

Survey of Olympic Awareness Levels Among Physical Education Students

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Abstract

The objective of this study was to evaluate Olympic awareness levels among male physical education students. The researcher purposively selected 200 male B.P.Ed. undergraduate students aged 18-23 years from Physical Education colleges. A self-made 10-item closed-ended questionnaire, employing a Likert-scale format for responses, evaluated knowledge across key domains: Olympic history (e.g., inaugural year and India's debut), symbols (e.g., meaning of the five rings), governance (e.g., role of the Indian Olympic Association), and national achievements (e.g., first individual gold medallist). Data were analysed using percentages. The results of the study indicate moderate awareness levels, with strengths in knowledge of Indian medallists but notable gaps in Olympic history and symbols. Recommendations include integrating Olympic education into the curriculum to enhance sports literacy among future educators.

Keywords: Olympic, Physical Education, B.P.Ed.

1. Introduction

Olympic awareness plays a pivotal role in encouragement holistic development among Physical Education (PE) students, instilling core Olympic values such as teamwork, perseverance, excellence, and respect. These values align seamlessly with sports science pedagogy, equipping future educators and coaches to nurture well-rounded athletes. In India, where Olympic participation has surged from 117 athletes at Tokyo 2020 to anticipated growth post-Paris 2024 such awareness is crucial for bridging the gap between academic training and global sports literacy. Yet, regional disparities persist, particularly in areas like Vidarbha, Maharashtra, where academic pressures and limited infrastructure often overshadow comprehensive sports education.

Limited empirical research exists on Olympic awareness specifically among male PE students. Existing studies predominantly focus on school children, elite athletes, or broader populations, neglecting undergraduate B.P.Ed. followers who form the backbone of future sports instruction. The study was deliberately confined to 200 male B.P.Ed. students from Vidarbha institutions, excluding females and other degree programs to maintain focus on the researcher's specified population. It relied on a self-reported questionnaire, prioritizing descriptive analysis over inferential statistics.

Objectives

1. To assess the overall Olympic awareness levels among 200 male B.P.Ed. students aged 18-23 years.

- To identify specific knowledge gaps (e.g., Olympic history, symbols, governance) across questionnaire domains.

Methodology

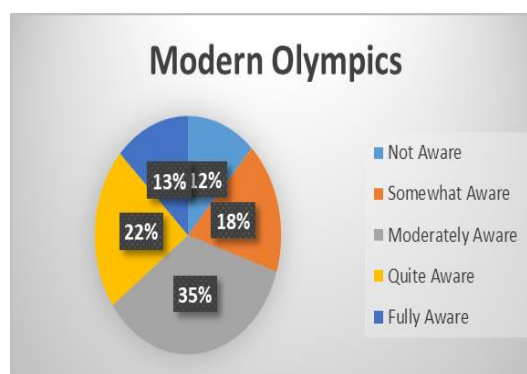
For the study, the researcher selected 200 male B.P.Ed. students aged 18-23 years from Physical Education colleges in the Vidarbha region using purposive sampling. A self-made 10-item closed-ended questionnaire, employing a Likert-scale format for responses, evaluated knowledge across key domains: Olympic history (e.g., inaugural year and India's debut), symbols (e.g., meaning of the five rings), governance (e.g., role of the Indian Olympic Association), and national achievements (e.g., first individual gold medallist). Data were collected using a Google Form questionnaire distributed online to 200 male B.P.Ed. students.

Analysis of data

Analysis of data and interpretation of the result was done by appropriate statistical technique and on the basis of analysis of data result of the study had been drawn. The analysis of data computed on total 200 male B.P.Ed. students.

1. Modern Olympics began in 1896 in Athens.

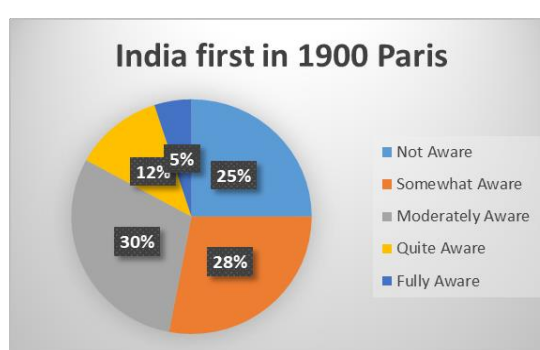
	Response	Percentage (%)
Not Aware	24	12
Somewhat Aware	36	18
Moderately Aware	70	35
Quite Aware	44	22
Fully Aware	26	13
Total	200	100



The above table presents the response distribution of 200 students regarding the beginning of the modern Olympic Games in Athens in 1896. The largest proportion (35%) reported being moderately aware, while 12% reported being not aware, indicating a need for greater emphasis on Olympic history in the curriculum.

