



A Descriptive Study on Participation of Grassroots level to State Level Competition in Khel Maharan 2.0 Assam

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Article Info

P-ISSN: 3051-3480

E-ISSN: 3051-3499

Impact Factor (RSIF): 8.56

Volume: 02

Issue: 01

Received: 10-01-2026

Accepted: 08-02-2026

Published: 06-03-2026

Page No: 14-18

Abstract

The main study was access to identify the talent athletes of the state of Assam. To explore the participation from grassroots level to State Level competition in Khel Maharan 2.0 in Assam State. The main aims of Khel Maharan 2.0 was promote sports at the grassroots level and List of selected talent player for training camps at National level sports competition. It was conducted through a four-tier competition structure— i) GAON PANCHAYAT/ULB/WARD (MC) Level and VCDC/MAC/MAC Level of BTR, KAAC & DHAC Level Competition, ii) LAC Level Competition, iii) District and Zonal Level Competition and iv) State Level Competition —the program covered Athletics- (U17, A17), Football- (U17, A17), Kabaddi- (U16, U20), Volleyball- (U17, A17), Swimming- (U14, U17), Cycling- (U14, A14 & U17) and Chess- (Open Category) for both genders. The present study is based on three key objectives: (a) To assess the Event wise & Discipline wise registration (b) To assess the top district level participants on Khel Maharan 2.0 and (c) To evaluate state level medal tally of Khel Maharan 2.0. Using a descriptive research methodology and a secondary data analysis, findings reveal mass-scale engagement broad district representation, balanced gender participation and competitive distribution of medals among State levels. The study concludes that Khel Maharan 2.0 has significantly strengthened grassroots sports development in Assam.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.54660/IJPESH.2026.2.1.14-18>

Keywords: Khel Maharan 2.0, Grassroot, Competition, Sports & Youth Welfare

Introduction

Khel Maharan is one of the well-known state level competition of sports in Assam specially for the young unearthing talents that usually stays hidden in local or rural areas. It is a fantastic initiative for the players of village area to provide a state level platform to focus on the panchayat level of sports that making them through district and state levels and provides the perfect road map for growth. The goal of this is to find out the hidden talent and helps players to move from district level to state level of competitions and give them better training and exposure whatever they need to reach at the national level. Now the Khel Maharan 2.0 is such an exciting step which have made by the Assam Government for the grassroots level of players to show their talents, that have become huge success in the first edition to reach them even more deeper.

The launch of Khel Maharan 2.0 just shows that how the state is very committed in building on that initial success and even reaching more grassroots stars from the state. For finding talent at the grassroots level is a huge deal across the state over 50 lakh of the people involved, it's a great to see that the Assam Government has put much effort and smart way to build a stronger sports culture from the ground level in state from Panchayat to District level into this Khel Maharan 2.0. They have giving kids in rural areas a real shot at being noticed by focusing on various sports like an individual events or team games -football, volleyball kabbadi etc.

The Khel Maharan including 2.0 edition Mascot is Maharaj Dodan who is a pretty legendary figure who is rooted in local history as a forefather of the Rabha tribe for his incredible physical strength and have a cool ties to the Mahabharata as the nephew of Maharaj Bana as well as the relative of Devi Usha which adds a layer of ancient heritage to the event, symbolizing the strength and the sporting spirit of locals for the cultural pride or for the younger generations to keep those traditional stories alive.

In Khel Maharan 1.0, there are only 4 usual specific sports event or games, they are- Athletics, football, volleyball and kabaddi while in Khel Maharan 2.0, three more new sports disciplines are introducing, they are chess followed by swimming, road cycling by using traditional cycles where the riders have to use regular everyday bikes instead of fancy professional racing ones.

Even the local community took full ownership in the organizing of the events by instead of just watching, people of the local community helps with everything from registering online applications to picking out the best local playgrounds and also they get hands-on by clearing all those unclear fields and helps in building sports equipment out of local materials like bamboo as well as timber for games like kho-kho and volleyball too. The organizers of different local areas or regions are not just use their existing spaces, actually they have upgraded thousands of fields by fixing up more than about 3000 sports which almost they ensure that every local area should have a decent place to compete, transformed neglected patches of land into proper sports grounds for the communities basically the tournament leave a huge network behind the improvement of facilities where people can keep using it for years in future.

