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Appraisal of the teaching department of physical education, Panjab University, Chandigarh

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Abstract

The objective of the study was to trace the history of the department and to examine the initiative taken by the Department of Physical Education, Panjab University, Chandigarh in developing quality physical education courses and syllabi since 1963 to 2013. The nature of the study obliged the researcher to depend upon historical method. A survey study design was adopted to achieve the purpose of the study. The required information/data was derived from the primary and secondary sources such as Annual Reports of Panjab University, Chandigarh, Syndicate Proceedings of Panjab University, Chandigarh and books. The data was analyzed through external and internal criticism method. The investigation revealed that the foundation of the teaching Department of Physical Education was laid in the sixties. However, Panjab University has started a Diploma Course in Physical Education in 1952-53 in its affiliated Government College of Physical Education, Ropar. Three year Bachelor of Physical integrated Course was started in the affiliated College (Government College of Physical Education, Ropar) of Panjab University in 1958-59. Government College of Physical Education, Ropar was shifted to Patiala in 1958-59 and remained with Panjab, University, Chandigarh upto 1962 and two training courses of physical education continued upto 1962. Due to more demand of physical education teachers in Punjab and its neighboring states, Panjab University, Chandigarh started its own Department of Physical Education for training teachers in the year 1963-64 with Post Graduate Diploma and M.A. Physical Education. Dr. B.L. Gupta was the first Chairman/Head of the Department of Physical Education, Panjab University, Chandigarh. The department has started Ph.D. degree in the year 1973 and started M.Phil. degree course in the year in the 2003-04.

Keywords: Appraisal, teaching, department, physical education and Panjab University, Chandigarh

1. Introduction

A planned programme of physical activity helps in making better health of the students in educational institutions and personnel of different organizations. The physiological benefits of physical exercises are well known from the last two centuries. Hence, Physical Education and Sports have become essential constituents of general education in school curriculum.

In the end of Eighteen century and beginning of nineteen century, Physical Education and Sports were introduced in the Schools of European countries. During the same period, Physical Training and Gymnastics were introduced in Indian Schools by the Britishers. During that period Physical Training and Sports were looked after by the retired army personnels in the Indian Schools and they were called Physical Training Instructors. Keeping in mind the benefits of physical activity, Physical Training was made compulsory subject in Punjab Schools in 1891. Competitive sports were introduced in the educational institutions in the mid of nineteen century in many parts of the globe. It gave birth to intramural and extramural sports competitions. These sports competitions popularized sports and games among masses. Sports competitions became integral part of educational institutions. To handle the programme of physical education and sports competitions in educational institutions, trained teachers in physical education was a need of that time. Therefore, in the nineteen century many teacher training institutes in physical education came into existence in the European countries due to the great employment potential in the field of physical education and sports. Further, large number of specialized physical education teachers was also required for the smooth conduct of games and sports in educational institutions (Brar, 2017) [2].

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On the lines of European countries, physical training and sports competitions were introduced in India in the last two decades of nineteenth century. For the conduct of physical training programmes and sports competitions, trained persons in this area were required. Therefore, in India few teacher training institutions were imparting instructions in physical education as an optional subject. A few sports organizations also trained physical training personnels and conducted short duration courses for them in the last two decades of the nineteenth century. With the birth of Modern Olympic Games, the games and sports became very popular all over the globe. Systematic organization of sports competitions and for their smooth conduct, a body of scientific knowledge was required. It laid the foundations of modern physical education (Brar, 2017) [2].

The Department of Physical Education, Panjab University, Chandigarh was established in the year 1963 and started one-year Post-Graduate Degree course in Physical Education. The degree was known as D.P. Ed. Two-year Master Degree course in Physical Education leading to M.A. (Physical Education). Dr. B.L. Gupta was appointed Head of the Department of Physical Education (Annual Report of Panjab University, 1963) [1]. Keeping in view the contributions of Department of Physical Education for enhancing the standard of physical education in the country by producing quality physical education teachers, the investigator tried his level best to prepare a critical appraisal of the teaching department of physical education.