2. India first participated in the Olympics in 1900 at Paris.

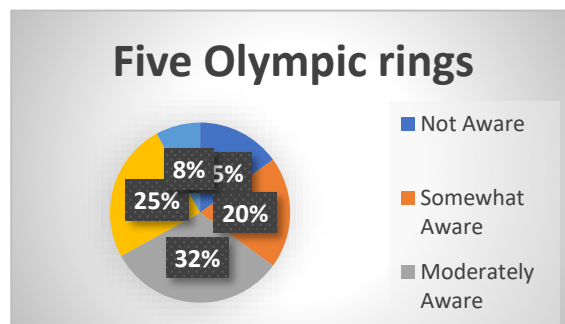
	Response	Percentage (%)
Not Aware	50	25
Somewhat Aware	56	28
Moderately Aware	60	30
Quite Aware	24	12
Fully Aware	10	5
Total	200	100



The above table presents responses regarding India's first participation in the Olympic Games in Paris in 1900. Thirty percent of the students reported being moderately aware, while only 5% reported being fully aware, indicating a need for greater emphasis on India's Olympic history.

3. The five Olympic rings represent the five continents united in competition.

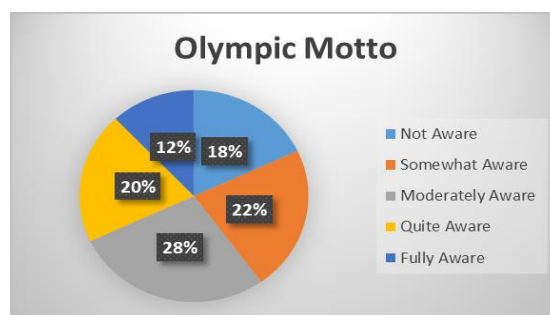
	Response	Percentage (%)
Not Aware	30	15
Somewhat Aware	40	20
Moderately Aware	64	32
Quite Aware	50	25
Fully Aware	16	8
Total	200	100



The above table presents responses regarding the meaning of the five Olympic rings. The largest group (32%) reported being moderately aware, while 15% reported being not aware, indicating gaps in knowledge of Olympic symbols.

4. The Olympic motto is "Citius, Altius, Fortius" (Faster, Higher, Stronger).

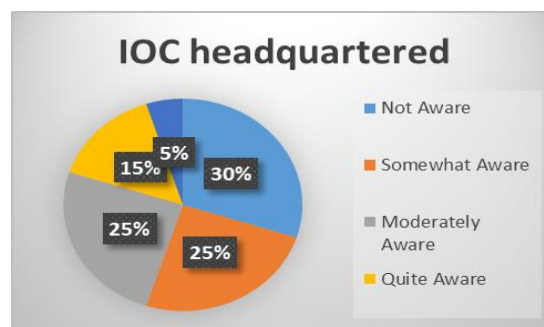
	Response	Percentage (%)
Not Aware	36	18
Somewhat Aware	44	22
Moderately Aware	56	28
Quite Aware	40	20
Fully Aware	24	12
Total	200	100



The above table presents responses regarding the Olympic motto, "Citius, Altius, Fortius." Twenty-eight percent of students reported being moderately aware, while 18% reported being not aware, indicating a need to strengthen knowledge of Olympic symbols and values.

5. The International Olympic Committee (IOC) is headquartered in Lausanne, Switzerland.

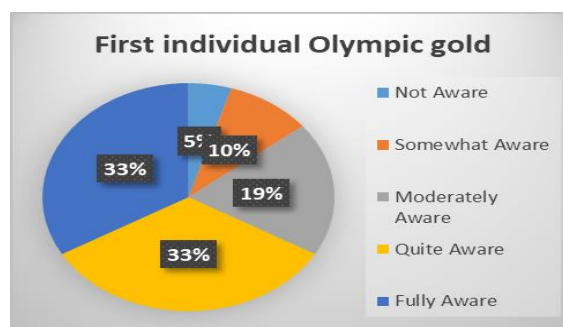
	Response	Percentage (%)
Not Aware	60	30
Somewhat Aware	50	25
Moderately Aware	50	25
Quite Aware	30	15
Fully Aware	10	5
Total	200	100



The above table presents responses regarding the headquarters of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in Lausanne, Switzerland. Thirty percent of students reported being not aware, while 25% reported being somewhat aware and another 25% moderately aware, indicating a notable gap in knowledge of Olympic governance.

6. Abhinav Bindra won India's first individual Olympic gold in shooting (2008 Beijing).

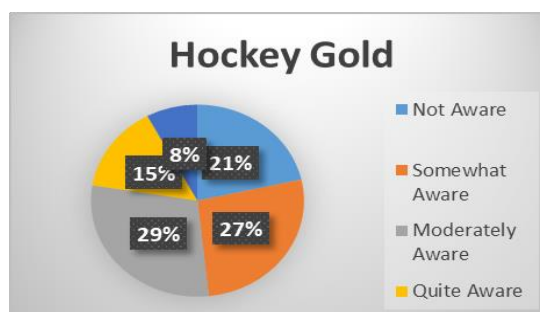
	Response	Percentage (%)
Not Aware	10	5
Somewhat Aware	20	10
Moderately Aware	40	20
Quite Aware	70	35
Fully Aware	70	35
Total	200	100



The above table presents responses regarding Abhinav Bindra's individual Olympic gold medal in 2008. Thirty-five percent of students reported being quite aware and another 35% fully aware, while only 5% reported being not aware, indicating comparatively strong awareness of this Indian Olympic achievement.

