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RESEARCH ARTICLE

IN-DEPTH STUDY ON SELECTED INDIAN TRADITIONAL GAMES WITH REFERENCE TO DIFFERENT AWARDS

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Abstract

Traditional games and sports can shape the backbone of a community which are the part of intangible heritage and a symbol of the cultural diversity of our societies. Kabaddi and Kho-Kho have played as a serious indigenous professional sports in India from school level to International level. Now these indigenous games received a good reputation and become interesting for the spectators due to its demand. In this study researcher tends to find out the total scenario of Indian kabaddi and Kho-Kho players, coaches and their contribution to their nation. There are five sports awards conferred to the sport persons for their outstanding performance and contribution in the field of sports by the government of India. Researcher conducted this study to evaluate the performance of Kabaddi and Kho-Kho who were awarded with different sports awards. Till now total Arjun award was given in 61 years were 934 by Ministry of Youth affairs and Sports but only 52 awards got by Kabaddi and Kho-Kho player. But now both games are going in a proper route for success.

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Introduction:-

Sports and games have always played an important role in India's rich culture and history (**Badiger, S, 2020**). Many modern games originated in India and are now played all over the world. This is a source of pride for the culture of our country. India is the home of some of the most popular traditional games in the world. (**Gulia & Dhauta, 2018**). Kabaddi is the only combative sport in which the attack is an individual effort while defence is a combined effort. (**Sardar, S & Pandey, A. K, 2016**). The goal of the game is to raid into the opponent's court and touch as many defence players as possible in a single breath. (**Rahaman et al, 2018**).

The origins of Kho-Kho is unknown, but many historians believe it is a modified variant of 'Run Chase,' which involves chasing and touching a person. Kho-Kho was once known as Ratha and was played on 'raths' or chariots. (**Tiwari & Venugopal, 2015**). Kho-Kho is a really difficult and tactical sport. (**Jaiswal, A, 2015**). Every team has to chase and defend for 9 minutes each twice in a match. The team that takes the shortest time to touch all the opponents in the field they win. (**Verma, K, 2015**)

Total 5 sport awards are given to the sports person for their extraordinary performance and contribution in the field of sports by the government of India. The national award conferred by the ministry of youth affairs of sports by

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Government of India in order of precedence are- Khel Ratna Award (1991), Dronacharya award (1985), Arjuna Award (1961) Dhyan Chand Award (2002) and Rastriyo Khel Protsahan Puraskar. (Mondal & Mridha, 2021)

The Khel Ratna Award, now formally recognized as the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award, previously recognized as the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award in Sports and Games, is the highest sporting honour of India. This is awarded once a year by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports. (Staff, 2021), Dronacharya award is the highest National sports award started in 1985, which is awarded to eminent coaches (Gurus) who make an outstanding role in their respective fields. (Singh et al., 2003). The Arjuna Award is also given by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, government of India to recognize it as a outstanding achievement in National sports which was instituted in the year of 1961 (Singh et al., 2012). Dhyan Chand Award for Lifetime achievement in Sports and Games is given to honour sportspersons Presented for appropriate overall performance and contributing in the direction of the promoting of sports activities by an individual capacity, it was started in the year of 2002, It is awarded once a year by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports. (Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, 2019)

To evaluate the overall performance in the game of Kabaddi and Kho-Kho who has been awarded different sports awards by the government of India (both male and female) researcher carried out this study since from the beginning of Arjuna Awardee in 1961 to 2021.

Statement of the problem:

In the present study researcher only dealt with selected kho-kho and kabaddi players who were conferred different sports awards thus the study was entitled as “IN-DEPTH STUDY ON SELECTED INDIAN TRADITIONAL GAMES WITH REFERENCE TO DIFFERENT AWARDS”

Purpose of the study

1. To find out the present status of Indian kho-kho and kabaddi players.
2. To recognize the distinct sports awards conferred by the government of India.
3. To know the number of sport personalities accompanied by kho-kho and kabaddi.
4. To consider the contribution of kho-kho and kabaddi players and coaches to their nation.

Table 1:- List of Awards for the Sportspersons by the Govt. of India.

List of Sports Award given by Government of India
Arjun Award
Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna (Now, officially known as the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award)
Dronacharya Award
Dhyan Chand Award

Delimitation of the study:

Researcher deliberately controlled some factors for conducting the study. The delimitations under which the present study conducted were:

1. Though the study was related to different sports award but only given priority to the sports award conferred by the Ministry of India.
2. The researcher had limited and managed his current find out since the inception of Arjuna Award (1961).
3. The researcher was dependent upon different information available from various secondary sources.

