INTRODUCTION

Newspaper is a chief medium to get knowledge & information. It is main source of public communication. The newspaper which tells us whatever happens in the world by coming all over homes everyday, has became our good friend. If we are asked what newspaper means then we can't explain it easily; but we understood of very easily.

Newspaper can be defined as the note made by writing the representative & odd things from the things that took place in surrounding near us & far away according to our aims. Newspaper is also termed as the history of world's single day. Newspapers put before us the current affairs, the opinions about them & the angle of vision about it along with its news, explanation of the contemporary incidents, its meaning & the various opinions about it are included.

History of Newspaper :-

Newspapers have a vast history of about 200-250 years. World's first newspaper was published in 16th Century. 'Darpan' (Xn©U) was the first Marathi newspaper. It was started by Balashastri Jambhekar in 1832. In the period before this we see that the work was done by historic letters. Letters of Shivaji's era, letters of Peshwa's era & the newspapers & notice letters in Mughal period are readable from a point of view. In Europe during 15th & 16th century 'Corent' or 'Gazzetee' was published.

Reformation era began in our nation along with the arrival of English people. Due to the beginning of English language & education, introduction of scientific inventions the emergence social reorganizations the life cycle of society treated changing from the 19th century. Newspapers are the fruits of change. The new ideas of democracy, independence, equality &
humanity began to strike Indian society's hearts continuously. The making of Marathi form of English lessons (B§J«Or _ZmMm _amR>r AdVma) led to the rise of reformation movement.

Newspapers firstly gave their reorganization. The reformations movement started in Bengal by Bengali newspapers was also started by Marathi newspapers in Maharashtra. The father of reformation movement is Bengal Raja Ram Mohan Roy had started the second newspapers 'Samwad Kaumudi' (g§dmX H$mi_wXr) & 'Misal-ul-Akhbaar' s). What is the exact condition of people's condition ? This should be known to the rules to bring social improvements in human life should be the work of newspapers such his role was there.

**Sports Journalism:-**

In fact sports journalism is recent. In the pre-independence era, the subject "Sports had a very negligible position in society. The idea about it was that it is nothing but a subject of entertainment & its limit was just to have recreation in ideal time.

More or less the newspapers was made as it was a medium of social & political awareness. Maharashtra's 80% region had the occupation of agriculture. Whereas the newspaper readers were of urban area. So, the spread of newspaper was in urban civilized class & in that class there was much importance to education in human life. The middle class felt to get maximum education & to achieve a lot of respect & fame in the society. Therefore, their mentality was that youths should spend maximum time in a day for studies. So, sports was exactly opposite to the knowledge of this class. Sports means uselessness, such a role they had. Naturally, such social inactiveness has an adverse effect on sports journalism.

It is false that there was not any evolution in sports during pre-independence era. Comparatively cricket & hockey these two games have closeness to 'Lord/Boss' so they were
famous in higher middle class. Wrestling was popular in villages from the pre-independence period. There was a lot crowd on the playgrounds on these games. But newspaper never took the sports close to them. Kabaddi, Kho-Kho, Atya-Patya etc. games were not known to the newspapers. In pre-independence era neither the Wrestlers like Gama-Gunga not including hockey players like Dhyanchand were given any special importance by the Marathi newspapers. Though hockey, cricket were even popular; though they even has a place in society, still they weren't recognised that they could get any independent place in sports journalism. But the steps were taken slowly towards the sports journalism. Some numerous newspapers in Pune-Mumbai had started to send their special reporter to get news from the test cricket matches. Madhu Rege (Daily Sakaal), Sadashiv Palsule (Daily Kesari), Manohar Datar (Tarun Bharat) can also be introduced. We can't say them as sport reporter, but it was step ahead towards it. This idea was started in the real sense due the publican of Maharashtra Times. To collect sports news & for that sector there should be a full time reporter. He should get the income scale the same as other reporters, the last paper of newspaper should be reserved for sports news & sports reporter should give 'live' report of tournaments by being present there. This idea in India was only in English newspapers. Bennet Colemen company adopted this idea & from that the first step of sports journalism was taken. The editor of Maharashtra Times D.B.Karnik, sports journalist V.V. Karmarkar (Nashik), Anand Kelkar (Pune), Vasant Bhalerao (Mumbai) were the people behind this success. Later many newspapers started giving news place to sports news.

Still there went a long time to the appointment of full time sports journalist. Yet in Maharashtra Maharashtra Timea, Sakal, Loksatta, Saamna, Lokmat, Tarun Bharat such numerous newspapers have sport journalist. The no. of Marathi daily newspapers has gone over 400. On that background, Marathi sports journalism is very backward. Still, neither a single
woman has entered in Marathi sports journalism. Comparatively, the sport having no arrival of women is not there. In fact half time sports journalism are increasing. About 30-40 newspapers have appointed half time sports journalists. In todays era of competition newspaper is an effective source to develop sports. So, the role of sports journalist cab play a big role in this development. Like other arts, sports journalism is also an art & in that the role of sports journalist is important.

