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Lecture Title

Sports Authority of India

Script

Introduction

Hello and welcome to this special series on physical education. Today we are talking about the sports authority of India which is also known as SAI.

The Sports Authority of India (SAI) is an apex National Sports body set up in 1984 by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India for broad basing and bringing excellence in sports across India. It has 9 Regional Centres which are located at Bengaluru, Gandhinagar, Chandigarh, Kolkata, Imphal, Guwahati, Bhopal, Mumbai, Lucknow and Sonapat; and two Academic institutions viz. Netaji Subhash National Institute of Sports (NSNIS), Patiala and Laxmibai National College of Physical Education (LNCPE), Thiruvananthapuram (Kerala). Through NSNIS Patiala and some of the regional centres at Bengaluru, Kolkata and Thiruvananthapuram SAI offers a variety of courses in sports coaching and sports medicine and SAI LNCPE, Thiruvananthapuram conducts graduate and post-graduate courses in physical education.

SAI is also entrusted with the responsibility of maintaining, utilising and upgrading the following five Stadia in Delhi:

- Jawaharlal Nehru Sports Complex
- Indira Gandhi Sports Complex
- Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium
- Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee Swimming Pool Complex
- Dr. Karni Singh Shooting Ranges

After independence, on May 7, 1961, the National Institute of Sports (NIS) was set up for the development of sports at the Motibagh Palace grounds in Patiala. On January 23, 1973, it was renamed Netaji Subhas National Institute of Sports (NSNIS).

Lakshmibai National College of Physical Education (LNCPE), Thiruvananthapuram

The Sports Authority of India originated with the committee formed to host the 1982 Asian Games in New Delhi. In 1984 the SAI was established by of the Department of Sports, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India. On January 25, 1984, Sports Authority of India was established as a registered society. On May 1, 1987, the Society for National Institute of Physical Education and Sports (SNIPES) was merged with it and as a result, the Netaji Subhas National Institute of Sports (NSNIS), Patiala and its allied centres at Bhopal, Bangalore, Kolkata and Gandhinagar and the Lakshmibai National College of Physical Education at Thiruvananthapuram came under Sports Authority of India. The NSNIS, Patiala and the Lakshmibai National College of Physical Education, Thiruvananthapuram became its academic wings. In 1995, LNCPE Gwalior became a separate "Deemed University"

Academic Programmes

SAI has two Academic Wings which provide certificate courses in physical education, sports and sports medicine, Netaji Subhas National Institute of Sports (NSNIS), Patiala for coaches and the Lakshmibai National College of Physical Education (LNCPE) at Thiruvananthapuram. So these are basically the academic nodes of SAI.

NSNIS, Patiala conducts the following programmes:

Diploma Course in Sports Coaching

Masters Course in Sports Coaching

Certificate Course in Sports Coaching

Post-graduate Diploma Course in Sports Medicine

Refresher Courses

LNCPE, Thiruvananthapuram conducts the following courses :

Bachelor of Physical Education (BPE)

Master of Physical Education (MPE)

Regular and Part-time Ph.D programmes

Sports Sciences and Sports Medicine

Sports Science Centre(Human Performance Lab)

In 1983 - A Department of Sports Science was established at NSNIS, Patiala to impart education in academic courses like Diploma/Masters in Sports Coaching.

1987-90 - Basic sports science back-up started for National Athletes and also SAI schemes for children at various regional centres. Moreover, sports science centres (Human Performance Lab) were set up at 4 regional centres in Delhi, Bengaluru, Kolkata and Gandhinagar.

Qualified and well experienced sports scientists from the fields of Anthropometry, Physiology, Psychology, Biomechanics, Nutrition and GTMT, doctors, sports physiotherapists and nutritionists constantly endeavour to raise the level of players in competitions. SAI has been in technical collaboration with various reputed Indian and foreign sports science and medical institutes to further strengthen the scientific backup for trainees and to initiate research.

