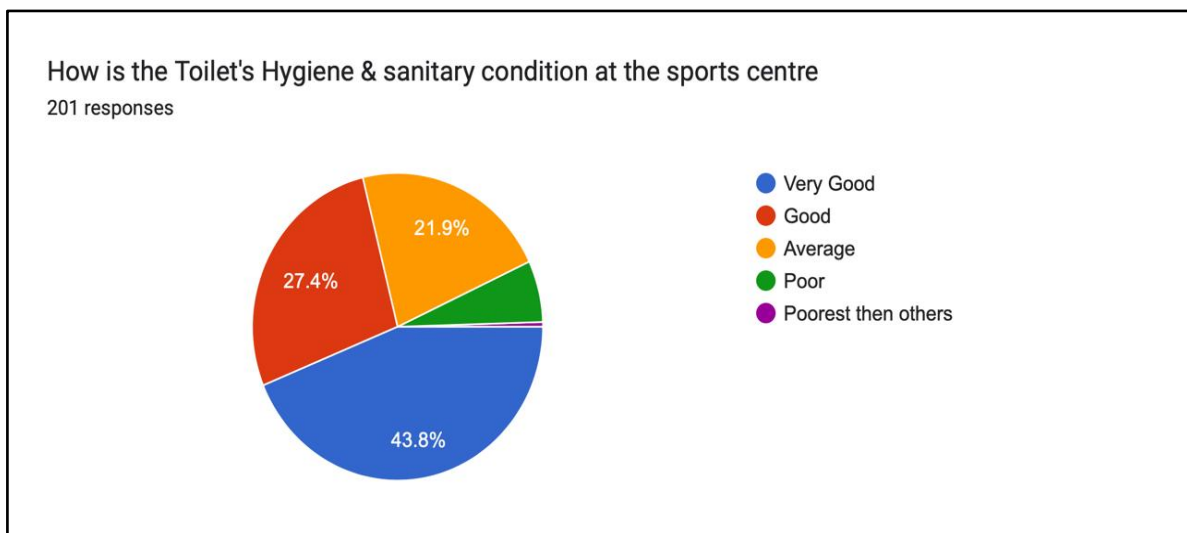


Fig No 31 : Toilet Hygiene & Sanitary condition

Support Received by Athletes from the Khelo India Scheme

Around **56.7%** of the respondents felt that the budget of the Khelo India scheme was adequate for them, however around **22.4%** felt otherwise.