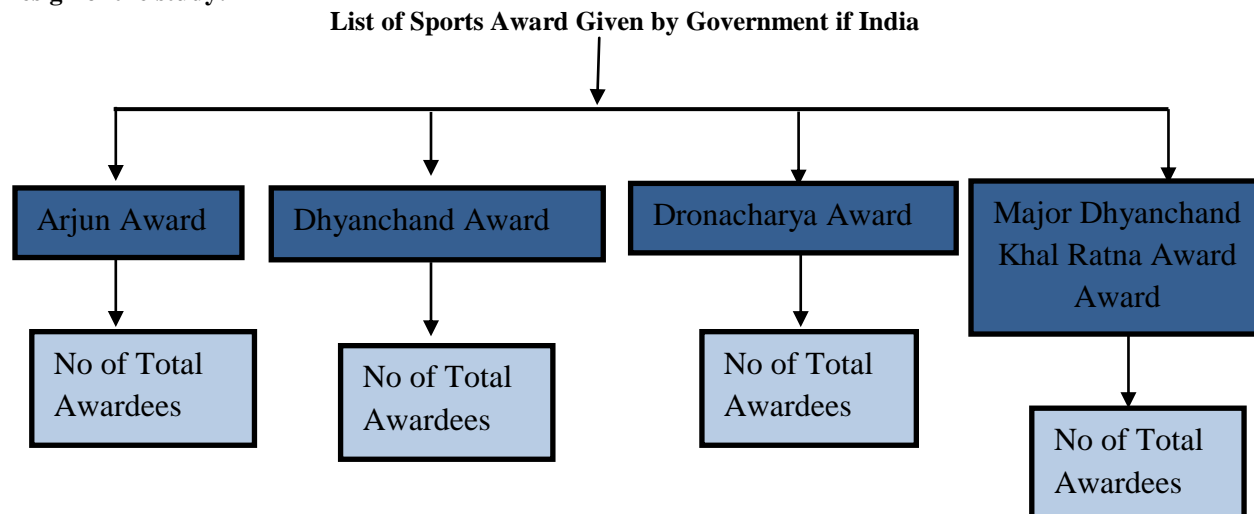
Methodology:-

In the present study the researcher investigates the performance of kho-kho and Kabaddi players who had been awarded extraordinary sports awards by the government of India (both male and female). From the inception of Arjuna Awardee in 1961.

Sampling:

All the Indian players (both male & female) who earn an award in the field of Kabaddi and Kho- Kho and the coaches who produce elit class athletes both in national and international level for our nation had been taken into consideration for this study.

Design of the study:

**Result and Discussion: -****Table 2:-** Male and Female Arjuna Awardees in Kabaddi in Different Decades.

Arjun Awardees	Year	Arjun Awardees	Year	Arjun Awardees	Year
Sandeep Narwal	2021	Shri NavneetGautam	2006	Ms. Neeta MoreshwarDadwe	1996
Deepak	2020	Shrirameshkumar	2005	Shri P. Ganeshan	1995
Ajay Thakur	2019	Shri Sunder Singh	2004	Shris.Rajrathanam	1994
Shri Jasvir Singh	2017	Shri Sanjeev Kumar	2003	Shriashokd.Shinde	1994
Shri Manjeet Chillar	2015	Shri Ram Mehar Singh	2002	Shri Hardeep Singh	1990
Ms. AbhilashaShashikantmhatre	2015	Shri B.C. Ramesh	2001	Km.Ramasarkar	1986
Ms. MamathaPoojari	2014	Shri C. Honappa	2000	Km. Mayakashinath	1883
Shri Anup Kumar	2012	Shri balwinder Singh	1999	Km. Monikanath	1981
Shri Rakesh Kumar	2011	Shri Tirathraj	1999	Shri shantaramjadhav	1980-1981
Ms. Tejaswini Bai V.	2011	Shri Ashan Kumar	1998	Km. S.P. Khatavkar	1978-1979
Ms. TejaswiniRavindraSawant	2011	Shri BiswajitPalit	1998	Shri Bholanathguin	1973
Shri Dinesh Kumar	2010	Shri Randhir Singh	1997	Shris.M.Shetty	1972
Shri PankajnavnathshIrsat	2009	Shri ShriramBhavsar	1996		

Table no 2 shows that total 38 Male and Female Kabaddi players got Arjuna Award. In the year of 1972 shris M Shetty received first Arjun award in Kabaddi and the renowned player Sandeep Narwal from Hariyana received last Arjun Award in the year of 2021. Deepak Niwas Hooda is the current captain of India team and got this Award in the year of 2020.

Table 3:-Male and Female Arjuna Awardees in Kho-Kho in Different Decades.