Training and Specialized Inputs

Training of Elite Athlete Management Support (TEAMS) Division

Hostel for Elite Sportspersons (Men)

This is the backbone of SAI which provides support to the National Sports Federations (NSFs) in the preparation of National Teams which participate in various International events. The TEAMS Division coordinates the Long Term Development Plan of each NSF; provides logistics and training support at various academic institutions and other Regional Centres of SAI and also at selected training centres outside SAI. The TEAMS Division draws most of its funding under the Scheme of “Assistance to National Sports Federations” from Sports Ministry. The TEAMS Division also provides support to the NSFs in the hiring of foreign coaches and selection of the national coach for each NSF, who are responsible for the training of core probables for the National teams.

With active support from TEAMS Division, good results have been achieved in the international arena in the disciplines of Badminton, Judo, Shooting, Archery, Athletics, Weightlifting, Wrestling, Wushu, Boxing and Billiards & Snooker.

Under this Scheme of “Assistance to National Sports Federations”, financial assistance is provided to recognised NSFs for training and participation of teams in international events abroad, organisation of national and international tournaments in India, coaching and training of national teams under Indian and foreign coaches with requisite technical and scientific support, procurement of equipment etc.

Engagement of Foreign Coaches and Experts

It is SAI's constant endeavor to engage expert foreign coaches on short term and long term basis to train and coach national coaching campers and also to facilitate knowledge exchange with Indian coaches.

National Coaching Camps

In an year, SAI organises a number of national coaching camps in different disciplines in SAI centres and other centres for preparation of Indian teams for various national and international tournaments.

1. SAI CENTRES Jawaharlal Nehru Sports Complex, Delhi for Archery, Athletics and Paralympic
2. Indira Gandhi Sports Complex, Delhi for Boxing, Basketball, Cycling and Gymnastics
3. Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium, Delhi for Hockey
4. Dr. Syama Prasad Mookherjee Swimming Pool Complex, Delhi for Swimming.
5. Dr. Karni Singh Shooting Ranges, Delhi for Shooting.
6. Netaji Subhas National Institute of Sports, Patiala for Athletics, Boxing, Hockey, Weightlifting,
Judo and Table Tennis.
7. Lakshmibai National College of Physical Education, Thiruvananthapuram for Swimming
8. SAI Alleppey, Kerala for Kayaking and Canoeing.
9. SAI Netaji Subhas Eastern Centre, Kolkata for Archery.
10. SAI Udhav Das Mehta Central Centre, Bhopal for Judo, Kabaddi, Kayaking & Canoeing, Volleyball, Wushu and Taekwondo
11. SAI Netaji Subhas Regional Centre, Lucknow for Wrestling - Women (Free Style), Judo and Table
Tennis
12. SAI Netaji Subhas Western Centre, Gandhinagar for Basketball, Football, Kabaddi, Paralympic and
Taekwondo.

13. SAI Netaji Subhas Southern Centre, Bengaluru for Athletics, Hockey, Football, Judo, Kabaddi,

Paralympic, Swimming and Volleyball.

14. Ch. Devi Lal Northern Regional Centre, Sonapat for Wrestling - Men (Free & Greco Roman Style)

and Paralympic.

15. SAI Aurangabad Western Centre for Basketball.

16. SAI Dharamshala Training Centre, Dharamshala for Athletics.

17. Netaji Subhash High Altitude Training Centre, Shillaroo for Hockey, Weightlifting and Judo.

Long Term Development Plan (LTDP)

This scheme envisages the preparation of long term development plans by National Sports Federations (NSFs) based on a four year cycle with yearly review. The plans are to cover all aspects of sports including development of sportsperson, coaching, participation, promotion, tournament schedule, hosting of major events and sports sciences, etc. The plans are finalised jointly by Ministry, SAI and respective federations.

Operations Division

Different sports promotion schemes of SAI, aimed at spotting and nurturing talent are being implemented and monitored through the networks of SAI centres.