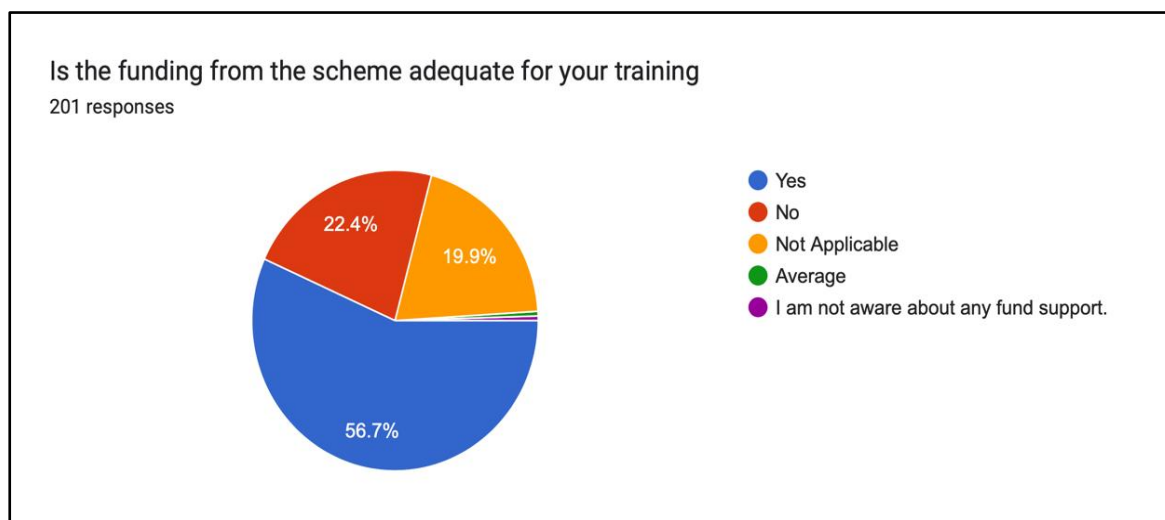
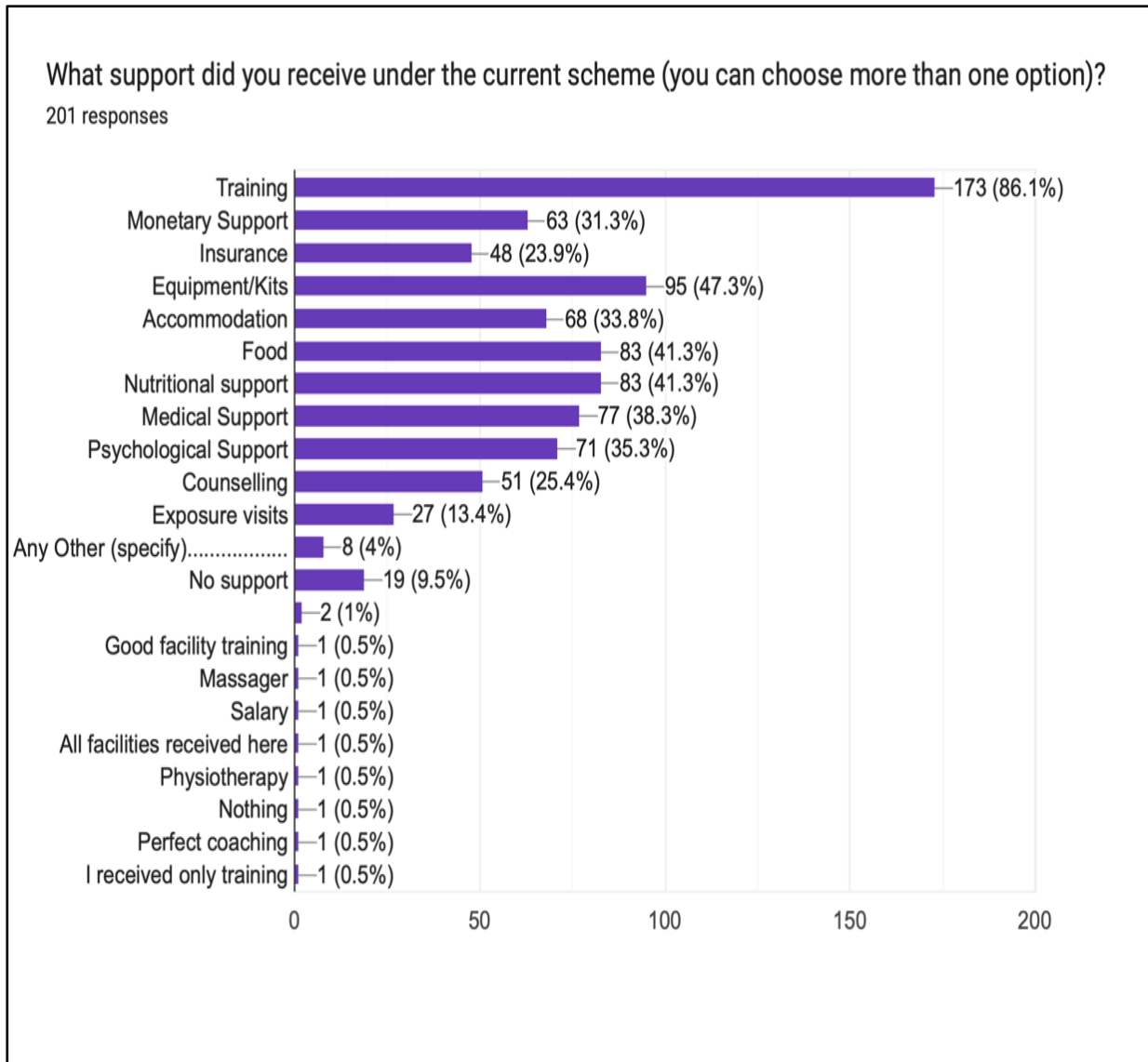


Fig No 32 : Adequacy of Funding for Training

Vast majority of responders (**86.1%**) expressed strong agreement with the tremendous and beneficial support provided to the athletes in the form of training. **47.3%** of respondents opined that athletes were provided with high-quality equipment and kits for training as well as competitions. According to **41.3%** of respondents, the success of the sports projects also heavily depended on the provision of food and nutritional support. It was intriguing to learn that about **25.4%** of respondents used the program's counselling services and therapies, and about **35.3%** of respondents benefited from having an efficient psychological support system provided under the Khelo India program.



Graph No 9 : Support Received by Athletes under the Khelo India Scheme

In the survey conducted among athletes, **40.8%** of respondents emphasized the necessity for increased support in advanced training aspects. Another **35.3%** expressed a desire for additional scholarships, while **14.4%** advocated for greater emphasis on company branding and sponsorships as essential elements for building a successful career in sports. These findings underscore the varied perspectives within the athlete community regarding the areas that demand heightened attention and support.

