

THE INFLUENCE OF IPL AND TNPL IN THE CRICKETING PSYCHOLOGY OF THE PLAYERS IN TAMIL NADU

¹Prasanna Balaji.D,²K.Mahesh

ABSTRACT--*This paper aims to study the resultant factors linked to the success of Indian Premier League and its influence in regional cricket. It also aims to find out the impact of these ensuing factors in the rise of Tamil Nadu Premier League and the reaction of the regional cricketers. With a set of questions prepared to identify the attitude of cricketers, the study aims at unearthing the real spirit of the people of Tamil Nadu towards cricket. The response of the players have been analysed with visual representations and the findings have been clearly stated at the end.*

Keywords-- *Tamil Nadu Premier League, impact, players, attitude, style, culture*

I. INTRODUCTION

To play sport in Tamil Nadu means to play cricket to most of the people like many other states in India. However, in recent times, the game of Cricket has undergone so many new developments and it is not the same to the people of the contemporary world as to how it was two decades before, though the basic structural framework of the game is retained. From test cricket during the seventies came the one day international cricket style. After that, for the people of the 21st century, according to the taste, there came the T20 cricket. India adopted this version of cricket and introduced the Indian Premier League. It is a platform where all the cricket players including foreign players are grouped into different teams. These different teams will represent eight different regions of the nation.

Indian Premier League is a huge success and it has grown to be the second richest Professional League in the World next only to NBA at a brand value of \$ 4.3 billion (Meenakshi, 2016). The huge success of this magnitude of Indian Premier League has attracted not only people in India but also all over the world to emulate the contest. Indian Premier League has established a benchmark of Cricket marketing in the whole Cricket World and has brought the world to India. It has also evolved into the most fashionable and entertaining Sports League in India (Shams, 2012). It is stated that one of the main aims of BCCI at the back of the launch of Indian Premier League is to advance the capabilities of domestic players and provide them a much competitive and better platform in contrast to the usual domestic circle of cricketing pattern. Of course besides this, another major reason for the launch of Indian Premier League was to create a profitable league tournament as well (Singh, 2011). The game has become a part of every discussion and it is even getting integrated in the teaching of classrooms. Even

¹Assistant Professor/Head, Research Department of Physical Education National College (Autonomous), Tiruchirappalli, prasanna@nct.ac.in

² Research Scholar, Research Department of Physical Education(Affiliated to Bharathidasan University), National College (Autonomous),Affiliated to Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli

educationalists are beginning to believe that the popularity that the game has can be productively used for other skill development among the children in schools and colleges (Vasanthan.R & Nandhini.R, 2014).

Following the nation, the various states started promoting their own leagues to take cricketing to the grass root level. Tamil Nadu Premier League is one such regional tournament initiatives organised by Tamil Nadu to take cricket to the corners of the state and to identify potential players from various parts of the state. The Tamil Nadu Premier League aims to reach the benefits of the game to the local talented youth.

It is an interesting development in the cricketing world of this region and not many studies have been conducted on the present day attitude and mindset that the game has created among the players. This study will delve into the mindset of the present day cricketers with regard to the opportunities and facilities available for them to make a career out of the game and also to develop their skills in the game. The challenges faced by the players due to their own mind set and that of the society, the country, the world, the media, the advertising agency, the sponsors, etc, are worth investigating.

II. NEED OF THE STUDY

Cricket being one of the main games played all over India, the widespread interest in the game is a given. The essence of physical fitness felt by the people and the growth in general knowledge on health and well being are behind the increase in entry into cricket and other sports as well. Today, the Indian Premier League (IPL) is a super hit in India and the Tamil Nadu Premier League attracts as much attention as the IPL in this part of the country. It is essential to know how far these games have sent out a message in giving a rise of hope for everyone to achieve big in the field. This hope is essential because this is what will actually bring the talented youth out in the arena to try out their luck in the game. A systematic study will help to make understand the psychological impact created by the Tamil Nadu Premier League among the cricketing youth of the region.

III. METHODOLOGY

A proper study has not been carried out to find out the psychological condition of the players in the past as well as players in the present time of active cricketing through Tamil Nadu Premier League. A systematic study has been planned in this way in the form of interviewing players of the present time as well as players in the past, what exactly they feel about the game. By interviewing people who played regularly some time we will know the kind of atmosphere they had when they were playing. We will also know about what they feel about the playing conditions and the scope for cricketers in the present day scenario. Interviewing players who play regularly at present will help us to confirm the assumptions that we have with regard to the mental condition of these people. For this essay, a set of 10 questions are prepared and circulated among the players of today as well as players in the past to verify the assumptions that the researchers have in mind.

IV. RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1) Do/Did you feel you have a career as a cricketer?

To feel that each and everyone has a career in the game while playing is essential. It is the real factor for motivation alongside involvement in the act of playing the game. The opinion of people with regard to the same will help us to know the attitude that they have as players.

Table 1:1 Feeling of a career as a cricketer

Response	No. of Participants	Percentage
Definitely	60	60
Sometimes	15	15
Yes, but not fully convinced	10	10
No	15	15
Total	100	100

Table 1.1 shows the feeling of a career in cricket as felt by the cricketers. While 60 of the respondents definitely felt that they had a career as a cricketer, 15 of them sometimes felt they had a career in it. 10 of them responded with a yes, but not totally convinced about it and 15 of them responded that they do not feel that they have a career as a cricketer.

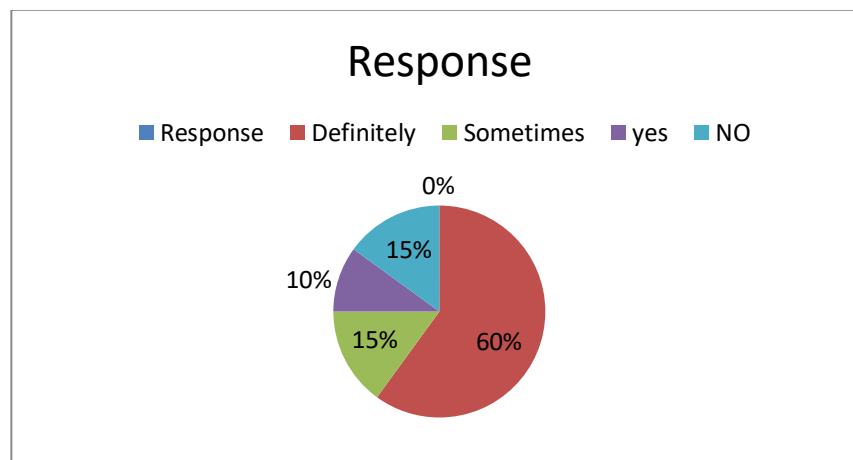


Figure 1.1: Feeling of a career as a cricketer

Figure 1.1 depicts that 60% of the respondents definitely felt that they had a career as a cricketer, 15% of them sometimes felt they had a career in it. 10% of them responded with a yes, but not totally convinced about it and 15% of them responded that they do not feel that they have a career as a cricketer. This clearly indicates that cricket players are altogether optimistic of a career in the game with more than half of the respondents expressing their hope and dream of a career in it.

2) Is/ Was there a chance to play cricket as a career for all people with talent in the game?

Each and everyone believe that he has got his own talent when it comes to playing a game. The very feeling that this talent could be recognised plays a big role in self motivation as well. This question is specifically asked to get the opinion of the players with regard to the transparency in the system of cricket selection

Table 1:2: Chance to play cricket as a career for all people with talent in the game

Response	No. of Participants	Percentage
Definitely	42	42
Sometimes	27	27
Yes, but not fully convinced	26	26
No	5	5
Total	100	100

Table 1.2 shows the opinion of the respondents on the chance to play cricket as a career for all people with talent in the game. While 42 of the respondents feel that there is definitely a chance to play cricket as a career for all people with talent in the game, 27 of them are of this opinion sometimes. 26 of them responded with a yes, but not totally convinced about it and 5 of them responded that they do not feel that there is a chance to play cricket as a career for all people with talent in the game.

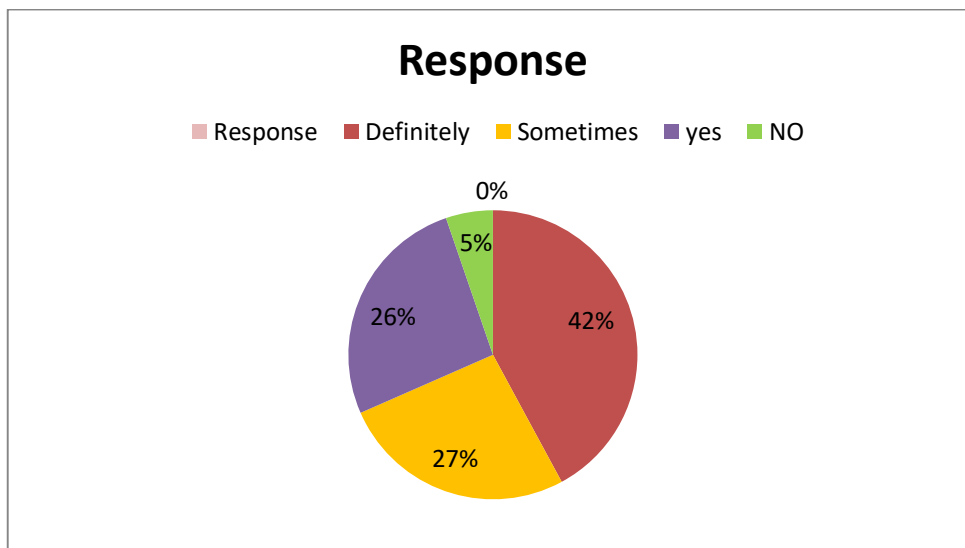


Figure 1.2: Chance to play cricket as a career for all people with talent in the game

Figure 1.2 depicts that 42% of the respondents definitely felt that there is a chance to play cricket as a career for all people with talent in the game, 27% of them sometimes think that there is a chance to play cricket as a career for all people with talent in the game. 26% of them responded with a yes, but not totally convinced about it and 5% of them responded that they do not feel that there is a chance to play cricket as a career for all people with talent in the game. This indicates that majority of the cricket players are hopeful of a career in the game as long as there is talent in the game.

3) Do / Did you think you have a chance to develop your skills?

No player feels that he is completely ready for the game. While playing, he always hopes to improve his skills with proper coaching and equipment. Through this question, it will be easy to understand whether he has an individual belief that he could grow more than what he is at present at the time of playing.

Table 1:3: Chance to develop skills in the game

Response	No. of Participants	Percentage
Definitely	65	65
Sometimes	10	10
Yes, but not fully convinced	25	25
No	0	0
Total	100	100

Table 1.3 shows the opinion of the respondents on the chance to develop skills in the game. While 65 of the respondents feel that there is definitely a chance to develop one’s skills in the game, 10 of them are of this opinion sometimes only. 25 of them responded with a yes, but not totally convinced about it and none of them responded that they do not feel that there is a chance to develop one’s skills in the game.

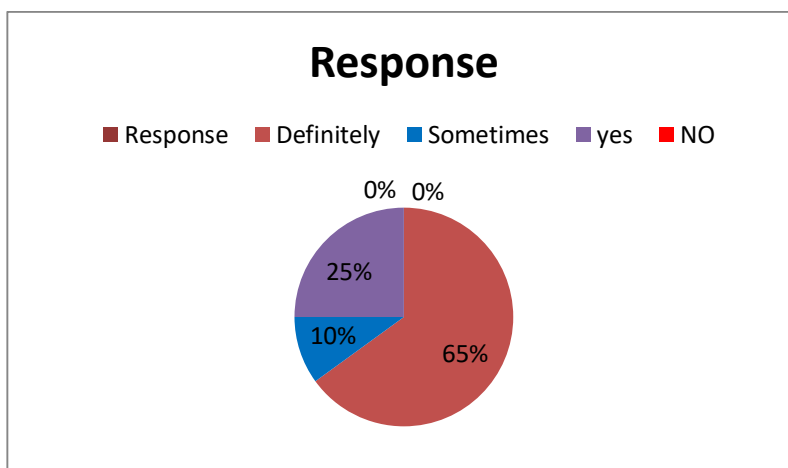


Figure 1:3: Chance to develop skills in the game

Figure 1.3 clearly depicts the opinion of the respondents on the chance to develop skills in the game. While 65% of the respondents feel that there is definitely a chance to develop one’s skills in the game, 10% of them are of this opinion sometimes only. 25% of them responded with a yes, but not totally convinced about it and none of them responded that they do not feel that there is a chance to develop one’s skills in the game. This again shows more than majority of the cricket players responding hopefully of developing their skills while playing the game.

4) Are/ were there always people ready to sponsor cricketers?

Cricket is comparatively a costly game and it needs a lot of financial support for training, equipment and travel. Availability of sponsorship makes a huge difference in the lives of the players. This question is raised in order to understand the mood and willingness of the sponsors.

Table 1:4: Readiness to sponsor cricketers

Response	No. of Participants	Percentage
Definitely	40	40
Sometimes	15	15
yes	30	30
NO	15	15
Total	100	100

Table 1.4 shows the opinion of the respondents on the readiness of people to sponsor cricketers. While 40 of the respondents feel that there is definitely a readiness to sponsor cricketers, 15 of them are of this opinion sometimes only. 30 of them responded with a yes, but not totally convinced about it and 15 of them responded that they do not feel that there is readiness to sponsor cricketers among people.

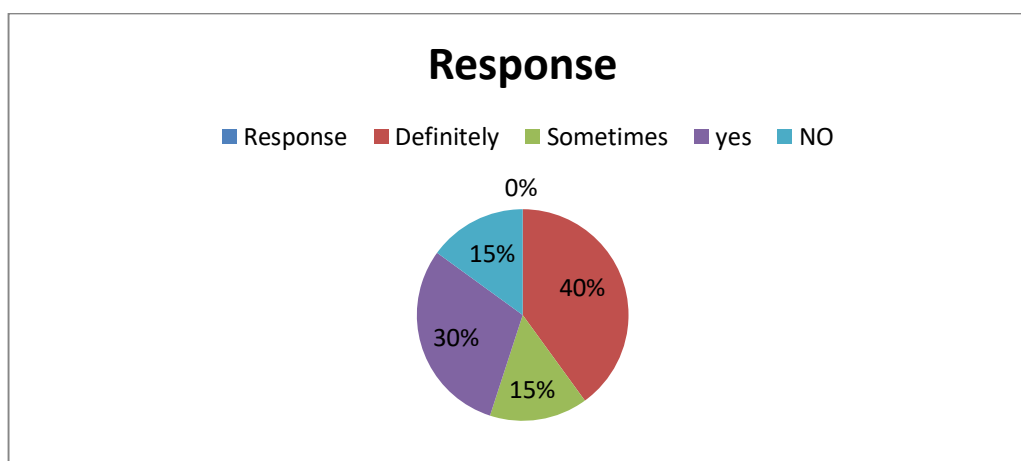


Figure 1.4: Readiness to sponsor cricketers

Figure 1.4 depicts that 40% of the respondents definitely felt that there is a readiness to sponsor cricketers, 15% of them sometimes think that there is a readiness to sponsor cricketers. 30% of them responded with a yes, but not totally convinced about it and 15% of them responded that they do not feel that there is a readiness to sponsor cricketers. This indicates that while a majority of the cricket players are confident of people’s readiness to sponsor cricketers, a considerable number of them think the opposite.

5) Even if you cannot make it to the highest level, is/ was there a scope in other fields?

Failure is part of every enterprise at various levels. It is essential for the players to have a way out if they are not capable of going all the way. Through this question, we will get to have an idea about the anxiety with regard to success and failure as players.

Table 1.5: Scope of cricketers in other games

Response	No. of Participants	Percentage
Definitely	50	50
Sometimes	25	25
Yes, but not fully convinced	20	20
Never	5	5
Total	100	100

Table 1.5 shows the opinion of the respondents on the scope of cricketers in other games in case their career in cricket doesn't take off. While 50 of the respondents feel that there is definitely a scope of cricketers in other games, 25 of them are of this opinion sometimes only. 20 of them responded with a yes, but not totally convinced about it and 5 of them responded that they do not feel that there is a scope of cricketers in other games.

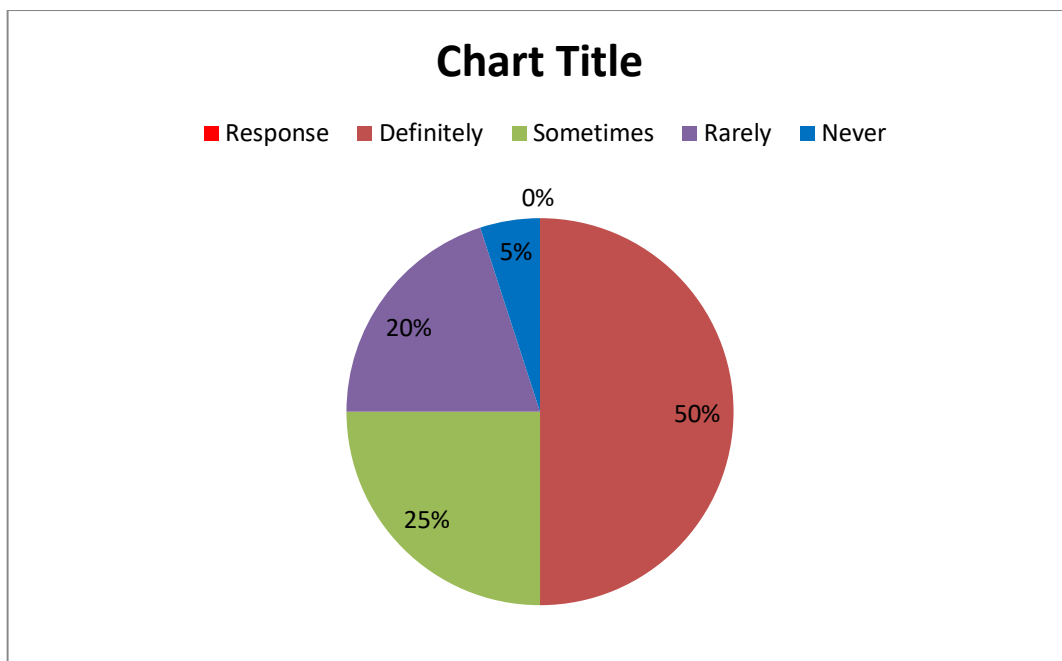


Figure 1.5: Scope of cricketers in other games

Figure 1.5 depicts that 50% of the respondents definitely felt that there is a scope of cricketers in other games, 25% of them sometimes think that there is a scope of cricketers in other games. 20% of them responded with a yes, but not totally convinced about it and 5% of them responded that they do not feel that there is a scope of cricketers in other games. This indicates that while half of the respondent cricket players are confident of scope of cricketers in other games, the other half displayed mixed confidence of the scope of cricketers in other.

6) Do/ Did you have proper infrastructure to develop your skills ?

A good infrastructure is essential to have proper result out of one's skill. The confidence level of a player depends on his trust on the equipment and infrastructure that he has to display his talents. Through this question, we will be able to understand the confidence level of the players.

Table 1:6: Availability of proper infrastructure to develop skills

Response	No. of Participants	Percentage
Definitely	50	50
Sometimes	10	10
Yes	30	30
No	10	10
Total	100	100

Table 1.6 shows the opinion of the respondents on the availability of proper infrastructure to develop their skills in cricket game. While 50 of the respondents replied definitely on the availability of proper infrastructure to develop skills in the game, 10 of them responded to this as only sometimes. 30 of them responded with a yes, but not totally convinced about it and 10 of them responded that there was no availability of proper infrastructure to develop their skills in the game.

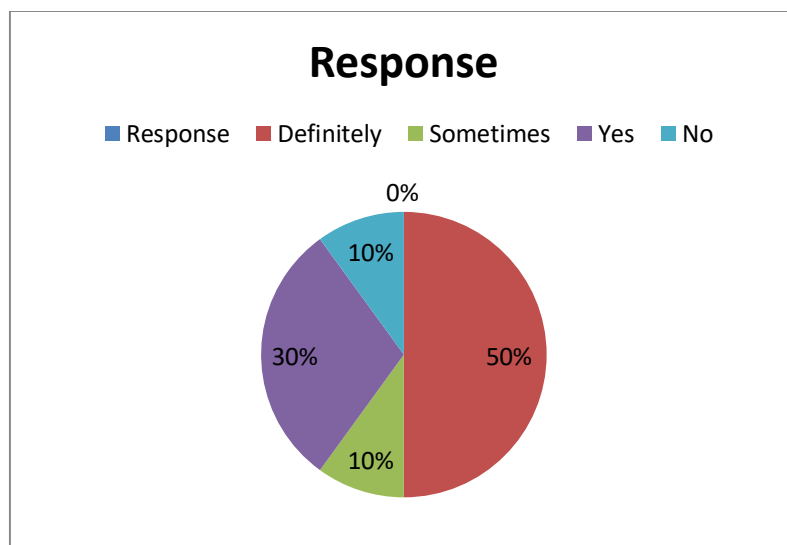


Figure 1.6: Availability of proper infrastructure to develop skills

Figure 1.6 depicts that 50% of the respondents definitely felt that there is availability of proper infrastructure to develop skills, 10% of them there is sometimes availability of proper infrastructure to develop skills in the game. 30% of them responded with a yes, but not totally convinced about it and 10% of them responded that there was no availability of proper infrastructure to develop skills. This indicates that while half of the respondent cricket players are happy with the availability of proper infrastructure to develop skills in cricket, the other half responded differently on the matter.

7) Do/Did the parents in general have enough awareness to encourage children for cricket?

The support of parents for the players is very important. Without the support of the parents, the players will not be able to focus or get completely involved into the game. Today, because the attitude of the parents has changed, it is essential to confirm it through this question.

Table 1:7: Awareness in parents to encourage children for cricket

Response	No. of Participants	Percentage
Definitely	65	65
Sometimes	15	15
Rarely	20	20
Never	0	0
Total	100	100

Table 1.7 shows the awareness in parents to encourage children for cricket. While 65 of the respondents replied definitely on the awareness in parents to encourage children for cricket, 15 of them responded to this as only sometimes. 20 of them responded with a yes, but not totally convinced about it and none of them responded in the negative.

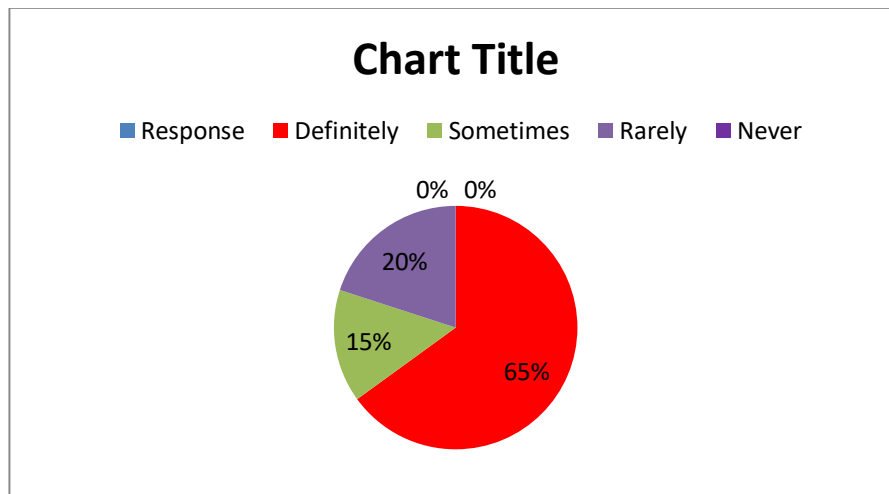


Figure 1.7: Awareness in parents to encourage children for cricket

Figure 1.7 depicts that 65% of the respondents definitely felt there is awareness in parents to encourage children for cricket, 15% of them there is sometimes encouragement for the game. The remaining 20% of them responded with a yes on the parental support, but not totally convinced about it. This indicates that more than half of the respondent cricket players enjoy the encouragement of parents for the game and none responded in the negative for this. This means that there is a good awareness in the game by parents too.

8) Are/ were there proper coaches for learning the game ?

Coaching plays a very big role in the life of a cricketer. Availability of proper coaches makes it easy for the learners to enhance their own skills in the best possible way. This question has been raised to identify the attitude of the players with regard to the availability and ability of the coaches.

Table 1:8: Availability of proper coaches for learning the game

Response	No. of Participants	Percentage
Definitely	65	65
Sometimes	10	10
Yes	10	10
No	15	15
Total	100	100

Table 1.8 shows the availability of proper coaches for learning the game. While 65 of the respondents replied that definitely there was availability of proper coaches for learning the game, 10 of them responded to the availability as only sometimes. 10 of them responded with es, but not totally convinced about it and 15 of them responded in the negative.

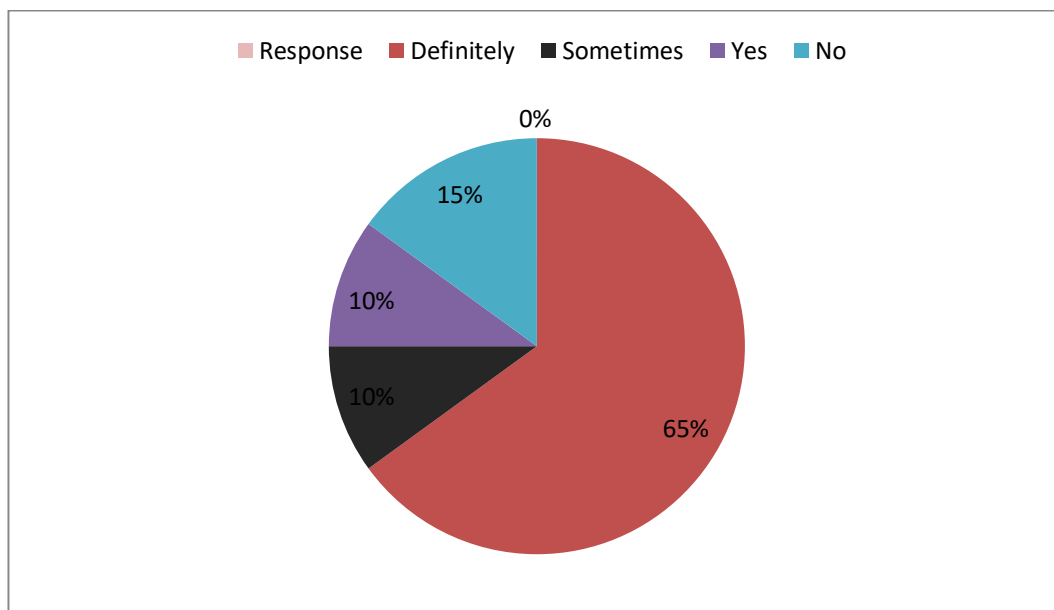


Figure 1.8: Availability of proper coaches for learning the game

Figure 1.8 depicts that 65% of the respondents definitely felt there is availability of proper coaches for learning the game, for 10% of them the availability of proper coaches is only sometimes. Another 10% of them responded with a yes on the availability of proper coaches for learning the game, but not totally convinced about it. The remaining 15% didn't have the opportunity of the availability of proper coaches for learning the game. This illustrates that more than half of the respondent cricket players enjoy the availability of proper coaches for learning the game, while the rest were not so lucky.

9) Do/ Did schools and colleges encourage cricket among students?

Schools and colleges in India are considered as academic institutions with the major focus on academics alone rather than extra curricular activities. The support of the schools and colleges in the life of a cricketer is as much important as the role of the parents. Through this question, we will be able to understand the attitude of the schools and colleges about cricketing among student players.

Table 1:9: Encouragement of schools and colleges for cricket among students

Response	No. of Participants	Percentage
Definitely	55	55
Sometimes	10	10
Yes	25	25
No	10	10
Total	100	100

Table 1.9 shows the encouragement of schools and colleges for cricket among students. While 55 of the respondents replied that definitely there was encouragement of schools and colleges for cricket among students, 10 of them responded to it as only sometimes. 25 of them responded with a yes, but not totally convinced about it and 10 of them responded the absence of encouragement of schools and colleges for cricket among students.

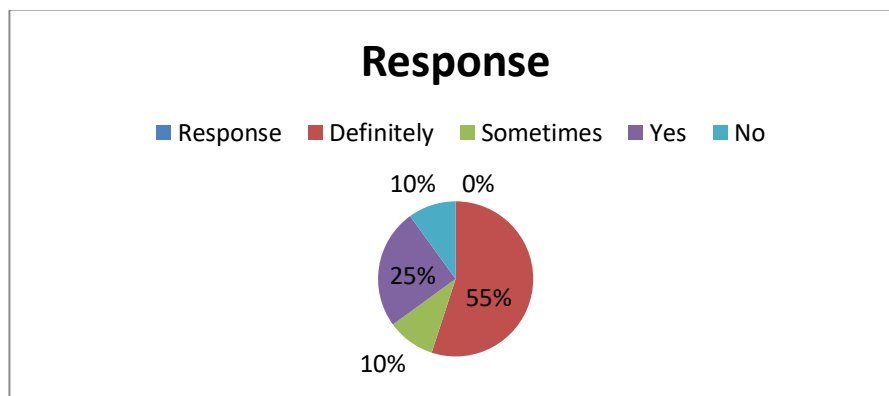


Figure 1.9: Encouragement of schools and colleges for cricket among students

Figure 1.9 depicts that 55% of the respondents definitely felt there is encouragement of schools and colleges for cricket among students, for 10% of them the encouragement is only sometimes. 25% of them responded with a yes, but not totally convinced about it. The remaining 10% feel there is no encouragement for the game by schools and colleges.

10) Do/Did people encourage the game and players in general?

Finally, the attitude of the common public with regard to cricketing and cricketers does play a big role. To know about the mood of the people from the perspective of the cricketers will help us to know about their

understanding about the world of sports. This question has been included to vary the reception of the game from the part of the public.

Table 1:10: Encouragement for cricket players in general

Response	No. of Participants	Percentage
Definitely	50	50
Sometimes	15	15
Yes	35	35
No	0	0
Total	100	100

Table 1.10 shows the encouragement for cricket players in general. While 50 of the respondents replied that definitely there was encouragement for cricket players in general, 15 of them responded to it as only sometimes. 35 of them responded with a yes, but not totally convinced about it and none of them responded in the negative.

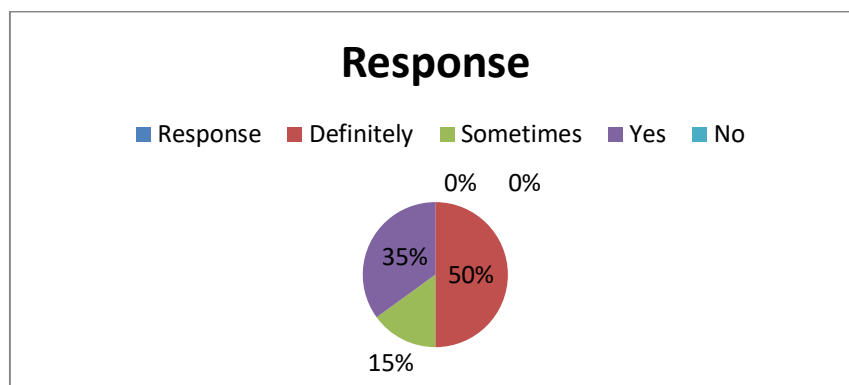


Figure 1.10: Encouragement for cricket players in general

Figure 1.10 depicts that 50% of the respondents definitely felt there is encouragement for cricket players in general, for 15% of them the encouragement is only sometimes. 35% of them responded with a yes, but not totally convinced about it. The lack of respondents in the negative shows that there is a considerable amount of encouragement by the general public for cricket game, though in mixed context.

V. CONCLUSION

There is a general change in the attitude of people in India as well as in Tamil Nadu after the introduction of Indian Premier League and subsequently Tamil Nadu Premier League. Just like how Indian Premier League gave hope to the uncertain talented cricketing youth of the nation, Tamil Nadu Premier League has brought in huge hope among the players in the state of Tamil Nadu. Not only that the popularity of Indian Premier League has made the

Tamil Nadu Premier League as its selection tournament. The attitude of parents and common public have changed and have started to support the youngsters interested in the game. There is also a tremendous change

in the cricketing infrastructure and the coaching system have also become impressive. Thus an overview of the impact of Indian Premier League and its impact on Tamil Nadu Premier League has been presented through this paper.

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