

# Sports Universities in India: A Review

Saurabh Mishra<sup>1\*</sup>, Binayak Kumar Dubey<sup>2</sup>, Bhuwan Chandra Kapri<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Research Scholar, Department of Physical Education, Faculty of Arts, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi-221005

<sup>2</sup>Assistant Professor, Department of Physical Education, Faculty of Arts, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi-221005

<sup>3</sup>Professor, Department of Physical Education, Faculty of Arts, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi-221005

**Abstract -**।।शरीरमाद्यं खलु धर्मसाधनम्।। -उपनिषद्

It means the body is the means to perform all duties. For keeping our body fit, Indian education system has done several transformations in its curriculum time to time. Starting from the pre independence to post independence era, there was a historical background of introduction of Physical Education in India, its development, its implementation and role in schools and colleges and its training courses and institutions as well. But we observed that it was not sufficient enough. We need to have some prominent specialized institutions in every regime of this country. Sports Universities in India has been started with similar sort of thoughts and objectives. In this paper authors are reviewing the development of such institutions throughout the country. We found that apart from Institutes and colleges in Physical Education in India, there exists a significant drift in the formation of Sports Universities. This will surely contribute in the development of Physical Education and Sports in India. This will also develop a sense of awareness towards individual fitness and ultimately contributes in the implementation of New Education Policy (NEP-2020) in its true meaning.

*Index Terms— Physical Education, Sports, NEP, Innovation, Incubation*

## I. INTRODUCTION

History of Physical Education and Sports based studies is considered to be started in pre independence era. With inception of Hanuman Vyayam Prasarak Mandal in 1914 by Vaidya Brothers and YMCA, Madras (Chennai) in 1920 by H.C.Buck. Government College of Physical Education, Hyderabad was founded in 1931 and Christian College of Physical Education was founded in 1932. Also in 1938, Training Institute of Physical Education was founded in Kandivali, Bombay (Mumbai). In post-

independence era (soon after getting independence), Tarachand Committee in 1948 suggested many recommendations for the development of Physical Education and Recreation. Many efforts were started in the form of Central Advisory Board of Physical Education (CABPE) was formed in 1950 which later prepared National Plan for Physical Education and Recreation in 1956. And finally in 1957, Lakshmbai National College of Physical Education (Lakshmbai National Institute of Physical Education, Deemed to be University currently) was founded to revolutionize the field of Sports and Physical Education. The Institute has a repute of producing finest physical education experts till date. Many central universities has later started degree and diploma courses and formation of Department of Physical Education, in order to contribute in the developmental process physical education in India. Later, 1985 Lakshmbai National College of Physical Education (LNCPE, Thiruvananthapuram) formed under Sports Authority of India. All these efforts have significant effect on the developmental process of Physical Education and Sports Sciences in India. But still the truth is that there was no any full-fledged Sports University till the end of 20<sup>th</sup> Century. The 21<sup>st</sup> Century came up like a hope for Physical Education in India and formation of different sports universities in the different parts of the country. The New Education Policy has also given adequate focus on giving proper treatment to the Physical Education and Sports as compulsory subject and activity in schools and colleges. The present paper is also focused on reviewing the status of Sports Universities in India.

## II. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

1. *Tamil Nadu Physical Education and Sports University*

This university established by an act of the government of Tamil Nadu in 2004. Its functioning started in December 2005. It consists of 3 faculties, 5 departments and 10 affiliated colleges. The university has been accredited with 'B' grade by NAAC. It has a well-equipped laboratory and a library. Apart from regular courses, the university has over 50 UGC approved courses under School of Distance Education. The University also has an innovation and incubation center as well [1].

2. *Swarnim Gujarat Sports University*

The state University located in Gandhinagar, Gujarat with an upcoming headquarters in Vadodara district. It is a residential and afflicting university. It has 6 faculties and 8 departments and various courses running under them. It also has an integrated course in Physical Education as well. Established by an act of Government of Gujarat in 2011, it has its department of physical education functioning from 2014 onwards. The University has many successful events for development of Sports in Gujarat at its credit such as Khel Maha Kumbh with Sports Authority of Gujarat, Pre-Vibrant Gujarat Sports Summit and has successfully launched the trainers training program for aquatic adventure sports at Narmada Park in Bharuch [2].