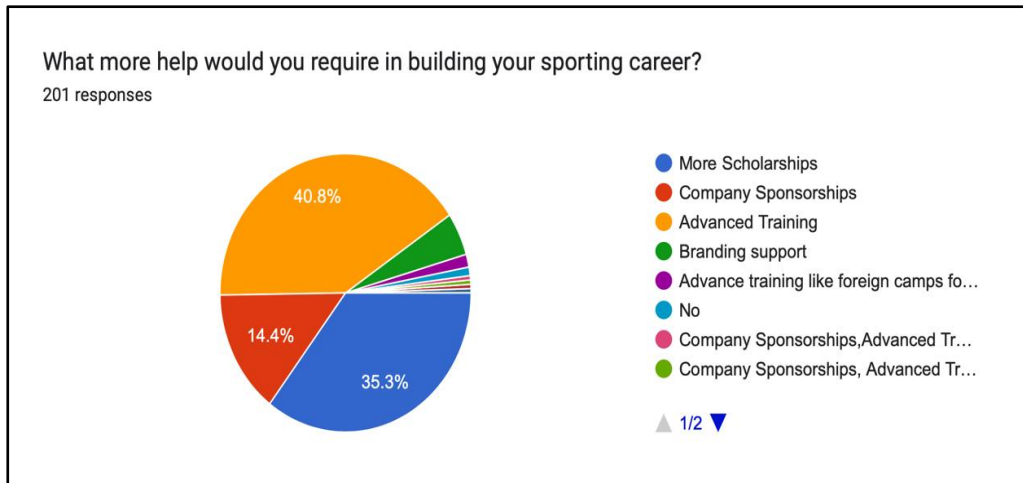


Fig No 33 : Additional Assistance Required for Sporting Career

Adequacy of the Scheme

While **89%** of the respondents brought out that there were adequate sports facilities for almost all sporting events in Delhi, notwithstanding, approximately **71.1%** of the respondents felt that even more such facilities and Khelo India Centres and sports academies should be created in the National capital.

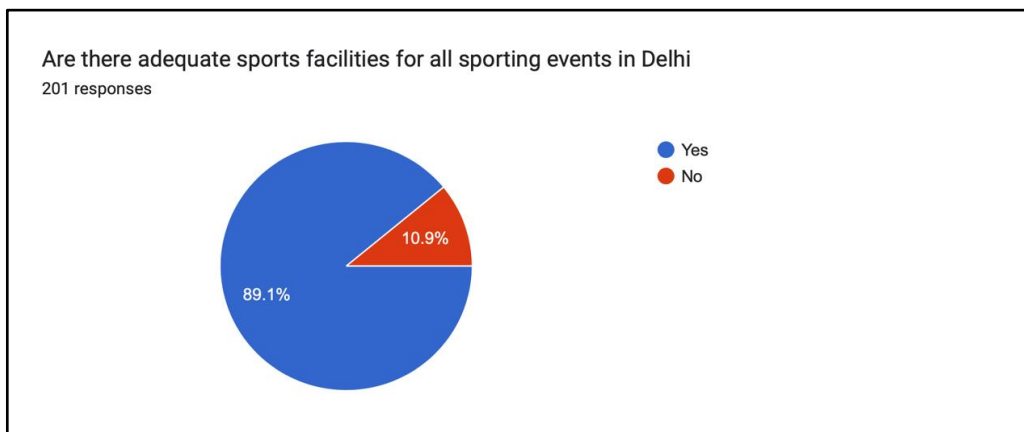


Fig No 34 : Adequacy of Sports facilities in Delhi

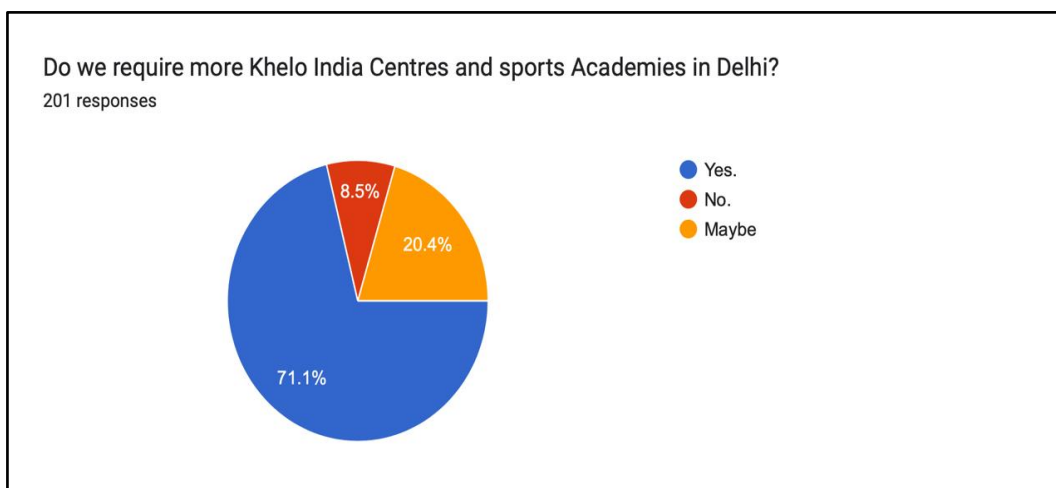


Fig No 35 : Requirement of More Khelo India Centres and Sports Academies in Delhi

The survey revealed another noteworthy facet of the program, as indicated by respondents. Approximately **87.1%** of respondents expressed the view that the sports academies and the Khelo India Centres foster a conducive environment for women to participate in sports. Conversely, **12.4%** of respondents held a contrasting perspective on the matter. This finding underscores the positive perceptions within the surveyed population regarding the women-friendliness of the sports academies and the Khelo India schemes. However, it is imperative for this facet to be considered adequate that feedback on the issue needs to be absolute and not even a fraction of respondents should feel otherwise.

