



A survey of adventure sports in Atal Bihari Vajpayee, directorate of mountaineering and allied sports, Manali & its regional centers in Himachal Pradesh

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Abstract

The Study was focused on the contribution of Himachal Pradesh to promote the standard of adventure sports. A survey type study was designed to collect the required information and material through primary and secondary sources. The study was delimited in A.B. Vajpayee Directorate of Mountaineering institute Manali and its regional centers of Himachal Pradesh.

The procedure adopted to collect the data was through questionnaires, interviews and field visits. The Primary data collected for study a view of trainers (50), the views of coaches (50) on various kind of adventure sports like Aero Sports, Water Sports, Hiking, Trekking, Mountaineering, skiing in Himachal Pradesh.

The researcher had sought their responses through structured questionnaires and secondary data were collected from office records. The conclusions have been drawn on the basis results of study. In case of coaches and trainers, they were not satisfied with the present infrastructures. Encouragement should be given to those games which can be played in the hilly regions, there was a lot of scope in adventure sports in Himachal Pradesh.

Himachal Pradesh is one of the hill states in India, which lies in the Western Himalayas. It is the third largest state in the Indian Himalayas. Given the immense geographical spectrum that is packed into Himachal, the possibilities for a whole range of adventure sports activities is also enormous.

Keywords: adventure sports, aero sports, water sports, mountaineering, skiing, camping

Introduction

Adventure sports in Himachal

The immense geographical spectrum that is packed into Himachal, the possibilities for a whole range of adventure activities is also enormous. There is skiing, heli-skiing and ice-skating. There is the thrill of paragliding, hang gliding and the test of stamina with mountain-cycling. You can go for camping and enjoy the beauty of nature.

There is mountaineering and rock climbing, trekking in Himachal and Dhauladhar, Pir Panjal range and trans-Himalayan regions of Kinnaur and Spiti.

There is water sports in Maharana Pratap Sagar Kangra offers a variety of activities like swimming, water-skiing, surfing, kayaking, rowing, canoeing and sailing. Three level of courses are conducted basic, intermediate and advanced. Similar activities are also available on the water of Gobind Sagar Bilaspur, Pandoh Lake on the Mandi-Kullu and river rafting is also conducted on river Sutlej near Shimla, Beas near Kullu, Ravi near Chamba. Basic, intermediate and advanced. Similar activities are also available on the water of Gobind Sagar Bilaspur, Pandoh Lake on the Mandi-Kullu and river. Rafting is also conducted on river Sutlej near Shimla Beas near Kullu, Ravi near Chamba.

The danger pate of billing has been the venue of five national and five international hang gliding cups and rallies since 1984. the site is perfect for Para gliding. And this sports is mix of sky diving and hang gliding. Bir and Billing Valley is one of the best site of para gliding and hang- gliding in the world. another places where para gilding is done regularly are Bundla

Dhar near Bilaspur and Kullu Valley Intkali near Rohru.

Kufri near Shimla is one of the oldest places in India. Kufri, Mahasu ridge has some good slopes. Winter and summer skiing are possible in solang area near Manali.

Ice skating club Shimla was formed in the year 1920. This skating ring is situated on the cart road near Lakkar Bazar bus stop has the largest open year area with naturally frozen ice, in this part of the world. Open air ice skating experience here is totally different from indoor Ice skating popular in the western world. The season for this skating runs from early December to February.

Annual carnival is held with great enthusiasm and glitter with display of ice hockey, figure skating and others dancing competitions including fancy dress shows.

Heli-Skiing introduced recently in India is fast becoming popular in Himachal Pradesh. The heli-skier is transported by a specially designed helicopter to the higher peaks from where he dives, duly fitted with landing equipment, on to the snow covered ranges of slopes.

More than half of the Himalayas are within India's borders, and India can provide trekking in the Himalayas all the year round. Treks in the Himalayas offer an incredible variety each area has its own unique character, terrain, vegetation climate people and customs. The fascination and thrill of trekking as an adventure sport is unparalleled. Not only does it develop confidence, it also enhances physical endurance and tests one's mettle. Trekking differs from mountaineering and a rock climbing, as it requires no special equipment and little training. All that a trekker needs to have is a deep-rooted love

for sites and sounds of natures and physical and mental strength.