3. *Rajasthan Sports University*

Rajasthan Sports University is a state university established by an act of government of Rajasthan in 2013. There is not any official website and information related with this university. But as per some local articles, the land was acquired for the university. Also, Prof. L.S. Rajawat was appointed as its first Vice Chancellor and former International Athlete Shri Ramavatar Jakhad was appointed as its Advisor. Till reports from 2015, the layout plan was ready but no further update is available regarding the university [3].

4. *The Jharkhand State Sports Promotion Society*

The Jharkhand State Sports Promotion Society (JSSPS) is a unique unconventional CSR initiative of Central Coalfields Ltd. The Department of Tourism, Art, Culture, Sports & Youth Affairs, Government of Jharkhand has established a sports university to promote the state sports in association with CCL, Ranchi. Currently the University is not functional but there were different academies functioning since its inception in various sports disciplines with an aim to

bring glory to the Nation in the form of Gold Medals in 2024 Olympics to be held in Paris by nurturing [4].

5. *Chhattisgarh Sports University*

The Sports University in Chhattisgarh was first proposed in 2013 under the leadership of then CM Dr. Raman Singh, later it was not got much attention due to several reasons. In 2017, the University again came into the news after government started searching land for the universities but unfortunately the university doesn't come into existence till date [5-6].

6. *National Sports University, Manipur*

The National Sports University, Manipur was established by an act of Parliament of India in 2018 under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, which was the first central university in India on sports. The university has 4 schools and different departments in the field of Physical Education and Sports. The university has a well-equipped laboratory and a library [7].

7. *Sri Sri Aniruddhadeva Sports University*

The Sri Sri Aniruddhadeva Sports University was established by an act of state legislature of Assam in 2018. The University aims to produce top class, sports scientists and physical educators. The university currently in its initial phase of establishment under the leadership of its first VC Prof. J.P.Verma with some diploma courses [8].

8. *Delhi Sports University*

The dream project of Government of Delhi i.e., Delhi Sports University which has recently got its first VC Olympic medalist Karnam Malleswari appointed by the state administration. The land for establishing the University has been located and its respective bill was passed in state legislature in 2018. The university is likely to be the first of its kind universities with various number of courses. Recently, it has been in news that admission in this university will be starting in the year 2022, where students of class 6-9 will be admitted. The University aims in nurturing young talents in sports [9-10].

9. *Haryana Sports University*

Initially the bill for Haryana Sports University was passed in the year 2019 to establish it in Sonapat, Haryana. Former Indian Captain Kapil Dev (famous with the name of Haryana Hurricane) was appointed as its first Vice Chancellor. But after receiving suggestions from the central government, the government of Haryana as updated its bill recently in

2021. The university establishment is still in process [11-12].

*10. Andhra Pradesh Sports University*

Soon after forming a new government in Andhra Pradesh, CM Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy has announced a sports university to be set up in Kadapa District of Andhra Pradesh. Still this stands as a proposal since there were not any reports of forming legislative bills regarding this university [13].

*11. Maharaja Bhupinder Singh Punjab Sports University*

The sports university in Punjab was the dream project of former CM Capt. Amarinder Singh. The act of establishment was passed in 2019 and the university is running in the campus of Professor Gursewak Singh Government College of Physical Education, Patiala which is a constituent college of the University. The foundation stone was already laid down in 2020 and university is currently running few diploma and UG/PG courses [14].

*12. Maharashtra International Sports University*

International Sports University at Balewadi, Pune will be “operational” from October 2021 for which state

legislature passed an act in 2020. The university is processing the appointments of faculties and soon starts its admission process as per government officials [15-16].

*13. Himachal Pradesh Sports University*

The government of Himachal Pradesh also proposed a sports university in Kangra district in 2020. The university aims in producing sports professionals and physical educators of repute. The bill for establishment is still awaited [17].