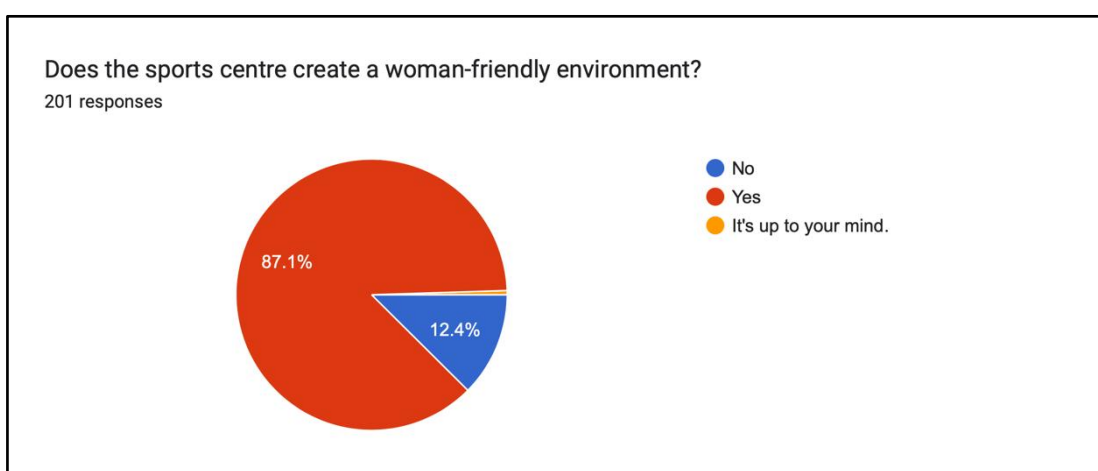


Fig No 36 : Availability of Women Friendly Environment

Another positive indicator of the Scheme was that **83.6%** of the respondents expressed their desire and keenness to take up sports as their career option. This factor shows a new trend in today's generation.

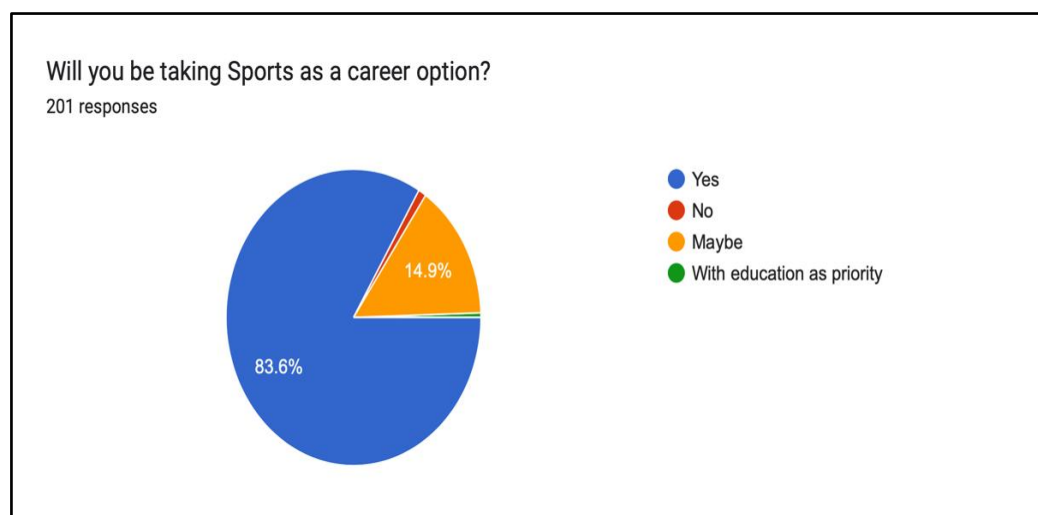


Fig No 37 : Sports as a Career Option

Questionnaire Based Suggestions and Recommendations

Certain additional inputs were also given by the respondents on the Scheme over and above the structured questions of the Survey Questionnaire, which are as under:-

- **Specialised Scholarships:** Another issue which emerged was that special attention is required to be given to encourage talent from socially vulnerable and remote rural areas. More scholarships also need to be devised and tailor made to assist the sportspersons from such areas in choosing sports as a career.
- **Increase in Disciplines:** The scope of the Scheme needs to be enhanced and additional sporting events should be added in the scheme.
- Female physiotherapists should be available to the women athletes.

