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RESEARCH ARTICLE

IMPACT OF SPORTS AMONG SLUM DWELLERS AND THE CHOICES, PERCEPTIONS AND CRISIS OF THE YOUNGER GENERATION TO BE A SPORTSPERSON, BELONGS TO SITAKUNDU SLUM AREA OF SOUTH 24 PARGANAS, WEST BENGAL, INDIA: A PROPOSAL

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ABSTRACT

Sports have been one of the greatest forms of profession and income throughout the years. Sportspersons are regarded as one of the most loved and respected members of society around the world. In India and in West Bengal, many children tend to participate in sports and take it up as a career. Great achievement on the field of sports can help them become youth icons for the nation and achieve popularity and for some may transpire into lucrative jobs, especially in government posts, for these young people. The research proposal is intended to get an understanding about how young boys and girls of slum area get interested in sports, what they do to achieving their dreams of becoming sportspersons. The study further tries to define the versions and voices of the parents as the supportive one in reference to their children. The project proposal needs almost six months ethnographic research to unfold the reasons and importance of choosing sport as profession and any crisis during taking up sports as profession. The methodology shall involve ethnography with detailed interviews and interaction with these young minds, in a semi-structured pattern, and an in-depth analysis of the data collected for understand the present scenario of the slum area by means of sport.

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INTRODUCTION

The contemporary researches of social science claims that individual body is seen as a universal biological base upon which culture plays in finite variety (Margaret Lock, 1993). Before start the research we must have to get a general idea about what is a slum area and what is sport. A slum is a heavily or densely populated urban informal settlement characterized by substandard housing, generally low standard of living and squalor. While slums differ in size and other characteristics, most lack reliable sanitation services, supply of clean water, reliable electricity, law enforcement and other basic services. Most of the people who live in slums are extremely poor, and many are treated as second class citizens by their society. Usually they are marginalized groups who are separated from the main stream society.

Sport (UK) or sports (US) are all forms of usually competitive physical activity or games which, through casual or organized participation, aim to use, maintain or improve

physical ability and skills while providing enjoyment to participants, and in some cases, entertainment for spectators. Usually the contest or game is between two sides, each attempting to exceed the other. Some sports allow a tie game; others provide tie-breaking methods, to ensure one winner and one loser. As per the definition of United Nations Sport task force- "sport' are all forms of physical activity that contribute to physical fitness, mental well-being and social interaction. These include: play; recreation; organized, casual or competitive sport; and indigenous sports or games." The nation of India has gifted the world many remarkable sportsmen throughout time. Some sports have seen India rise to the pinnacle of the dominance of that sport. Even today many young minds dream of becoming sportspersons and make our nation proud at the global level. These young boys and girls from various parts of the country, from various socio-economic backgrounds are trying to achieve this goal. The modern day society has become aware of the fact that our nation must come forward in greater leaps and bounds in the area of sports and for that we need better infrastructure. So sports academies are improving themselves and new ones are coming up in order to catalyze this process. Sport is termed as the stepping stone for the development of youth. Today's youth is very much involved with sports and they want to take our nation to greater heights than before.

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Now a days in slum areas of different regions gifted many talented sports persons to our nation. The children of the slums are very much passionate about sports and taking it as their profession.

Literature review: A literature review discusses published information in a particular subject area, and sometimes information in a particular subject area within a certain time period. I have found a lot of works, articles, papers, journals, books and also magazine on sports, slum areas, sports developments etc which were done by researchers, scholars, journalists, sociologists, anthropologists, novelist and other peoples.

Journal of Sport for Development helps me to understand the recent developmental works on sports. Sport and Development is the article which I found from the Journal of Sport & Social Issues, here the importance and impact of sports are described briefly. Research articles of Global Sports Development describes about the global steps on developing the sports. It gives the basic knowledge about the development of world sports. International Journal of Sport Management and Marketing mention all the new infrastructures and buildings and sports complexes are building up for sports. Sports Development: Policy, Process and Practice by Peter Bramham, Kevin Hylton is the most easily available book which describes all the developing aspects of sports and the crisis faces by economically backward peoples for taking up sports as profession.

Richard A. Berlin, Aaron Dworkin, Ned Eames, AmMenconi, Daniel F. Perkins in the the journal of "semantics scholar" describe major development sports programme for youth RA Berlin, A Dworkin, N Ames, A Menconi, DF Perkins in NCBI journal published their paper on sports-based youth development programs where we found examples of sports-based youth development programs and offer information about program mission and vision, program design and content, evaluation results, and program sustainability. The book "Sports identity and ethnicity" and the research paper "Sports and Identity" written by anthropologist Jeremy MacClancy. Here he gives a detailed description on how sports became the identity of a person and how sports help a person to upgrade his or her status in society. I have also found different works related with my topic the sources of these works I have mentioned in the reference part of this proposal.