*14. Uttar Pradesh Sports University*

Government of Uttar Pradesh has recently passed a Sports University Bill in 2021 to be established in Meerut. The university aims to provide best infrastructure practices and services. Currently, land acquisition for the university is in process [18].

*15. Bihar Sports University*

Government of Bihar Pradesh has recently passed a Sports University Bill on 27 July 2021 to be established in Rajgir. The university will have a minimum of one-third of the seats would be reserved for women with an aim to make Bihar a ‘Sporting Power’ state [19].

*Table 1: Details of Sports Universities in India*

<i>Name of University</i>	<i>Year of Establishment</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Total No. of Courses</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Affiliation</i>
<i>Tamil Nadu Physical Education and Sports University</i>	2004	Functional	35	Chennai, Tamil Nadu	State
<i>Swarnim Gujarat Sports University</i>	2011	Functional	19	Gnadhinagar, Gujarat	State
<i>Rajasthan Sports University</i>	2013	University Bill Passed	0	Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan	State
<i>Jharkhand Sports Promotion Society</i>	2016	University Proposed	0	Ranchi, Jharkhand	State
<i>Chhattisgarh Sports University</i>	2017	University Proposed	0	Chhattisgarh	State
<i>National Sports University, Manipur</i>	2018	Functional	5	Imphal, Manipur	Central
<i>Sri Sri Aniruddhadeva Sports University</i>	2018	Functional	5	Dibrugarh, Assam	State
<i>Delhi Sports University</i>	2018	University Bill Passed	0	New Delhi	State
<i>Haryana Sports University</i>	2019	University Bill Passed	0	Sonapat, Haryana	State
<i>Andhra Pradesh Sports University</i>	2019	University Proposed	0	Kadapa, Andhra Pradesh	State
<i>Maharaja Bhupinder Singh Punjab Sports University</i>	2019	Functional	3	Patiala, Punjab	State
<i>Maharashtra International Sports University</i>	2020	University Bill Passed	0	Pune, Maharashtra	State
<i>Himachal Pradesh Sports University</i>	2020	University Proposed	0	Kangra, Himachal Pradesh	State
<i>Uttar Pradesh Sports University</i>	2021	University Bill Passed	0	Meerut, Uttar Pradesh	State

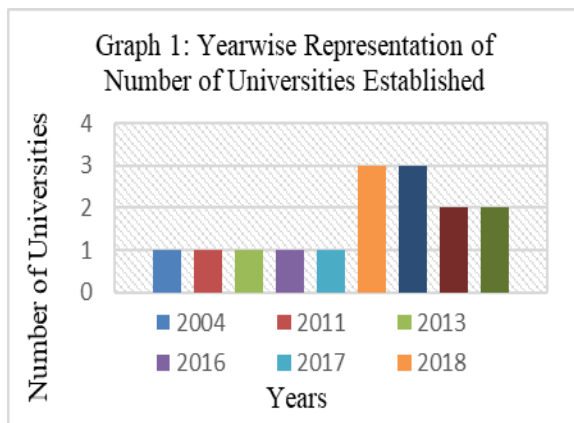
Bihar Sports University	2021	University Passed	Bill	0	Rajgir, Bihar	State
-------------------------	------	-------------------	------	---	---------------	-------

Table 1 is the consolidated table which consists details of all the 15 sports universities which were either established by state or central government. The table consists status of the respective sports universities whether they were functional, proposed or their bill passed by the state legislature. The table also consists their names, year of existence and number of courses along with their location.

Table 2. Year Wise Number of Sports Universities Established

Years	Number of Universities Established
2004	01
2011	01
2013	01
2016	01
2017	01
2018	03
2019	03
2020	02
2021	02

The above table shows the year wise number of sports universities established in India. We have observed that there exists a sudden increase in the number of sports universities in last five years. The National Sports University, Manipur was established in 2018 under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India. It is evident from the table that after Union Government has taken an initiative in the field of Physical Education and Sports by establishing National Sports University, Manipur, many state governments also took similar initiatives which results in the increase of establishments of many such Universities after 2018.