**Growth of Indian Sports Journalism**

However, Indian sports journalism is of recent growth. In the main it developed in a very perceptible manner in the early years of independence. Prior to that there were practically no regular sports pages in many newspapers. The first remarkable event in the history of sports journalism in India was the introduction of a sports page by a leading English daily of Bombay in the late thirties. This bold and 'revolutionary' step was resented by some readers who had no interest in sports but the majority of the readers liked it. Its sports page became so popular that other newspapers followed suit. Today there are sports columns in all daily newspapers. Yet a distressing feature of Indian sports journalism is that there are not enough good magazines on sports especially in Indian languages. A couple of English magazines are catering to the needs of sports lovers but there is woeful lack of informative and educative journals in Indian languages.

Today the sports has got a partners of advancement. Many sports became popular but the society is going away from sports & playgrounds. Except some numerous players, other players are brought by forcing them. There are many reasons behind this. Excessive awareness of parents towards their word's future, the political interference which has grown like a cancer in sport & the importance given to specific sports by media. Sports unions are just nominal as children are hardly coming on the playgrounds. Because the students are being involved more in studies,
tuition classes, computer classes, homework, in the age when children should play in that age they are subjected to extreme mental stress. Even then in today’s age of competition, for mental & physical healthiness, sports & exercises are very important. As compared to ancient era, in today's era psychological diseases, heart problems & the propagations of other Diseases has increased. The main cause behind this is the lack of sports & optional physical exercise. In order to make society free from diseases, to increase the rate of health again awareness should be created in society about sports & exercise in a new way. For the promotion and spread of various games along with players, sports unions, sports teachers, govt. system & moreover media - Doordarshan, Akashwani, Internet & Newspapers play a vital role.

Sports in India

Sport in India includes cricket, chess, badminton, field hockey, tennis, association football and golf. Field Hockey is the national sport in India, in which the country has an impressive record with eight Olympic gold medals. Other popular sports are football, cricket, tennis, volleyball, badminton and also homework and many people make an emotional investment in their favorite spectator sports. Cricket is the most popular sport in India. After the 1982 Asian Games hosted in New Delhi, the capital city not has modern sports facilities. Such facilities are also being developed in other parts of the country. Besides sports and games included in the international sporting agenda, there are many which have developed indigenously. Throughout the country a wide variety of sports are played. India is home to several traditional sports which originated in the country and continue to remain fairly popular. These include kabbadi, kho kho, pehlwani and gilli-danda. The British rule brought many popular sports in India including football, rugby union, cricket, golf, tennis, squash, hockey, boxing, snooker and billiards.
STATEMENT OF PROBLEM

The sports columns in newspapers have become extremely popular. There is probably more universal reader interest in the sports pages, than in any of the other parts of the newspapers.

Sports throughout the world have assumed an importance beyond the recreational aspect. As a result readers are demanding more & more reading matter on sports events that’s why newspapers creating a major role in the propagation & promotion of sports therefore this study is helpful to find out space devoted to a particular sport and the importance given to Indian and Foreign sports.

That’s why the researcher selected the topic, "Comparative study of sports News coverage of Indian & Foreign Games in state level Newspapers of Maharashtra."

DELIMITATION:

The study will be delimitated to the following aspects :

1) The study will be delimitated to the Maharashtra state only.

2) The study will be delimitated to the sports news coverage only.

3) The data will be collected in year 2011 and 2012 only.

4) The study will be delimitated to the following state level news papers of Maharashtra only.

i) Hitwada ii) Lokmat Times iii) Navabharat iv) Dainik bhaskar v) Lokmat vi) Sakal

PURPOSE OF STUDY

The main purpose of the study will be determined the status of sports news coverage of Indian and foreign game's in the state level newspapers of Maharashtra.
OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

1) To assist and compare sports News coverage of Indian & Foreign games in state level newspapers of Maharashtra.

2) To assist & compare the game wise analysis of sport coverage of Indian & Foreign games in state level newspapers of Maharashtra.

3) To find out space devoted to a kind of sports that is Indian V/s Foreign.

DEFINITION'S OF THE TERMS USED IN THE STUDY

Sports : The sports played outside India is Foreign sports. (Wensing & Bruce 2003)

News : News is any new information on current events which is presented by print, broadcasts, Internet or word of mouth to a third party. (Bhattacharjee Shymali, 2010)

Newspapers : Commonly news content should contain the "Five Ws" (who, what, when, where, why and also how) of an event. The answered of all is called newspapers. (Pant N.C. et al, 2006)

Journalism : Since newspapers began as a journal (records of current events) the profession involved in the making of newspapers began to be called journalism. (Jogdev Hemant, 2000)

Sports News : Sports news was international & national tournaments, sports events and sports groups.

Analysis News : Analysis was usually identified by its emphasis on interpretation, which was either labeled as analysis or obvious because of the length of the story. (Messner.et al, 1993)

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

The proposed research work will be important for the development and propagation of sports.
1) By this study information about the sport news coverage in daily newspapers of Maharashtra is acquired.

2) How helpful is the newspapers for the development & propagation of sports, games & players.

3) Which game is explored to a greater extent by which newspaper will be known by this study.

4) The importance of newspaper for the overall development of sports and the use of newspaper for promotion of sports will be revealed in this study.

5) This study also helps to know how the newspaper motivates common man as well as players towards sports.