1.1 Atal Bihari Vajpayee directorate of mountaineering and allied sports Manali, Himachal Pradesh

The Directorate of Mountaineering & Allied Sport was established in the year 1961. Thakur Harnam Singh was the first Director of the institute (1961-1984). The institute has played commendable role in imparting training in mountaineering, skiing, rock climbing, trekking, and adventure and water sports since its inception in 1961.

(1) Basic mountaineering (2) Advance mountaineering (3) Method of Instruction (4) Rock climbing (5) Adventure (6) Mountain rescue (7) High altitude trekking (8) Basic skiing (9) Intermediate skiing (10) Advance skiing (11) Method of Instruction (skiing) (12) Basic water sports (13) Intermediate water sports (14) Special water sports (15) Special skiing (16) Elementary skiing (17) Refresher courses (18) Trekking guide (19) River rafting course (20) Advance water sports courses (21) Alpine climbing camp (22) Pre-everest camp (23) Commercial camps (24) Peak Climbing (25) Mountain climbing leadership camp (26) Pre-expedition climbing camp. Presently, following centers were in existence besides the Manali Headquarter of the Directorate:-

1. Regional Mountaineering Center, Dharamshala, Distt. Kangra, Himachal Pradesh
2. Regional Water Sports Center, Pongdam, Distt. Kangra, Himachal Pradesh (Shimla).
3. High Altitude Trekking-Cum Skiing Center, Narkands, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh.
4. Mountaineering Sub- Center, Bharmour, Distt. Chamba, Himachal Pradesh.
5. Montaineering Sub-Center, Jispa, Distt. Lahoul & Spiti.
6. Adventure Sports Centre, Hatkote, Distt. Shimla.
7. Skiing Center, Solang Nalla, Distt. Kullu, Himachal Pradesh.
8. Water sports Sub-Center, Bilaspur, an Himachal Pradesh.
9. River Rafting Centre, Pirdi, Distt, Kullu, Himachal Pradesh.

2 Objectives of the study

The objectives of the study were laid down as under

1. To trace the contribution of Himachal Pradesh to promote the standard of adventure sports.
2. To assess the various promotion schemes and their impact on the development of Adventure sports.
3. To examine the budget of A. B. Vajpayee directorate of Mountaineering and Allied sports.
4. To study the organizational and administrative structure of Himachal Pradesh Adventure Sports Department.
5. To understand and evaluate the perceptions of Adventure sports personnel regarding the policies and programmes in Himachal Pradesh.
6. To evaluate the contributions of Directorate Mountaineering Institute, Manali and its Regional centers in promoting the adventure sports.

2.1 Hypotheses

A Present study has following hypotheses

1. There would be no significant difference in the facilities provided by Government of Himachal Pradesh for adventure sports.
2. There would be significant difference that the meager availability of funds blockage in the promotion of adventure sports.
3. There would be no significant difference in the contribution of Himachal Pradesh Government to promote adventure sports.

2.3 Delimitations

The present study was confined to

1. A. B. Vajpayee Directorate Mountaineering Institute, Manali.
2. Regional centers of A. B. Vajpayee Directorate Mountaineering Institute.

2.4 Limitation

The data thrown up by the two questionnaires and field visits, could have been interpreted in more than one way and it could also have been more faithfully exploited to give much more information but due to limited resources, time and patience, all avenues were not tapped.

3. Methodology

The procedure adopted to collect the data was through questionnaires, interviews and field visits. The questionnaires for coaches has been modified by research scholar in consultation with supervisor and experts in the field. And another questionnaire has been developed by research scholar himself by following the proper procedure. The material was collected from primary and secondary sources.

3.1 Design of study

A survey type study has been designed to collect the required information and material through primary and secondary sources.

Both primary and secondary sources, were used in collection of data. Data was mostly collected from Trainers, Coaches of the Himachal Pradesh Adventure sports Clubs and A. B. Vajpayee Directorate Mountaineering Institute Manali and its regional centers, by questionnaires and interviewing them by the research scholar personally.

3.2 Sample

To serve this purpose, samples of Trainers, coaches were drawn from the respective populations. The details of the sampling procedure are given as under:-

1. Trainers - 50
2. Coaches - 50

3.3 Methods for data collection

Following tools were used for the collection of data:

- (a) Primary data
 1. Questionnaires
 2. Interviews
 3. Field visits
- (b) Secondary data
 1. Office records

3.4 Statistical analysis

The analysis of data chi-square test would be used, the calculated value of chi-square was compared with the table of χ^2 for given degrees of freedom at 0.05 level of significance.