2. Material and Methods

The nature of the study obliged the researcher to depend upon historical method. A survey study design was adopted to complete the study. The data was collected through both the primary and secondary sources i.e., Annual Reports of Panjab University, Chandigarh, Syndicate Proceedings of Panjab University, Chandigarh and books. The data was analyzed through external and internal criticism method.

2.1 Development of Physical Education Courses and Syllabi in Panjab University, Chandigarh

The foundation of the teaching Department of Physical Education was laid in the sixties. During 1952-53, the Government of Punjab through its Director of Public Instruction, Shri C.L. Kapur requested the University to prepare a syllabus for Diploma Course in Physical Education for Panjab Government College of Physical Education at Ropar, Which was functioning under the aegis of Govt. of Punjab at that time. In response to this request the Panjab University Syndicate resolved to appoint a committee consisting of Prof. G.D. Sondhi, Swami Jagan Nath and Shri B.L. Gupta to consider this scheme and make recommendations to the Syndicate (Syndicate Proceedings, dated November 22, 1953) [3].

Another high powered committee with renowned physical educationists was appointed by the Syndicate for instituting a Diploma Course in Physical Education at the University. The committee was consisting of Prof. G.D. Sondhi (Convener), Dr. A.W. Howard, Shri P.M. Joseph, Swami Jagan Nath, Shri S.R. Mahindroo and Shri B.L. Gupta. The first meeting of the Committee was held in the office of the Inspector of Schools, Ambala on the 20th of March, 1953. The committee unanimously resolved to recommend to the University that a Diploma Course in Physical Education be instituted at the University and further resolved that the courses of instructions be arranged in theory, practicals and teaching practice giving

equal weightage (Singh, 2018) [5].

Further, the Committee proposed regulations for Diploma Course in Physical Education. The Syndicate in its meeting held on June 27, 1953 considered the proposed draft regulations and recommended to the Senate that the draft regulations be approved and also resolved that a committee consisting of Shri G.D. Sondhi, Bhai Jodh Singh, Swami Jagan Nath, Captain Wadhawa Singh, Shri B.L. Gupta, Miss P. Anand and Shri S.R. Mahindroo (Convener) be appointed to discharge functions of a board of studies in deal with matter to related with Diploma in Physical Education. Hence first board of studies consisting with above members was started with a recommendation. The Syndicate also recommended the examinations schedule for Diploma in Physical Education Course. The syllabus was prepared for one year Diploma Course and presented to the Syndicate for its approval. After the due approval the Panjab University granted affiliation to Punjab Govt. College of physical Education at Ropar with certain conditions (Syndicate Proceedings, dated June 27, 1953) [3].

A committee was appointed by the Syndicate of Panjab University in July 1957 to consider the question of revision of the Physical Education course. The Committee recommended, "A three year degree in Physical Education be instituted and the minimum qualification for admission to this course be Intermediate Certificate. In order to attract suitable material for the degree course there should be no tuition fee for these classes and an additional stipend of Rs. 40 per month to 20% students should be available. To facilitate the change-over and in order to provide for needs of the state for Instructors in Physical Education, the present one-year Diploma Course may continue for two years after the introduction of three year Degree Course" (Syndicate Proceedings, dated November 24, 1957) [3]. The proposal along with the scheme of three year Bachelor of Physical Education integrated course was considered and accepted by the Senate. Three-year Bachelor of Physical Education integrated course was started in an affiliated College of Panjab University in 1957-58 [5]. Two training courses of Physical Education continued up to 1962. Government College of Physical Education, Ropar was shifted to Patiala in 1958-59 and remained with Panjab University, Chandigarh up to 1962. In 1962 colleges of Patiala city got affiliation with new created Punjabi University, Patiala. Therefore, Government College of Physical Education, Patiala got separated from Panjab University, Chandigarh (Brar, 2017) [2].

