

### 4.13 Feedback on Suggestion for Modification of the Programme

#### A. Specific Modifications

Respondents were asked about any specific modifications that they would like to see in order to make the program more effective.

Table 4.4: Modifications required in the scheme (Response in %)

Modifications Needed	People		Sports Persons		Opinion Leader		Officials
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	
Availability of funds	48	43	44	49	58	63	80
Infrastructure should be upgraded	38	46	36	39	36	42	61
Incorporation of village level playground	44	37	44	33	44	53	80
Installing good network from grass root level	32	41	32	28	26	31	61
Increasing manpower	10	23	14	21	12	17	45
Motivate rural people to participate	20	16	22	13	20	19	63
Arrangement of private sponsorship	6	13	8	19	4	9	34

The modifications in the program suggested by the people included giving emphasis to the availability of more funds. A large proportion of the people talked about the need for having playgrounds in/ near the village as well as upgrading of infrastructure. This aspect was also given primacy by the sports officials.

#### B. Suggestions for strengthening sports infrastructure and facilities

Apart from suggestions on increasing funds and upgrading the infrastructure, people specifically also talked about the need for a creating a sports promotion network (like infrastructure, sports kit, playground etc.) at the grassroots level and setting up sports training institutes. Their task would be to localise the program, and make infrastructure easily accessible to the people who need it. A majority of Gram Panchayat officials also viewed that they were not contacted while selecting local talent or organising any such events. Thus, they should be given focus in organising events under the programme. The respondents were also asked to state their suggestions for improvements that would help the Sport programme to achieve the stated objectives and be a success.

Table 4.5: Suggestion for the Improvement of Programme (Response in %)

Modifications Needed	People		Sports Persons		Opinion Leader		Officials
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	
Increase the funds for rural sports/ sport events at district level	44	52	40	56	44	43	82
Upgrade the infrastructure	48	43	36	31	42	38	58
Increasing the manpower	14	22	18	24	22	31	45
Installing network at grass root level	36	19	34	14	32	21	55
Setting up more sports training institute	32	27	32	26	34	28	66
Upgrading the skills of the existing coaches	12	19	20	13	28	12	66
Employ more coaches	12	17	16	8	10	7	55

Table 4.6: Suggestion received from Panchayatiraj officials for strengthening sport programme

Modifications Needed	People	
	Rural	Urban
Awareness to ensure more participation should be launched	19	27
More Sports training institutes to be established in both urban and rural areas	23	18
Sport programme should be organized every year at block and village level	10	26
Sport programme should be made a job opportunity venture	5	13
Infrastructure, sports kits and more playgrounds should be provided	33	42
GP should be involved at each level of implementation of sports scheme	27	17
More grants should be provided	19	31

(All Response in %)

**Infrastructure:** A large number of respondents said, there should be improvement in the sports infrastructure. This is to include setting up new playgrounds, maintain the existing ones and provision of adequate kits. They were of the view that kits are provided of poor quality and this in turn affects the development of sports. Secondly, kits for many sports are just not available. Further, there needs to be training institutes at the block level for promotion of sports.

**Diet:** Many of them said that the diet provided to the participants is inadequate. In certain cases (districts) respondents said that no diet is given at all. This is a serious departure from the GOI guideline. When contacted, the sports officials said that diet is always given, but the amount of funds available for diet has not changed in recent past. Therefore it is extremely difficult to provide adequate diet to the sports persons.

**Training:** Lack of adequate trainers was also cited as a problem and the suggestion was that trainers need to be properly trained and made available at the grassroots level. This would involve greater funds for training of coaches. Secondly, the recruitment process needs to be more transparent and should give adequate weightage to sporting record and expertise while selection.

**Financial security:** Many of the respondents were of the view that the procedure for selecting sports persons for stipend as well as the amount of stipend needs to be improved. They said that unless adequate financial support is provided, talented sports persons in the rural areas would be getting motivated. Secondly, without financial support, the deserving person will have to spend all his time in searching and securing some other livelihood option. This would mean that the deserving and talented sports persons couldn't give adequate time for their own training and for physical development. Few of the responders also said that talented sports persons should be given jobs to secure his livelihood options, so that he can concentrate his efforts in developing his skills.

**Selection of sports persons:** Many of the respondents said that the selection procedure for sports persons should be transparent and democratic. They opined that sporting talent is not recognised at the right time