Interview Based Suggestions and Recommendations

During interaction and conversation with the coaches, executives and sports officials from the KICs and Delhi NCOEs/sports academies, a few insightful suggestions were made, which are listed below:-

- **Developing of Coaching Eco-System**

- ❖ Good coaches are a necessity for quality performance in all sports and games. There are many cases (such as in sports like boxing, judo, martial arts etc.) where while sports infrastructure is available, however trained, qualified and certified coaches are not available in all locations and in desired numbers. The Scheme must therefore focus on developing the coaching infrastructure and trainers as soft infrastructure along with the physical infrastructure of stadia, playfields and sports arenas.
- ❖ The recruitment of coaches should be streamlined and the qualification criterion needs further study. A PG diploma in sports coaching may be made mandatory and not just participation and podium finish in National Games or other sporting events.
- ❖ Another aspect to be considered is that cross sectored training of each athlete, based on the requirement of their respective sports disciplines needs to be planned and imparted by the coaches, who should know how to organize the same. Accordingly the entire coaching system needs a revamp and renewed deliberate focus.

- **Investment in Sports Design:** Sports infrastructure is a niche area, and needs in-depth study and research and development for the materials to be used for construction of facilities. Limited numbers of agencies have the due expertise to construct world class sports infrastructure and equipment at viable costs. Accordingly a set of specifications and standards needs to be formalized by an independent and knowledgeable agency specially tasked for the purpose, rather than resorting to using generalized specifications. Such specifications need to be incorporated at the planning stage itself when a project is

conceived by the States and accordingly funds requirements need to be worked out. Similarly at the monitoring stage people with expertise need to be employed to oversee the infrastructure development rather than the general pool of supervisors. A repository of construction norms, best practices, and sports architecture needs to be further developed. Designing expertise needs to be nurtured and guidelines need to be evolved to ensure accuracy and precise execution of projects.

- **Rural Areas Outreach:** While citizens in larger cities and urban areas get a fair chance to compete in sports, but athletes from rural areas need to be identified and their families need to be encouraged to allow the ward to pursue sports as a career, if they are up to it.
- **Payback by International Medalists:** Players who have achieved international level acclaim need to be given a mandate to pay back to the system and devote some time, effort and share knowledge and techniques with an aim to train and encourage new talent, so that the sporting culture gets created and a long line of medalist is lined up for future events.
- **Increase in Capacities of Sports Institutions:** The capacities of the NCOEs, and Khelo India accredited sports academies need to be increased to accommodate more sportsperson and offer opportunities to more athletes. Necessary funds for the same will have to be catered for since the entire facility alongwith the soft infrastructure of coaches, equipment, accommodation, logistics will have to be scaled up to meet the demand and ensure no dilution in training standards.
- **Creation of a Sporting Culture:** Introduction to sports is required at the school level for all children and followed up similar to as academic progress each year. Long Term Athlete Development model needs to be studied and feasibility of incorporation into our system may be considered to ensure excellence in sports performance in the country.

Conclusion

By examining both the micro and macro analysis of the primary data collected, one can convincingly argue that the program is deemed efficacious and pertinent to the advancement of the nation's sports eco-system. However there is always scope for improvement and further honing the implementation of the Scheme. Ongoing efforts and strategic planning are essential to bridge the gaps and create a more inclusive sports environment across all localities in the capital. The program ought to be extended with improved vertical and horizontal coordination among the Center and State authorities with due support from across various departments, as well as increased funding, accountability, transparency, and coverage. A good beginning has been set in motion but a continuum needs to be maintained.

CHAPTER 8

KHELO INDIA SCHEME: CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Conclusions

The Khelo India Scheme aims to encourage sports all over the country, thus allowing the population to harness the power of sports through its cross-cutting influence, holistic development of children & youth, community development, social integration, gender equality, healthy lifestyle, national pride and economic opportunities related to sports development. The objective of the Scheme emphasizes the importance of promotion of sports and development of related infrastructure in the country.

The dissertation is a comprehensive exploration of the Khelo India Scheme launched by the Government of India for meeting the objectives of the National Sports Policy in 2017 and revised thereafter in 2022. While doing so the Study focused on the pivotal role played by sports infrastructures, and the Khelo India Centres in fostering a robust sports culture, promoting athletic proficiency and mass participation within the nation.

The Khelo India scheme aspires to have a holistic impact on entire sports ecosystem, including infrastructure, talent identification, community sports, coaching for excellence and competition structure. This far-sighted scheme under the Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs, Government of India is directed towards mainstreaming sports as tool for individual, community, economic and national development leading to a healthy, fit and vibrant Nation.