Objectives

The present research seeks to explore the following objectives

- To get the detailed understanding how the children of the slum area get interested in sports
- To find out what made these children to decide on taking up sports as profession rather than any other profession
- To know their perception for choosing sports as their career, like which incidents or from which persons they get inspired.
- To know their perceptions about sports, are they really taking sports as their profession by heart or by some external factors and forces

- To know the benefits and how the sport help them to improve better health, wealth and mind
- To find out the impact of sports among the younger generations and also their parents
- To find-out whether they faces any crisis during taking up sports as profession

The area of study: The research will held at Sitakundu area, near Baruipuratghara high school, under madarat grampanchayat area. The area belongs to the district of South24parganas in West Bengal. For authenticate and proper in formation about the research topic different athletic sports clubs, sports associations, sports academies and sports training facilities in Baruipur, south 24 paraganas and around Kolkataare also under gone to the research study. Such as South 24 parganas district sports association, Sagar sangha athletic club, Durbar sports academy, Sports Authority of India (SAI: Eastern Zone Complex), Bengal Tennis Association (Salt Lake campus), Calcutta cricket coaching club, Garia Swimming Club, Calcutta Cricket and Football Club, Ramkrishna Mission Sports Academy (Youth Development Programme) and others. At least ten different sporting institutes and academies should be referred to, taking as much field participants, for my study, as I can. I shall be considering the teenagers who are aware of the situation and belongs to my research area which I'm emphasizing on.

METHODOLOGY

The research will hopefully help to understand the impact of sports along with the choices, perceptions and crisis of the children of slum areas from the socio-economic development perspective. The research is to be done on the grounds of ethnography along with detailed individual as well as group interview and interactions. The sampling will be non-random purposive sampling. By this we will choose only the boys and girls age between 15years to 24years. The details study on their lifestyle, their likes and dislikes form a key to understanding these youths. The data collection techniques will based upon participant observations, semi-structured interviews, census and case study methods to get all the relevant data and also to understand the emic view point of the participant.. The collected data will analyses by using qualitative and quantitative data analyzing method, especially narrative data analysis method. The research will follow the mix method approach. After gathering all the data the different types of analysis will be written in a form of report for further reconsideration.

Hence the data collection is to be done in an exploratory manner. All such documentation shall take place in field notebooks, with the occasional usage of technology; audio and video recordings are also key instrument in the methodology. Analysis will be done by using Ms excel and SPSS software, and the outcome of the analysis and interpretation can be shown in forms of presentations, like normal presentations, graphical presentations and statistical presentations.

Relevance of the study: This research area has been selected because there has been no recent works of importance on such particular issue. In the recent years, India is achieving a name for producing notable sportspersons.

Time table

TASKS	PLANS TO COMPLETE THE TASKS	ESTIMATED TIME
Initiation into the beginning of the survey.	Visiting the chosen field sites. Talking to the coaches, supervisors parents and teenage players.	2 weeks
Screening of the field participants as I require.	Observation of the young sportsmen, with basic interactions in order to know them better and choose the individuals as require for the research.	1 month
Maintaining and enhancing rapport with the teenagers	Observing various training sessions, and also taking notes to Preparing questionnaires.	1 month
Individualistic and group interviews of the teenagers along with verbatims (the same with the coaches and parents, if necessary).	Unraveling the positives and negatives of the daily life, these young players lead in order to reach their goal.	2 months
Group-interview of the family and relatives (if possible).	Trying to understand their viewpoint and gathering their thoughts and opinions.	1 month
Data shorting	After taking up data it will short in to different categories.	3 weeks
Data Transcription	All the verbatim and other FGD's will transcript for the final report	3 weeks
Analysis of the data, and data interpretation	Verification of all the data gathered, final interpretation of the data done. Conclusions and deductions made based on all the data collected.	1 month
Recording field experience and documenting the final report	Report will be written by above tasks	1 month
TOTAL		9 months

Budget

TASKS	PLANS TO COMPLETE THE TASKS	ESTIMATEDEXPENDITURE
Travel	By any local means of transport, as available.	Rs 8000
Logistic	If needed to stay any hotels nearby the field	Rs 12,000
Scholastic	Procurement of stationery and other necessary articles.	Rs 7000
Refreshments	Food, and other necessary arrangements.	Rs 12,000
Technological Support	Access to various technological assets like the internet, analysis software or new electronic equipment.	Rs 25,000
Bibliological Support	Access to books, journals, articles, public libraries.	Rs 6000
Miscellaneous		Rs 10,000
TOTAL		Rs80,000

Globally sports have developed to a grand level and India must become a part of this revolution too. We can say that it has been overlooked to a great degree. Our nation has a great heritage in terms sports; and West Bengal is one of the highest donors of sporting talents. Sports is an essential part of our nation's future and the children of slum area try to develop themselves and also try to highlight the name of our state in national perspective. So we must keep an eye on it. Hence this project has another major relevance is to study the perceptions and crisis of socially and economically backward peoples of society those who lives in slums; Those people who are marginalized from our main stream society. This research will explain their struggle to become the part of main stream society or upper class society and the big dreams in their eyes for developing them by means of sports.

Time table: The plan and schedule of my proposal work is given here with the tasks involved, the planning behind each task and the estimated time which it take me to complete. According to my assumption and calculation the research will take near about 9 months to complete.

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