2.2 Establishment of Department of Physical Education at Panjab University, Chandigarh

Due to more demand of Physical Education teachers in Punjab and its neighboring states, Panjab University, Chandigarh started its own Department of Physical Education for training teachers in the year 1963-64. Two courses were started by the Panjab University in the Faculty of Education; One Year Post-Graduate Diploma in Physical Education (D.P. Ed.) and Two Year Master Degree Course in Physical Education, leading to M.A. (Physical Education) (Annual Report of Panjab University, Chandigarh 1964) [5]. Two Lecturers and two Instructors were appointed in the Department. Besides, about half a dozen teachers from other University Departments on the Campus began to participate in the teaching programme of this Department on part time basis. In 1965-66, an additional Lecturer and three Coaches, one each in Athletics, Basketball and Hockey, were appointed in the department (Sethi and Mehta, 1968) [4].



Fig: 1

First batch of the students of D.P.Ed and M.A. Physical Education, Department of Physical Education, Panjab University, Chandigarh, Session 1963-64

The department started Ph.D. degree in 1973. Miss Jatinder Bhullar was admitted in the Ph.D. degree course in same year. She was the first candidate who obtained the Ph.D. Degree in Physical Education in 1976 from this Department under the supervision of Prof. B.L. Gupta and J.N. Joshi. The Department started M.Phil. Degree Course in 2003-04. B.P.Ed. Degree Course recognized by N.C.T.E. in 2005.

Table 1: List of Chairpersons of the Department Of Physical Education, Panjab University, Chandigarh from 1963-2013

Sr. No.	Name of The Chirperson	Year
1.	Prof. B.L. Gupta	1-7-1963 to 31-8-1976
2.	Prof. Mrs. S. Bambah	1-9-1976 to 25-7-1978
3.	Prof. N. N. Mall	26-7-1978 to 25-7-1981
4.	Prof. Miss Jatinder Bhullar	26-7-1981 to 31-7-1984
5.	S. Gurbaksh Singh Sandhu	1-8-1984 to 16-8-1987
6.	Prof. Daljit Singh Toor	17-8-1987 to 19-10-1989
7.	Dr. Kuldip Rai Sharma	20-10-1989 to 30-6-1992
8.	Dr. Ajaib Singh Bhatti	1-7-1992 to 30-6-1995
9.	Dr. Shiv Narain Sharma	1-7-1995 to 30-6-1998
10.	Dr. Gurbaz Singh	1-7-1998 to 30-6-2001
11.	Prof. Nasib Singh Mann	1-7-2001 to 30-6-2004
12.	Sh. Joginder Pal Sharma	1-7-2004 to 30-6-2007
13.	Sh. Maha Singh Dalal	1-7-2007 to 3-7-2007
14.	Prof. Gurcharan Singh Brar	4-7-2007 to 2-7-2010
15.	Dr. Gurmeet Singh	3-7-2010 to 2-7-2013
16.	Dr. Dalwinder Singh	3-7-2013 to 1-7-2016

3. Conclusions

1. The foundation of the teaching Department of Physical Education was laid in the sixties. However, Panjab University has started a Diploma course in Physical Education in 1952-53 in its affiliated Govt. College of Physical Education, Ropar.
2. The members of the first Diploma committee of Physical Education were Prof. G.D. Sondhi, Swami Jagan Nath and Shri B.L. Gupta.
3. Three year Bachelor of Physical Education integrated course was started in the affiliated College (Govt. College of Physical Education, Ropar) of Panjab University in 1957-58.
4. Government College of Physical Education was shifted to Patiala in 1958-59 and remained with Panjab University, Chandigarh upto 1962 and two training courses of Physical Education continued upto 1962.
5. In 1962, the colleges of Patiala city got affiliation with new created Punjabi University, Patiala. Therefore,

Government College of Physical Education, Patiala got separated from Panjab University, Chandigarh.

6. The Department of Physical Education was started in the year 1963 with Post Graduate Diploma Course in Physical Education (D.P.Ed.) and M.A. Physical Education.
7. Dr. B.L. Gupta was the first Chairman/Head of the Department of Physical Education and he was the only Chairperson of the department that remained the chairman of the department for long time from 1-7-1963 to 31-8-1976.
8. The department has started Ph.D. (Doctoral) degree in the year 1973 and started Master of Philosophy (M.Phil.) degree course in the year 2003-04.
9. Miss Jatinder Bhullar was the first candidate who obtained the Ph.D. degree in 1976 from the department.

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