Sports being a State subject; collaboration with State Governments was another one-of-its-kind initiative attributable to the Khelo India Scheme, where the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports partnered with States to create world-class sporting infrastructure in terms of

Khelo India State Centres of Excellence (KISCE). Besides this, 1250 Khelo India Centers (KIC) are being setup at the district level to strengthen grassroots-level sports infrastructure in States and to provide a source of income for local sporting talent by engaging them as coaches in KICs.

It was observed during the study that the component of Creation and Upgradation of Sports Infrastructure is being pursued vigorously by both the Central and State Govts alike which has resulted in increased availability of sports facilities to the citizens of the Nation. The vertical of infrastructure development is pivotal to ensure the success of the Scheme and achieve the twin objectives of the national sports policy (of broad basing of sports through mass participation and promotion of excellence in sports). Moreover, the Khelo India initiative has contributed immensely to the *development of sports infrastructure* across the nation. A total of 307 sports infrastructure projects have been sanctioned at a cost of Rs 2974.55 Crore and 185 assets have since been completed in the country across all states. The creation and upgradation of sports facilities, including stadiums, training centres, and equipment, have provided athletes with better resources to hone their skills. This infrastructure development is a step towards creating a *conducive environment for sports* at both the amateur and professional levels.

The component of 'Khelo India Centres and Sports Academies' is playing a key role in implementation of the Khelo India Scheme. While the Khelo India Centres are 'infusing sports culture' in the country at the grassroots level and are being established at the district level for 'broad-basing of sports, the Khelo India State Centres of Excellence targets the 'Excellence in Sports' part of the vision and mission of the Scheme. By augmenting the utilization of existing sports infrastructure available in the State, PSU, autonomous bodies, Schools, Universities (including Private universities), and other organizations and provision of a Past Champion Athlete as a coach, there is visible and voluntary participation observed

in sporting activity in the KICs (especially in Delhi) at the local level and the trend is encouraging with participation likely to increase.

The role of the NCOEs and other KI accredited sports academies is also well defined with laid out structure and funding. Khelo India Athletes are being selected and trained in these academies and provided with state of art facilities, constructive coaching, incorporation of sports science and sports medicine. The results have started being seen in international championships and national events.

Thus the Scheme strengthens the sports ecosystem at both the grassroots level as also at the professional and competitive level. Ownership of the subject and concerted efforts by States coupled with oversight and additional resources and funds from the Centre is the way ahead to meet the stated aims of the Khelo India Scheme.

The Scheme's primary focus was to create a national-level platform for athletes to showcase their talent and to identify them for further grooming and financial support. The Khelo India Games have since been a harbinger of this effort. From 2017 to 2024, 6 editions of Khelo India School and Youth Games, 3 edition of the Khelo India University Games, 3 editions of Khelo India Winter Games and recently the first edition of Khelo India Para games have been hosted, giving talented young sportspersons a chance to win their way to a Khelo India Scholarship and be trained for higher levels of competition by the best coaches and in state-of-art sporting complexes. The Games have seen a participation of approximately 45,662 athletes, with close to 3,000 athletes identified as Khelo India Athletes (KIAs) who are currently training at Khelo India Academies and Accredited sports academies. An all round support is provided to them, which comprises a funding of ₹6.28 lakh per annum per athlete and includes ₹10,000 per month out of pocket allowance for each KIA, besides being supported for training, equipment, diet and education.

To provide a higher per capita sporting infrastructure across the country 296 Academies have been accredited for training of Khelo India Athletes (KIAs) in 31 sports disciplines. Besides, support has been extended to 500 private academies under Khelo India Scheme in collaboration with National Sports Federations, so that athletes have access to sporting infrastructure all over the country and can train at a Centre most convenient to them.

One of the key achievements of the Khelo India scheme is the *widespread participation* it has encouraged even at the grassroots level. By organizing competitions at the school, college and university levels, the Scheme has not only engaged the youth but has also identified promising talents from various corners of the country, and also reaching out to the remotest corners of the country. This *inclusivity* is crucial for the *long-term development of sports* in India, ensuring that talent is identified early and given the necessary resources for growth. Additionally, the *financial support* provided through scholarships and stipends has eased the financial burden on athletes, enabling them to focus on training and competitions. This has not only improved the overall standard of sports in the country but has also created a *sense of security and motivation* among athletes to pursue their sporting dreams.

From the findings of the study, it can be concluded, Khelo India program, young athletes in India have gained access to new openings which would provide opportunities to hone and exhibit their skills and take up sports as a career option. The Khelo India Scheme provides access to excellent sporting infrastructure at a very low cost. Sports academies with residential facilities allow athletes from other state to train in the best of academies and also interact with athletes of other states.