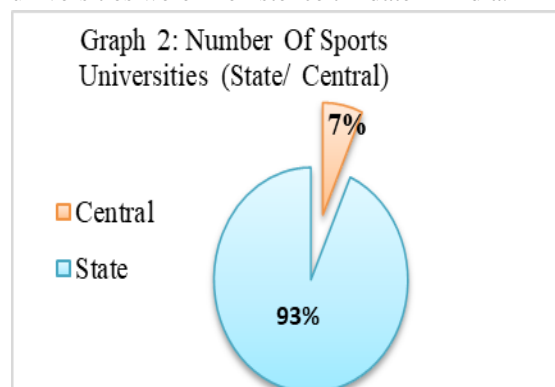


Graph 1. show the data of the year wise number of sports universities established in India using bar graph. Here we can observe clearly that after 2018, there exists longer bars in every year which was evident enough and explained in table 2.

Table 3: Status of Sports Universities in India

Status	Number of Universities
Central	1
State	14

Table 3. shows the number of state sports universities were found to be 14 and whereas only one central university was established till date. Total 15 sports universities were in existence till date in India.



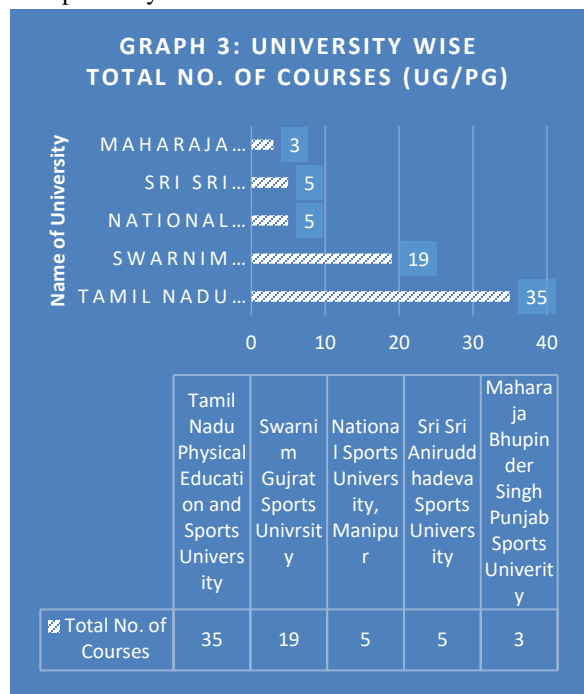
Graph 2. show that the share of central university is 7% whereas that of state universities is 93% in total number of sports universities in India established till date.

Table 4: Number of courses in Sports University in India

Name of University	Total No. of Courses
Tamil Nadu Physical Education and Sports University	35
Swarnim Gujarat Sports University	19
National Sports University, Manipur	05
Sri Sri Aniruddhadeva Sports University	05
Maharaja Bhupinder Singh Punjab Sports University	03

Table 4. is representing the number of courses among various established and functional sports universities in India. The Tamil Nadu Physical Education and Sports University which was established in 2004 has maximum number of courses which were functional till date. The Sri Sri Aniruddhadeva Sports University and Maharaja Bhupinder Singh Punjab Sports

University were among the two youngest Universities with minimum number of functional courses i.e. 5 and 3 respectively.

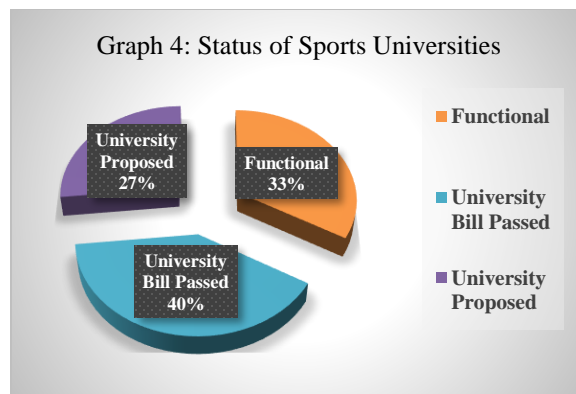


Graph 3. represents the graphically the total number of functional courses among the all the established sports universities in India. The longer bars represents Tamil Nadu Physical Education and Sports University and Swarnim Gujarat Sports University respectively followed by National Sports University, Manipur, Sri Sri Aniruddhadeva Sports University and Maharaja Bhupinder Singh Punjab Sports University.

