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Exploring differences and similarities: A comparative analysis of International sports federations (ISFS) and national sports federations (NSFS)

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Abstract

Sports federations are responsible for managing and governing sports activities. They play a critical role in the development and promotion of sports by providing infrastructure, training facilities, coaching, and financial support to athletes. International Sports Federations (ISFs) and National Sports Federations (NSFs) are the two main types of sports federations, with ISFs overseeing and organizing sports activities at the international level, and NSFs responsible for the same at the national level. This research presents a comparative study between ISFs and NSFs in India, focusing on their organizational structure, governance, funding, and role in sports development. The study aims to analyze and compare the differences between the two types of federations National and International, and understand their respective roles in promoting sports development. A qualitative research design was used to collect data through a review of relevant literature and documents, from key stakeholders, such as Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, ISFs and NSFs, and sports experts. Thematic analysis was used to analyze the data collected. The study found significant differences between ISFs and NSFs in terms of their organizational structure, governance, funding, and role in sports development. ISFs are international bodies that are governed by a democratically elected Executive Board responsible for overseeing sports activities at the international level. In contrast, NSFs are national bodies governed by an elected Executive Committee responsible for organizing sports activities at the national level. ISFs play a crucial role in funding and promoting sports development in India by providing financial support, infrastructure, training facilities, and coaching to athletes. Meanwhile, NSFs also play a significant role in sports development by organizing national level competitions, identifying and nurturing talent, and promoting sports at the grassroots level. In conclusion, this study highlights the significant differences between ISFs and NSFs in India in terms of their organizational structure, governance, funding, and role in sports development. The study emphasizes the importance of a collaborative approach between the two types of federations to achieve the common goal of promoting sports in the country. The study's findings provide valuable insights for policymakers, sports organizations, and stakeholders to promote sports development effectively in India.

Keywords: International sports federations, national sports federations, India, sports development, organizational structure, governance, funding

Introduction

Sports federations are crucial organizations that promote and develop sports activities globally. These organizations play a significant role in the organization, governance, and management of sports activities at both the international and national levels. The two main types of sports federations are the International Sports Federations (ISFs) and the National Sports Federations (NSFs). ISFs are responsible for overseeing and organizing sports activities at the global level, whereas NSFs are responsible for the same at the national level. ISFs are international organizations that organize and manage international sports events such as the Olympic Games, World Cup, and other international competitions. They comprise representatives from different countries who work together to promote and develop their respective sports worldwide. NSFs, on the other hand, are national organizations formed by the government or private organizations and are responsible for promoting sports development, organizing national-level competitions, identifying and nurturing talent, and promoting sports at the grassroots level.

Both ISFs and NSFs play a critical role in sports development by providing infrastructure, training facilities, coaching, and financial support to athletes. They work towards promoting sports activities, encouraging participation, and fostering sportsmanship and fair play among athletes. Additionally, they are responsible for enforcing rules and regulations to maintain fair play and integrity in sports activities.

This focuses on a comparative study between ISFs and NSFs in India. The study aims to analyze and compare the differences between the two types of federations in India and to understand their respective roles in promoting sports development in the country. By examining the similarities

and differences between ISFs and NSFs, policymakers, sports organizations, and stakeholders can better understand how to promote sports development effectively in India.

Methodology

This study is based on a qualitative research design, and data has been collected through a review of relevant literature and documents, and interviews with key stakeholders such as officials from the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, representatives from ISFs and NSFs, and sports experts. The data collected has been analyzed using thematic analysis.

Table 1: Comparative Analysis of International Sports Federations (ISFs) and National Sports Federations (NSFs)

	International Sports Federations (ISFs)	National Sports Federations (NSFs)
Scope	Oversee and organize sports activities at the international level (Global)	Oversee and organize sports activities at the national level (National)
	Representatives from different countries	Composed of elected officials at the national level
Authority and autonomy	High	Low
Governance	Governed by a democratically elected Executive Board	Governed by an elected Executive Committee
Funding	Receives funding from various sources, including sponsors and government bodies	Receives funding from the government or private organizations
Role in sports development	Provides infrastructure, training facilities, coaching, and financial support to athletes	Provides infrastructure, training facilities, coaching, and financial support to athletes, while also promoting sports development at the national level
Responsibilities	Organize and manage international sports events	Promote sports development, organize national-level competitions, identify and nurture talent, and promote sports at the grassroots level
	Development of the sport globally	Development of the sport nationally
	Regulation and governance of the sport	Regulation and governance of the sport
	Organization of major international events	Organization of national events
	Coordination of sport's activities globally	Coordination of sport's activities within their respective countries
Examples of organizations	International Tennis Federation (ITF)	Athletics Federation of India (AFI)

The above table shows a detailed comparison between ISFs and NSFs in various aspects.

ISFs operate at the global level and are responsible for the regulation, governance, and development of a particular sport globally. They have a high level of authority and autonomy, which enables them to make decisions and policies that affect the entire sport globally. They are also responsible for the organization of major international events, such as the Olympics, World Cup, and World Championships. On the other hand, NSFs operate at the national level and are responsible for the regulation, governance, and development of a particular sport within a country. They have a low level of authority and autonomy and must comply with the policies and decisions made by their respective ISFs. They are responsible for the organization of national events, such as national championships, and the coordination of the sport's activities within their respective countries. ISFs and NSFs have their own unique roles and responsibilities in the development and governance of sports. While ISFs operate at the global level and have a wider range of responsibilities, NSFs operate at the national level and focus on the development of the sport within their respective countries.

Results

The results of this study indicate that ISFs and NSFs have significant differences in their organizational structure, governance, funding, and role in sports development. ISFs are international bodies that are governed by a democratically elected Executive Board, which is responsible for overseeing the organization of sports

activities at the international level. NSFs, on the other hand, are national bodies that are governed by an elected Executive Committee, which is responsible for the organization of sports activities at the national level.

ISFs have a significant role in funding and promoting sports development in India. They provide financial support, infrastructure, training facilities, and coaching to athletes. However, NSFs also have a significant role in sports development, as they are responsible for organizing national level competitions, identifying and nurturing talent, and promoting sports at the grassroots level.

Conclusion

In conclusion, ISFs and NSFs have significant differences in their organizational structure, governance, funding, and role in sports development. While ISFs are responsible for organizing sports activities at the international level, NSFs are responsible for organizing sports activities at the national level. Both ISFs and NSFs have a crucial role in the development and promotion of sports in India, and a collaborative approach between the two is necessary to achieve the common goal of promoting sports in the country.

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