The Budget Allocation for the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports also saw a manifold increase over the years, from a mere Rs. 466 crores in 2004-05 to Rs. 3397.32 Crores for the current financial year 2023-24. The Budget allocation for the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports was increased by 11% in comparison to FY 2022-23. This was the

highest ever budget allocation for the Ministry since 2010 when Commonwealth Games were held in India. The Budget allocation is more than three times the budget of 2011-12 and is almost two times the budget of 2014-15. Major schemes/organisations of the Ministry who have had a substantial increase of budget outlay in current FY 2023-24 are Khelo India Scheme (Rs. 1000 Crore) and Sports Authority of India (Rs. 785.52 Crore).

Challenges and Recommendations

The chapters of the Study give out its findings on the topic of study. By employing descriptive research design, the evidence based analysis presents the status of infrastructure development in the country and in Delhi Metropolis. The analysis undertaken through the first hand survey conducted on the Scheme is given in Chapter 7. The chapter gives out numerous points for consideration. However in addition to aspects covered in the previous chapters, a few pertinent recommendations for consideration are given out as follows:-

- While the increase of funding for the Scheme in the current fiscal has been a welcome step, however to fulfil Olympic dreams the funds allocation will need to be further enhanced and increased based on previous years actual expenditure. In a country of almost 143 Crores population thriving with bulk of young and youthful citizens, a funding of around Rs 3200 Crores for the Khelo India program spread over a period of five years, (as per the Gazette Notification of the Scheme) may not be fully adequate to achieve excellence in the field of sports and also to function with increased bandwidth. It is thus imperative to explore increasing the funding for the Scheme and a deliberate study to work out the year on year requirement for the same may be considered. Grants in aid and need based assistance requires to be looked at for the sports academies and revamp of

coaching mechanisms. Collaboration with private sector may also be examined to augment the resources for sports development.

- Establishing a robust system for *concurrent evaluation and feedback* is crucial for the effectiveness of the Khelo India scheme. Regular assessments should be conducted to gauge the impact of the program, identify areas of improvement, and ensure that resources are allocated efficiently. Optimal utilisation of all sports infrastructure assets created or upgraded in the country needs to be ensured and a mechanism to oversee the same needs to be worked out. The effectiveness of the Scheme with respect to promotion of sports at grassroots level as also achieving excellence in sports needs to be continually measured by results in competitions and ascertaining upscaling of participation in order get a holistic feedback on the program.
- To enhance quality of training, there is a need to invest in *specialised coaching programs*. This includes bringing experienced coaches, psychologists, physiotherapists, and nutritionists to work with athletes, ensuring comprehensive development.
- Infrastructure projects are allocated to states based on their projections. While a justification is given and examined at the processing stage, however there needs to be a feasibility study done state wise as also at Central level, to enable optimal and efficient sanctioning of infrastructure projects in each state /district. A feasibility study needs to be done based on geographical criterion, based on the sporting talent and interest in a sport in respective region rather than allotment of projects based on demands sent by States/UTs. This will also allow region wise areas of excellence in specific sports to be developed.
- Technical expertise needs to be developed for designing sports infrastructure at the planning and execution stage. The field of sports architecture is at the nascent stage in the country and can be focussed upon for ensuring realisation of the true worth of public funds being spent for creation of sports infrastructure.

- To further increase participation, *awareness campaigns at the grassroots level* should be intensified. This includes organizing sports events in rural areas, promoting sports through educational institutions, and involving local communities in the development and support of athletes. The outreach of the scheme needs to be vigorously pursued at the Schools and Community Centres to ensure increase in participation. Parents of children also need to be educated about the benefits of participation in sports as well as the vast opportunity that lies ahead for their wards on achieving excellence in field of sports. More outreach is required at the KIC level, wherein the middle-class mass of the country needs to be mobilized to infuse a sporting culture and broad-based promotion of sports.
- One good observation was that the Central and State governments have come together in the implementation of the Scheme. While a few bottlenecks remain, but an environment has been created wherein, during conduct of the Khelo India games, the host States get a chance to showcase their soft power, art and culture and their athletes get a chance to be projected nationwide as well as worldwide. States are now coming forward to host the various categories of Khelo India Games.
- The role of media in promotion of sports at large and informing the populace about the facets of Khelo India Scheme in particular is a field which may be tapped and aggressively pursued to increase outreach of the scheme to all sections of society and infusing of a sports culture in the country.

In conclusion one can say that the Khelo India scheme stands as a robust cornerstone in the development of sports within India. By the comprehensive approach it has taken, the Khelo India initiative will not only continue to nurture the next generation of athletes but will also play a pivotal role in cultivating a healthier and more active society. The legacy of Khelo India is poised to endure as a beacon guiding the Nation towards a brighter and more competitive future in the realm of sports.

