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On

COVID-19 PANDEMIC: CHALLENGES, OPPORTUNITIES & SOLUTIONS INFRONT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

21st August, 2021

Organized by



DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION & SPORTS & I.Q.A.C.
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S.K. College Akola, AS College Kurha, S.K. Maha Dahihanda & PEFI, New Delhi.

**CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN FRONT OF SPORTS SECTOR DUE
TO CORONA PANDEMIC**

ABSTRACT

Corona pandemic has created several challenges in front of Sports sector. At the same time it has opened several new avenues which can be explored by the sports sector. It has affected each and every aspect of sports including players, coaches, training facilities, tournament venues etc. The sports sector has to overcome the challenges and find out new opportunities to overcome the situation created by Corona pandemic. The Corona pandemic has hit entire sporting world and changed it dramatically.

Introduction:

The major changes brought by Corona pandemic can be enlisted as follows.

- The Sports stadiums were used as corona virus isolation centres in India as well as the world. The sports tournaments of all the games were either canceled or postponed. It has happened right from school level to Olympic level.
- The Olympic games are postponed due to pandemic and they were organized by following norms of pandemic.
- The sponsorship for all the games and tournaments has declined sharply.
- The sports associations and federations are in state of wait and watch. Nobody is taking risk of organizing coaching camps and tournaments.
- The gyms, stadiums, pools, dance and fitness studios, physiotherapy centres, parks and playgrounds are being opened for the players in gradual manner.
- The pandemic has created psychological setback to the entire sporting world.
- The fitness levels of athletes is also severely affected.
- It has created significant effects on physical, psychological, emotional and social health of entire population. The is most significant of sports persons.

- The pandemic also has affected financially. There is decrease in income from various aspects of sports such as infrastructure development, transportation, catering and media broadcasting etc. The players participating in professional tournaments at national and international levels has decreased extremely. The federations and other sports organizing bodies are suffering from great financial set back.

Educational impact of Corona pandemic:

The educational bodies such as schools, colleges, universities are directly affected by Corona pandemic. Future of sports at school, college, university level is uncertain. The jobs of Physical Education and Sports teachers are at risk. These are the people who has invested their lives for sports field. The sports coaches also are at risk. If the tournaments are not organized, there will not be demand of coaches. The sports federations are not sure how to proceed.

The Government of India and International sports bodies are issuing a Standard Operating Procedure for resumption of sports. The Standard Operation Procedure will have direct effect on organization of Inter-school tournaments, Intercollegiate tournaments, Inter-university tournaments, World cup matches of different games and Olympics.

Short-term transformation:

- There is opportunity to show Old classic games, archived content, documentaries on internet and television etc.

- The games may be organized without live audiences. The tournaments may be organized in the areas that are less affected by Corona pandemic.

Long-term transformation:

- The rules and regulations of every game may be modified to overcome the situation.
- There will be great scope for virtual technologies in the sports sector.
- The virtual coaching classes of different sports can be organized.
- The online workshops for coaches and technical officials of their games can be organized.
- It can lead to increased participation, better awareness among players and coaches.
- Virtual technology also reduces the cost of knowledge upgradation.

The dissemination of knowledge about training and coaching of games can be done through electronic and online media.

- The online quality coaching through internet, television, radio, and print media can also be done through virtual technology.
- The Sports goods manufacturing industry needs to be modified.
- The pandemic has led to enhanced in-house or home fitness industry. There is increased demand for personal trainers at every level.
- The adventure sports activities can also get a great boost.
- It is observed that Yoga and allied exercise methods are in great demand.
- The sports infrastructure such as sports stadia and other sports infrastructures including swimming pools, play grounds, gyms etc. will be constructed as per the guidelines.

Conclusion:

Thus it can be concluded that, even though Corona pandemic has created several challenges in front of sports sector, it has also provided several opportunities to grow for sports sector.

References

1. www.sportsauthorityofindia.nic.in
2. www.yas.nic.in