4. Finding and results

4.1 Trainers

1. The trainers were not satisfied in case of Himachal Pradesh Government not serious about the improvement of Adventure sports and similar in case of awareness of adventure sports in Himachal Pradesh.
2. The trainers were satisfied with the adventure sports activities and similar in case research being done was beneficial for adventure sports in Himachal Pradesh.
3. The trainers were not satisfied with the proper co-ordination among coaching and training being given by A.B.V. Directorate of Maintaining and Allied sports.
4. The trainers were satisfied with trainee responses towards adventure sports in the state.
5. The trainers were not satisfied with different courses offered by Institute.
6. The trainer were satisfied in case of invite private firms to promote adventure sports and similar in case of improvement of adventure sports in the state.
7. The trainers were not satisfied with the adventure sports used by the people as recreational games in state.
8. The trainers agreed to the idea opening adventure school and similar in case of Himachal gets name at international level due to adventure sports.
9. The trainers were not satisfied with the facilities for training in adventure sports, and in case of working independence of trainers, similar in case of recruitment policy for the trainers.
10. The trainers were satisfied with the different courses necessary for trainers/coaches that were conducted in the state.
11. The trainers were not satisfied with the co-operation rendered by the other staff.
12. The trainers agreed that there was a lacks of trainers, and various courses useful to performance. They felt that the budget allocation for directorate of mountaineering was less.
13. The trainers were not satisfied with the quality of equipment given to the adventure sportspersons.
14. The trainers were satisfied with the availability of funds and the incentives given to adventure sport persons. Similar in case of existing administration and in case of Government policies for improvement of Adventure sports in the state.
15. The trainers were not satisfied with the recruitment by the A.B.V. Directorate of Mon training and the salary. They were not satisfied with the coaching camps and promotional avenues in the field of trainers.
16. The trainers were satisfied with the infrastructure for adventure sports in the state.

4.2 Coaches

1. The coaches were not satisfied with the facilities of coaching in the state.
2. The coaches were satisfied with the reason of facilities

and infrastructure for Adventure sports in Himachal Pradesh.

3. The coaches were not satisfied with the regular coaching camps conducted by the Adventure sports.
4. The coaches were satisfied with Adventure sports hostels, Adventure sports achievements, proper co-ordination among coaching/training facilities in Adventure sports department in Himachal Pradesh.
5. The coaches were not satisfied with the players' response toward Adventure sports in Himachal Pradesh.
6. The coaches were satisfied with the Adventure Sports Associations' contribution. They believed that there was a lack of coaches, similar in case of refresher courses, workshop organized in the State.
7. The coaches were not satisfied with the quality of equipment supplied by A. B. Vajpayee Directorate Mountaineering institute Manali.
8. The coaches were satisfied with the incentives given by the Himachal to Adventure sports persons.
9. The coaches were not satisfied with the budgetary provisions for the Adventure sports in Himachal Pradesh.
10. The coaches were agreed that lack of fund was blocking development of Adventure sports in the state.
11. The coaches were not satisfied with the existing administration of academic/ Adventure sports were not satisfied with the working independence of coaches in Himachal Pradesh.
12. The coaches were satisfied with the recruitment policy of coaches in the state.
13. The coaches were not satisfied with the different qualification for recruitment A.B.V.D.M.I. Manali.
14. The coaches were satisfied with the transfer policy, and pay scale. They believed that research being done was beneficial for Himachal Adventure Sports.
15. The coaches were not satisfied with the State Government was not serious about improvement of Adventure sports.
16. The coaches were satisfied with the Adventure sports activities should be compulsory at school level in Himachal Pradesh.
17. The coaches were not satisfied with the public attitude towards Adventure sports in Himachal Pradesh.

5. Adventure sports

1. Himachal Government should pay more attention to raise the standard the adventure sports at grass root level. These activities should be started at school and college level so that students can develop determination and thrill and mental toughness.
2. Adventure sports should be introduced as a subject at a primary level to develop confidence among the students.
3. Himachal Government should formulate an adventure sports policy for the development of adventure sports in the state.
4. Private firms should be invited for the promotion and sponsorship of adventure sports in the state.
5. More Regional Centres for adventure sports should be established for the development of adventure sports.

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