Arjun Awardees	Year	Arjun Awardees	Year	Arjun Awardees	Year
Kale SarikaSudhakar	2020	Km.Sushmasarolkar	1981	Km. N.C. Sarolkar	1974
Ms. Shobha Narayan	1998	Shrih.M.Takalkar	1981	Km.B.H.Parikh	1973
Km. S.B.Kulkarni	1985	Shri S.R. Dharwadkar	1976	Km.AchalasuberaodEvra	1971
Shris.Prakash	1984	Km. Usha Vasant Nagarkar	1975	ShrisudhirbParab	1970
Km. VeenaNarayanparab	1883	Shri Shreerang J. Inamdar	1975		

From **table no 3** it was clear that only 14 Kho-Kho players got Arjun Award. ShrisudhirbParabwas was the first player who clinched Arjun Award in the in the year 1970. After Ms. Shobha Narayan there was a huge gap till 2020 and finally after 22 years a renowned Kho-Kho player was received the Arjuna Award, now she is the former Indian women's Kho-Kho captain known as Sarika Kale.

Table 4:- List of the recipients of others national Sport Awards in the game of Kabaddi.

Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award	Year	Dronacharya Award	Year	Dhyan Chand Award	Year
Nil	-	Ashan Kumar	2021	Vikas Kumar	2021
		Krishan Kumar Hooda	2020	Manpreet Singh	2020
		Rambir Singh Khokar	2019	Shri Shamsher Singh	2007
		Ms. Sunil Dabas	2012		
		Shri Balwan Singh	2005		
		Shri E. Prasad Rao	2002		

From **table No. 4** it was clear that from kabaddi no one got Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award but three players i.e. Vikas Kumar, Manpreet Singh and Shri Shamsher Singh got Dhyan Chand Award and six coaches got Dronacharya award. Balwan Singh is a known name in the sport of Kabaddi for decades. One of the legendary coaches of the Indian Kabaddi team who got Dronacharya Award in the year 2005.

Table 5:- List of the recipients of others national Sport Awards in the game of Kho-Kho.

Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award	Year	Dronacharya Award	Year	Dhyan Chand Award	Year
Nil	-	Shri Phadke Gopal Purushottam	2000	Nil	-

From the **table no 5** it was clear that only Shri Phadke Gopal Purushottam received the highest Indian award for sports coaching known as Dronacharya Award in the year of 2000. He is the only coach in the field of kho-kho who received this award. But not a single player got either Major Dhyanchand Khel Ratna Award or Dhyan Chand award till date in the game of Kho-Kho.

Table 6:- Male and Female Arjuna Awardees in Kabaddi and Kho-Kho in Different Decades.

Arjun Award in the Game of Kabaddi		Arjun Award in the Game of Kho-Kho		Total Arjun Awarded till 2021	Total Arjun Awarded till 2021 in Kabaddi & Kho-Kho
Decade	Total Awarded	Decade	Total Awarded	934	Kabaddi- 38 Kho-Kho- 14 Total- 52
1961-1970	0	1961-1970	1		
1971-1980	4	1971-1980	6		
1981-1990	4	1981-1990	5		
1991-2000	11	1991-2000	1		
2001-2010	8	2001-2010	0		
2011-2021	11	2011-2021	1		

The **table no 6** revealed that the Arjun Awardees in Kabaddi were 38 and Kho -Kho were 14. In the history of sixty-one-year total awardee in Kabaddi and Kho-Kho in each decade- 1961-1970 number of awardee- 0 and 1, 1971-1980 number of awardee- 4 and 6, 1981-1990 number of awardee-4 and 5 1991-2000 number of awardees- 11 and 1, 2001-2010 number of awardee -8 and 0, and 2011-2020 number of awardees – 11 and 1 respectively. Till now total Arjun award was given in 60 years were 934 by Ministry of Youth affairs and Sports but only 52 awards got by Kabaddi and Kho-Kho player. For better understanding it was presented graphically in **figure no 1**.