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PHOTOGRAPHS OF VISITS TO SPORTS INSTITUTIONS

**Interaction with Participants of Table Tennis Khelo India Centre
at Sports Complex F Block Vikaspuri, Delhi**



**Interaction with Participants of Athletics Khelo India Centre
at East Vinod Nagar Sports Complex, Delhi**



**Interaction with Athletes and High Performance Director of Swimming NCOE
at Dr Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Swimming Pool Complex, Delhi**



**Discussion with Cycling Cpach at Cycling Velodrome
at Indira Gandhi Sports Complex, Delhi**



**Meeting With Athletes at Gymnastics NCOE
at Indira Gandhi Sports Complex, Delhi**



**Interaction with Athletes and Coaches at Hockey NCOE
at Maj Dhyan Chand National Stadium, Delhi**

Research Tool

Khelo India Scheme Participants' Questionnaire

This Questionnaire form will help in the analysis of the Khelo India Scheme, with special reference to Delhi

Name

Your answer

Name of Institute/ Khelo India Centre/ NCOE/ Sports Academy

Your answer

Age

Less than 12 yrs

12-14 yrs

14 - 16 yrs

16-18 yrs

18-20 yrs

20-22 yrs

22-24 yrs

24-30 yrs

More than 30 yrs

Please specify your Educational Qualification

8th Class and below

9th - 10th Class

11th - 12th Class

Doing Graduation

Graduate

Post graduate and above

Social Group/Category

SC

ST

OBC

General

Gender

Male

Female

Your Profession

Student

Working

Other:

If you are working please specify your profession

Your answer

Employment Status of Father/Mother*

Govt Job

Private Job

Self Employed - Businessman/woman

Daily Wages Employee

Farmer

Consultant

Professional Work (Doctor/Engineer/Lawyer etc.)

Other than above job

Not employed

What is the monthly income of your family?*

Less than Rs 10,000

Rs 10,000-25000

Rs 25,000-50,000

Rs 50,000- 1lac

More than 1 lac

Do you know about the Khelo India Scheme? *

Yes

No

How did you become aware of the Khelo India scheme*

Social Media

Educational Institution (School /college)

Friends

Others

**How popular and well known is the Khelo India Scheme in your School/ Place of work/
Residential locality***

Very Well Known by All People

Well Known by Most People

Known by Few Interested People Only

Not Known by Most People

Not Known by Anybody

Who influenced you to join the Khelo India Sports Centre?*

Parents

My own choice

Teacher/Coach

Friends

Other:

Has participation & training in sports affected your school/college performance in studies*

Improved

No change

Become bad

Other:

How many times do you go to play in the sports centres?*

Daily

Alternate day

Only on weekends (Saturday & Sunday)

Other:

Has participation in sports helped you in building your social relationships & new friends

Yes

No

Maybe

Has participation in sports helped you in building your confidence in daily life

Yes

No

Maybe

Have your family members participated in any game under the Khelo India scheme?

Yes

No

Not applicable

Will you be taking Sports as a career option?

Yes

No

Maybe

Other:

What support did you receive under the current scheme (you can choose more than one option)?

Training

Monetary Support

Insurance

Equipment/Kits

Accommodation

Food

Nutritional support

Medical Support

Psychological Support

Counselling

Exposure visits

Any Other (specify).....

No support

Other:

How is the infrastructure/types of equipment at the Sports centre?

Very Good

Good

Average

Poor

Is the timetable for sports training suitable for training at your convenience?

Yes

No

Poor

Other:

Access and Convenience of Venue

Very Good

Good

Average

Poor

Quality of Food/Snacks & Drinks

Very good

Good

Average

Poor

Not available

Other:

Is there a dietitian available to advise on menu given to the sportspersons undergoing training in the centre/ academy.

Yes

No

Available on request

Are you made aware about Sports Medicine in your Centre/ Academy

Yes

No

Maybe

Are you made aware of Sports Science in your Centre/Academy

Yes

No

Maybe

Quality of Sports Infrastructure in the Centre or Academy

Very Good

Good

Average

Poor

How is the Toilet's Hygiene & sanitary condition at the sports centre

Very Good

Good

Average

Poor

Other:

Are there adequate playfields and sports facilities available around your residential locality?

Yes

No

Available but far away from home

Do you and your family utilise the playground near your house for sports or exercise

Yes, Regularly use the facility

No

Sometimes only

Are the playfields used for non-sporting activities in your locality

Yes, quite often

Never

Sometimes

Is the funding from the scheme adequate for your training

Yes

No

Not Applicable

Other:

How do you find the residential sports facility?

Good

Average

Bad

Not applicable

Other:

What more help would you require in building your sporting career?

More Scholarships

Company Sponsorships

Advanced Training

Branding support

Other:

Does the sports centre create a woman-friendly environment?

No

Yes

Other:

Do we require more Khelo India Centres and sports Academies in Delhi?

Yes.

No.

Maybe

Are there adequate sports facilities for all sporting events in Delhi

Yes

No

If your answer is No in the previous question then for which all sporting events are more sports facilities required in Delhi?*

Your answer