A Study on the participation of Girl Athletes in the state of Andhra Pradesh during the years 2002 to 2008

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Introduction:
The word athletics is derived from the Greek word "athlos", meaning "contest" or "task." Athletics is an exclusive collection of sporting events that involve competitive running, jumping, throwing, and walking. The most common types of athletics competitions are track and field, road running, cross country running, and race walking. Track and field is one of the oldest of sports. The simplicity of the competitions, and the lack of a need for expensive equipment, makes athletics one of the most commonly competed sports in the world. Track and Field as a modern sport started in England during the 19th century.

Women in Sports: In the Ancient Olympics, women were not allowed even to watch competitions. Much less competed as athletes. Besides the Olympics there was a separate women's athletic event, the Heraea Games, held in ancient Greece. The modern Olympics had female competitors from 1900 onwards, though women at first participated in considerably fewer events than men. Female participation in sports rose dramatically in the twentieth century, especially in the last quarter, reflecting changes in modern societies that emphasized gender parity. The status of women in modern India is a sort of a paradox. If on one hand she is at the peak of ladder of success, on the other hand she is mutely suffering the violence afflicted on her by her own family members.

Statement of the Problem:
The purpose of the study the variation in participation of Girl Athletes of Kadappa District, Andhra Pradesh during the year 2002 to 2008.

Delimitations:
The present study is delimited to

- The girl athletes of Hyderabad district only.
- The girls at junior level only.
- Data collected from records of the Hyderabad District Athletics Association &
• participation of girls athletes of Hyderabad District during the year 2002 to 2008 during the A.P.Inter District Athletics Championships at Junior Level.

Reviews:
In 2001, Asian Working Group on Women and Sport (AWG) developed the Asian Women and Sport Action Plan 2001, which sought to expand equal opportunities for women and men and girls and boys in Asia to participate fully in sport.

Methodology:
The data was collected from records of Kadappa District Athletics Association for participation of Girls at Junior level in the A.P. Inter District Athletics Championships between the year 2002 to 2011.
The events considered were
1. 100 Meters 2. Long Jump & 3. Shot-put

100 Meters:
The 100 meters, or 100-metre dash, is a sprint race in track and field competitions. The shortest common outdoor running distance, it is one of the most popular and prestigious events in the sport of athletics.

Long Jump:
Long jump is a track and field event in which athletes combine speed, strength, and agility in an attempt to leap as far as possible from a take off point.

Shot-Put:
The shot put is a track and field event involving "putting" (throwing in a pushing motion) a heavy metal ball—the shot—as far as possible.

The following table shows the Participation of Girl athletes of Kadappa District, Andhra Pradesh in 100 Mts, Long Jump & Shot-Put during the year 2002 to 2008 in the A.P.Inter District Junior Athletics Championships.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Si.No</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>No. Of Participants in 100 Mts</th>
<th>No. Of Participants in Long Jump</th>
<th>No. Of Participants in Shot-Put</th>
<th>Total No. of Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2002</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2003</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Analysis of Data:

After taking the data from the records of Hyderabad District Athletics Association for participation of Girls at Junior level in the A.P. Inter District Athletics Championships between the year 2002 to 2011 the following table was tabulated showing the participation of the Girl athletes of Kadappa District in Athletics (all events) during the year 2002 to 2008 in the A.P.Inter District Junior Athletics Championships

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No. of Athletes</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Graphical Representation:

X-Axis – Year of Performance, Y-Axis – Number of Participants

Conclusions:

1. The participation of the Girls of Kadappa District in Athletics has reduced from 80 in the year 2002 to 55 in the year 2008.
2. It is concluded that the girl’s participation has decreased a lot in last ten years.
3. It is due to less achievement motivation, lack of interest and desire towards participation in the Athletics.

4. The resources to make successful Indian women's teams are readily available, but just need to be utilized.

References: