**AWARENESS OF TECHNOLOGY**

The 15 year budding youth Homith staring out of his window with passionate eyes to the terra firma of youth club where the children of well-heeled parents playing football. His heart throbbing there and feet tottering for the next possible kicks and tricks as if he was there on that ground, until the warm hands of his uncle Mr. Sachin rested on his shoulders from behind.

“Where were you lost, my dear champ?” Sachin asked.

“I have a dream- a dream to be the best football player”, said the youngster to his uncle, the pearl in his eyes shining…. “How could I do it? How will I find my arena?  How will I get my coach? When will I overcome my challenges? How do I learn? I WANT it, but can I do it?   Innumerable questions cropped up before him…..

 With a serene smile and his usual savoir faire, Sachin patted on Homith’s back, drawing him closer, an affectionate voice poured in Homith’s heart.

“Champions are not made in the gyms. Champions are made from something they have deep inside them- a desire, a dream, a vision!! And you my bravo, can do it! Nobody can ever stop you except you! Action gives direction, inaction breeds fear. Embark on your passionate dream! In fact it’s all so easy in today’s fast- paced age of technology to excel in sports but using appropriate technology with intelligence and application.”

Homith wondered, “Technology! Sports! My dreams!”

Sachin trying to be more informative, “Technology has become sine qua non in the lives of mankind. Let it be any aspect, it has played its pivotal role to uplift the myriad concerns of masses. Then how can sports be exempted from technology? Beyond a shadow of doubt, technology is inclusive in all the A to Z of sports. It is so obvious and needs no explanation as such how it has affected the quality and quantity of sports and made it very accessible to the commonality.  One can never be out of its reach and define success in modern world.”

“So, is it that technology is success? How does it help?” the curiosity of Homith took another turn.

Sachin quite happy with Homith’s eagerness, “Hmm… here we need a holistic approach to fathom that it is not only the technology but also its appropriate execution that will discern the success. Large numbers of sport lovers are still in search of right platforms to quench their thirst. And that need has awakened many strategies to meet the expectations of various sections in sports. Thereby technology bagged the first place. Modern sports has found a multitudinous technological platform to enhance the sports academy all over the world, it has become the power house of sports. It won’t be an exaggeration to affirm: No Technology- No Modern Sports.”

Homith putting on the line with excitement and his reminiscences of watching sports, “So true! From fitness courses to training courses, from safety to priority, from amateurs to experts, from wearable helmet to smart helmet, from limited spectators to unlimited fans, from cameras to hawk eye technology, from social media to economical growth…no doubt technology has illuminated the obscurity of sports and proved to be an indispensable part of it.”

Sachin realizing Homith on the same mind added chapter and verse,

“You got the point; it has captured all the areas of sports from the beginning to the end. Be it promotion, selection, extension, organization, implementation, analytics, statistics, streaming, precision, concussion… and many more.

(Homith giving all his ears to his uncle…)

Technological revolution is evident from pole to pole. The new hi tech equipment has improved the athletes’ performances; the Goal-line technology in FIFA World Cup; certain cameras that tracks and records each and every minute details for the experts to analyze and extrapolate data to create advanced statistics which helps in self improvement of the player, individually as well as for the team thereafter to deal with many competitions impeccably; the meticulous records have also covered the possible risks of human- input data; digital media has taken the entire broadcasting and inspiring and popularizing to the heights of astonishment. Investing in latest technology has become the core need to meet the demands of modern sports and survive with the competition. The ingredients of technology have melted all over 360 degrees in sports.”

 Homith overwhelmed with the importance of technology uttered, “Is it that technology has taken over everything to its side? Has it become the whole and soul of human being?”

Sachin brightened up with Homith’s catechism, he replied, “My dear lad, the wonders of technology have no end. Nevertheless it has its own limitations too. Remember it can’t replace the human role of referee and coach with all digital cameras and machines. It can never pat your back for appreciation or motivation, it can never give you the caring hands when you fall on the field, it can never counsel you with those spirited eyes, it can never hug you when your ship is sinking or floating to assure that somebody is always there by your side…it can never ever be your master after all it’s the byproduct of human brain; how can it surpass the human role...”

Homith interrupting with a gleaming smile, “Yes, I understand, it can never take place of my uncle who always inspire me, who gives his best to get my best.”

Sachin chortled, “Hey, my lil master…Now, let’s warm up with a warm coffee…”

-Shilpa Agrawal Rungta