7. India's hockey team won the first team Olympic gold in 1928 Amsterdam.

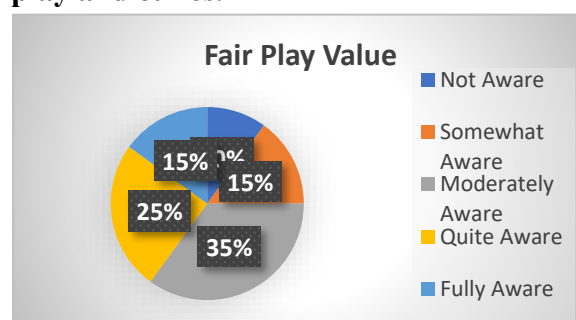
	Response	Percentage (%)
Not Aware	44	22
Somewhat Aware	55	27.5
Moderately Aware	60	30
Quite Aware	30	15
Fully Aware	16	8
Total	200	100



The above table presents responses regarding India's first team Olympic gold in hockey at the 1928 Amsterdam Games. Thirty percent of students reported being moderately aware, 27.5% somewhat aware, and 22% not aware, indicating gaps in awareness of India's Olympic sporting history.

8. Respect is a core Olympic value emphasizing fair play and ethics.

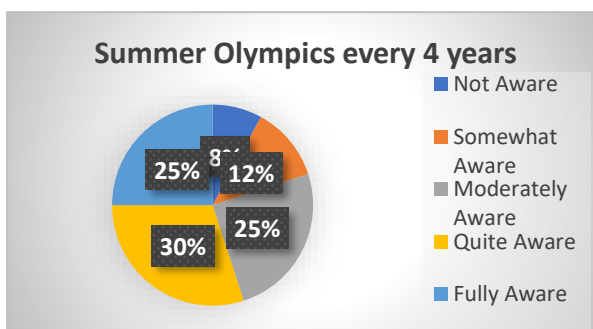
	Response	Percentage (%)
Not Aware	20	10
Somewhat Aware	30	15
Moderately Aware	70	35
Quite Aware	50	25
Fully Aware	30	15
Total	200	100



The above table presents responses regarding respect as a core Olympic value. The largest group (35%) reported being moderately aware, while 10% reported being not aware, suggesting that Olympic values education could be strengthened within the physical education curriculum.

9. Summer Olympics occur every four years.

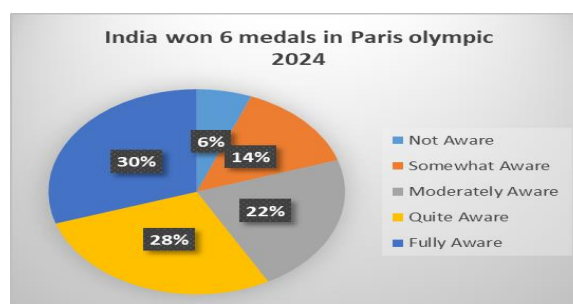
	Response	Percentage (%)
Not Aware	16	8
Somewhat Aware	24	12
Moderately Aware	50	25
Quite Aware	60	30
Fully Aware	50	25
Total	200	100



The above table presents responses regarding the frequency of the Summer Olympic Games. Thirty percent of students reported being quite aware, while 25% reported being moderately aware and another 25% fully aware. Only 8% reported being not aware, indicating comparatively strong awareness of this basic Olympic fact.

10. India won 6 medals at Paris 2024 Olympics.

	Response	Percentage
Not Aware	12	6
Somewhat Aware	28	14
Moderately Aware	44	22
Quite Aware	56	28
Fully Aware	60	30
Total	200	100



The above table presents responses regarding India's medal tally at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games. Thirty percent of students reported being fully aware, while 6% reported being not aware, indicating comparatively strong awareness of India's recent Olympic performance.

Conclusion

The present study examined Olympic awareness among 200 male B.P.Ed. students. The findings indicate comparatively stronger awareness of selected Indian Olympic achievements, particularly Abhinav Bindra's 2008 individual gold medal and India's performance at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games. At the same time, notable gaps were observed in areas related to Olympic history, symbols, and governance. These findings suggest the need for systematic Olympic education within physical education programmes through activities such as quizzes, documentary-based learning, discussions on Olympic values, and curriculum-based modules. Such initiatives may enhance sports literacy and help prepare future physical education teachers to promote Olympic knowledge and values among learners.

References

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