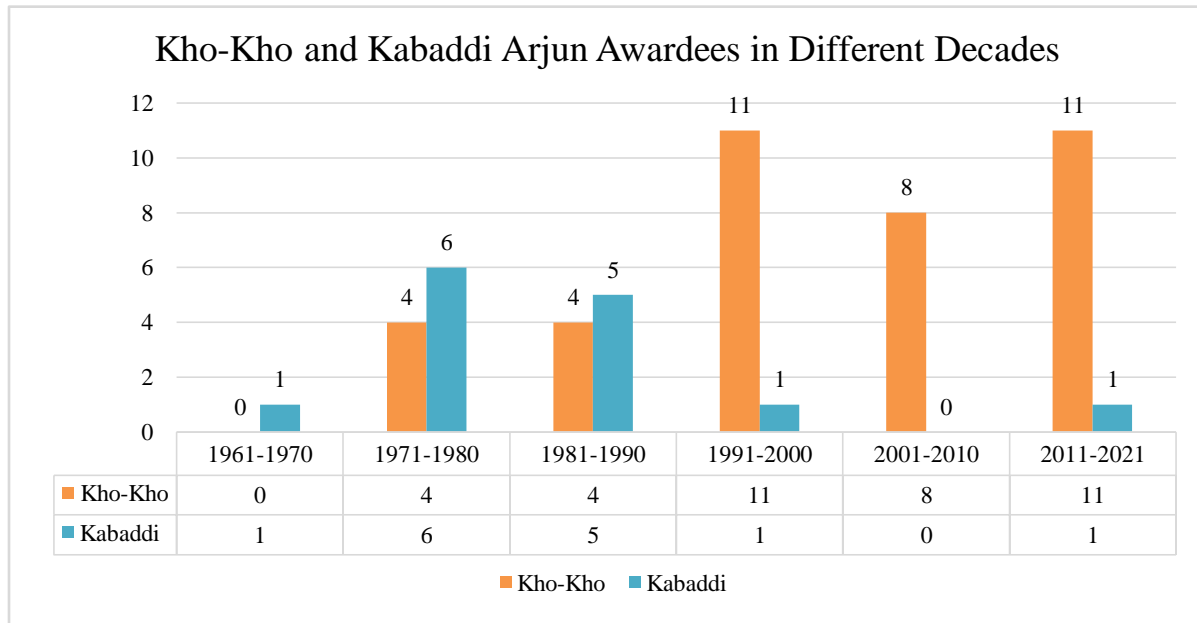


Fig 1:- Arjuna Awardees in the game of Kho-Kho and kabaddi in Different Decades.

The game kabaddi received international exposure when it was demonstrated by an Amravati-based sports organization at the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin, After the establishment of the All-India Kabaddi Federation in 1950 it being played as a demonstration sport at the inaugural 1951 Asian Games in New Delhi, and later on Kabaddi has gained a new lease of life in the public perception ever since the inception of the Pro Kabaddi League. Kabaddi players like Anup Kumar's greatest achievement captaining the Indian national team and winning gold medals at the 2010 and 2014 Asian Games. Pradeep Narwal was the first player to hit the 1,000 points mark and winning the gold medal for the India national team at the 2019 South Asian Games. Others like ManjeetChillar, Ajay Thakur are also famous name in the field of kabaddi. kho-kho, traditional Indian sport, is one of the oldest forms of outdoor sport. The girl MandakiniMajhi is popularly known as Odisha girl and well-known Odisha Kho-Kho player. She was selected to compete at the 12th South Asian Federation (SAF) Games 2016 at Guwahati as a member of the Indian Women's Kho -Kho squad. Captain of India women's national kho-kho team Sarika Kale who got ShivChhatrapati Award in 2016 andArjuna Award in 2020 and also clinched a gold at the 12th South Asian Games (SAG) in Guwahati. she is the first kho-kho player to win the award only in 22 years.Only one coach from the field of Kho-Kho Shri Phadke Gopal Purushottam not only got the highest Indian award for sports coaching but also awarded with Padma Shri in the year of 2003 , which is the fourth highest Indian civilian award. Now, Kho-Kho and Kabaddi has been included in Khelo India Programme, All India Inter University, school championship, railway etc.Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, and Madhya Pradesh are among the states where Kho Kho is popular, while Karnataka, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, and Rajasthan are hotbeds of talent. In the villages of Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, and Gujarat, Kabaddi is significantly more popularSo, from the above discussion it was clear that both games are going in a proper route for success but several leading traditional games condition are far from being satisfactory in India and below the desired level as compared to the others modern game.Some traditional games are very valuable for our rich culture and we should value them rather of ignoring them. (Gulia & Dhauta, 2018).

Conclusions:-

1. Indian Kabaddi players have won a total of 38 Arjun Awards, 6 Dronacharya Awards, and 3 Dhyanchand Awards till 2021.
2. Till 2021, 14 Arjun awards have been won by Kho-Kho players
3. Total 934 Arjun Award were given to the sports person till date.
4. In between 1991 to 2000 and 2011 to 2021 highest Arjun Award was achieved by Kabaddi players and the highest Arjun Award was received in Kho-Kho between the year 1971 to 1980.
5. Shri Phadke Gopal Purushottamrecievedthe highest Indian award for sports coaching in the year of 2000.

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