SAI Sports Promotional Schemes

The Sports Authority of India conducts various activities and schemes to promote sports in India. they include:

(i) National Sports Talent Contest Scheme (NSTC)

NSTC scheme provides the school environment to play and study for talented 8-14 year olds who are at the right age for higher level training in competitive sports. The selection of trainees is done on the basis of potential and performance and they are admitted to schools on a non-residential basis.

The main objectives of the scheme are to:

- Identify educational institutions having good sports infrastructure
- Scientifically scout for optimum-aged talent

- Convert the genetically and physiologically gifted children into future champions
- Ensure availability of trained coaches
- Ensure financial assistance for consumables
- Give adequate competition exposure and sports equipment

b) Akharas to create a broader base for modern wrestling

The disciplines covered under NSTC are as follows

a) 14 Regular schools with 11 disciplines namely Athletics, Basketball, Football, Gymnastics, Hockey, Kho-Kho, Kabaddi, Swimming, Table Tennis, Volleyball and Wrestling.

b) 10 Indigenous Games & Martial Arts (IGMA) with 9 disciplines

c) Akharas

(ii) Army Boys Sports Company (ABSC)

The Army has joined hands with SAI to nurture and groom talented boys in the age group of 8 to 14 years. These companies act as virtual sports schools where training is scientifically backed up and support facility is provided throughout the training period. The trainees are entitled to an assured career in the Armed Forces at 17½ years. The selection of trainees is done on the basis of performance and potential assessed through a battery of tests. Their activities include:

- Nurturing budding talent
- Improving the achievements tally in international sports competitions
- Using the Army's excellent infrastructure and disciplined administrative environment

(iii) SAI Training Centre Scheme (STC)

The Sports Project Development Area Centres (SPDA) and Sports Hostel Scheme were merged in 1995 to create SAI Training Centres (STC), in collaboration with the State Govt./UT Administrations. The trainees are admitted into the scheme on residential and non-residential basis.

The main objectives of the scheme are to:

- Train talented young sportspersons aged 12–18 years (Sub-Junior/Junior)
- Identify those who have attained advanced levels of proficiency in sports.

- Identify those who show natural potential in the Olympic disciplines, indigenous and other sports.
- Provide in-house coaching, training and nutritional support to sportspersons.

(iv) Special Area Games Scheme (SAG)

Though similar to STC Centres, the focus of the SAG Centres is on popular indigenous games. It is focused on spotting and nurturing talent in specific disciplines in tribal, coastal and hilly areas, and later grooms them to achieve excellence in the related modern competitive games and sports. The SAG Centres are fully funded by SAI, but land has to be provided by the State Governments or other institutions like universities, etc.

(v) Extension Centres of STCs/SAGs

Started in 2005, the basic concept of this scheme is to develop sports standards in schools, colleges and universities having commendable sporting performance and adequate infrastructure. The schools/colleges/ universities are required to agree with the norms laid down by SAI. The Extension Centres are monitored by the nearest STC/SAG and the Regional Centre Head under which it falls. The power to sanction such Centres rests with DG, SAI.

(vi) Centres of Excellence (CoE)

The Centres of Excellence (CoEs) identifies and trains talented sportspersons in the age group of 12–25 years who have shown promise at the sub junior, junior and senior National Competitions for 330 days in a year. State-of-the-art facilities.

(vii) Come and Play Scheme

SAI introduced 'Come and Play Scheme' in May 2011 for optimum utilisation of its 5 stadia in Delhi. The designated areas in the SAI Stadia were thrown open for community sports.

Conclusion

The Sports Authority of India (SAI) is an apex National Sports body set up in 1984 by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India for broad basing and bringing excellence in sports across India. It has 9 Regional Centres. Through NS NIS Patiala and some of the regional centres at Bengaluru, Kolkata and Thiruvananthapuram SAI offers a variety of courses in sports coaching and sports medicine and SAI LNCPE, Thiruvananthapuram conducts graduate and post-graduate courses in physical education.

So today we discussed about the apex sports body in India, The Sports Authority of India. I hope this information was of some use to all of you. Thank you so much for watching.