Table 5: Functional status of Sports Universities in India

Status	Number of Universities
Functional	05
University Bill Passed	06
University Proposed	04

In Table 5, we can see the status of all the 16 sports universities of India. Out 16 Sports Universities, only 5 five universities were in functional conditions with various courses. Six state legislatures have passed requisite bills for establishing sports universities in their states. Also, there are four states in which there is a proposal for establishing a state level sports university.



Graph 4. represents that out 16 Sports Universities, 27% sports universities were found to be proposed by the respective governments whereas 40% of Sports Universities were in the pipeline as their respective state governments has passed a sports university bill in order to establish such university.

### III. CONCLUSION

After independence, India has done phenomenal growth in the regime of higher education. But somehow an older concept of “Playing more will spoil your career and studying hard will make you shine” has kept Physical Education out of the league of all the subjects. Even after 75 years of independence and 4<sup>th</sup> Education policy, authorities started taking some serious steps in prioritizing the need of Physical Education and Sports Sciences in overall development of an individual. And hence we have observed the development of sports universities in 21<sup>st</sup> centuries India. Clearly, this growth was slow in the first decade but it has taken an adequate drift into its speed in the second decade of 21<sup>st</sup> century. We can conclude this as a rise towards the overall development of an individual through educating them not only theoretically but also with practically with physical training. The NEP 2020 also created a vision about the same in upcoming education system of India. Also, this pandemic named COVID19 has also made people think about on the need of immunity, physical fitness and nutrition in life. Thus researchers conclude that the physical education and sports sciences need a proper attention not only by formation of Sports Universities but also a full-fledged recognition of Physical Education as a subject in school education as well as in college education.

### ACKNOWLEDGMENT

There are no conflicts of interest to disclose from the authors. Also, no funding has been received for this study from any organization

#### REFERENCE

- [1] <https://tnpesu.org/>
- [2] <https://sgsu.gujarat.gov.in/>
- [3] <https://www.patrika.com/jaipur-news/sports-university-in-jhunjhunu-1489280/>
- [4] <http://www.jharkhandccsports.in/>
- [5] <https://www.hindustantimes.com/india/chhattisgarh-to-establish-sports-university/story-eSJf8fmCJssNK8A0CFgYSL.html>
- [6] <https://www.naidunia.com/chhattisgarh/raipur-sports-university-to-be-formed-in-chhattisgarh-1207170>
- [7] <https://www.nsu.ac.in/>
- [8] <https://www.sasu.ac.in/>
- [9] <https://indianexpress.com/article/education/delhi-sports-university-to-enrol-students-from-class-6-to-9-from-april-2022-vc-7428692/>
- [10] <https://www.indiatoday.in/education-today/news/story/delhi-sports-university-vc-appointed-1818202-2021-06-23>
- [11] <https://www.indiatoday.in/sports/cricket/story/kapil-dev-chancellor-haryana-sports-university-sports-minister-anil-vij-1599198-2019-09-14>
- [12] <https://www.hindustantimes.com/education/news/haryana-govt-brings-new-sports-university-bill-101616052797493.html>
- [13] <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KYNQB6oSx8A>
- [14] <http://mbspsu.ac.in/en/>
- [15] <https://www.hindustantimes.com/education/maharashtra-international-sports-university-to-produce-experts-kedar/story-CSB6WsGMRayAU6jYC2wwgM.html>
- [16] <https://www.thehitavada.com/Encyc/2021/9/12/-International-Sports-University-to-be-operational-from-October-.html>
- [17] <https://www.hindustantimes.com/education/sports-university-to-come-up-in-kangra-soon-hp-minister/story-eGVnNrpRJC7MD1f3LjWxO.html>
- [18] <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/sports/off-the-field/uttar-pradesh-to-get-its-first-sports-university-in-meerut/articleshow/80465211.cms>
- [19] <https://www.drishtias.com/state-pcs-current-affairs/bihar-sports-university-bill-2021>