To put it simply, the Khel Maharan 2.0 show a massive turn out for the state over 76 lakh participants have registered through the online portal website for the participation out of 76 lakhs approx 43 lakhs are male and female are also with total of more than 33 lakhs but participated participants are with 39 lakhs at various levels of competition followed by athletes 22.97 lakhs male and 16.22 lakhs female especially with such a strong massive interest showing from both male and female sides that proves how the state's push for sports is hitting very high in the state home and getting more active than ever and involve people interestingly which definitely creates a high bar for any future events.

The competition is organized in various four structures, starting locally and moving up to the state level. The grassroots level that covers the village and ward areas (Goan Panchayat/ULB/WARD(MC) level and VCDC/MAC/MAC level of BTR, KAAC & DHAC level of competition) are kicks off at the 13th November to 7th December 2024 the winners of the first level use to move on to the LAC level which date -4th December, 2024 to 6th January, 2025 followed by district and zonal level in early 2025 in 24th January to 11th February, 2025. Finally, the State level competition everything wraps up in April with well-organized grand closing ceremony with medals that gives athletes plenty of time to progress through the ranks from 2nd April to 6th April, 2025.

Moreover, Over 7000 athletes had competed in this competition which was held from 2nd to 6th April, 2025 to

show their hidden talents at the State -Level Games. It's a huge moment for the grassroots sports in Assam that giving chance to bring the best of skill, endurance and sportsmanship together to represent their home town at the state level, giving a real heroes shot at the national spotlight. According to Sports Minister of Assam- Khel Maharan 2.0 is one of the massive sporting spectacle event that goes way beyond the field which is a huge celebration of various talent and culture, those event helps to bring athletes altogether to compete and connect from every corners of the world as well as fostering sportsmanship and building bridges between the different types of communities in local areas, honestly which is a rare chance to see the world-class spirit of sports person and passion of local collides to each other on such a grand scale.

Objectives of the Paper

1. To assess the Event wise & discipline wise registration.
2. To assess the top district level participants of Khel Maharan 2.0
3. To evaluate State level medal tally of Khel Maharan 2.0

Methodology

The present study was a descriptive research design, it seeks to systematically examine and interpret the participation of Grassroots level to State Level and medal tally performance under Khel Maharan 2.0 in Assam. The descriptive method is considered appropriate because the study primarily focuses on analysis existing data rather than conducting experimental or field-based investigations. The research is based entirely on secondary sources of data. Relevant information was collected from official reports and documents published by the Sports & Youth Welfare Department, Government of Assam, including the State-Level Summary Report of Khel Maharan 2.0. An additional data were obtained from State Government publications of Assam, research journals, Sports department notification, newspaper articles and credible media and online sources related to the event.

The data was collected as-

- Discipline-wise participants registration.
- District wise participants registration.
- State Level Medal tally records.

The data were systematically organized into tables and categorized according to the objectives of the study. The data was statistical analysis such as frequency distribution, percentage and ranking methods were employed to examine the discipline and event wise registration, district wise participants registration and State level medal tally distribution. A comparative analysis was also undertaken to evaluate performance differences among districts.

The data were analysis then interpreted in relation to the research objectives to assess the scope of participation of Grassroots to state level competition by Khel Maharan 2.0 and to understand its contribution toward state level sports development in Assam.

The study is limited to the accuracy and availability of official records since the study is based on secondary data. However, all efforts were made to ensure the reliability and authenticity of the information by cross-verifying multiple credible sources.

Table No 1:

Discipline	Men	Women	Total Registration
Athletics U17	1237311	1045709	2283020
Athletics A17	428028	357462	785490
Football U17	365949	196083	562032
Football A17	174555	-	174555
Kabaddi U16	281969	267745	549714
Kabaddi U20	153240	143198	296438
Volleyball U17	242160	179053	421213
Volleyball A17	133500	94230	227730
Swimming U14	272042	188572	460614
Swimming U17	350573	313838	664411
Road Cycling U14	105509	72094	177603
Road Cycling A14	131738	109877	241615
Road Cycling U17	117302	95862	213164
Chess (Open Category)	329264	275230	604494

Table No-1: The Table Indicates Event/Discipline wise athletes registration on Khel Maharan 2.0 It showcases a wide range of disciplines with significant participation from both men and women across different age categories. In Athletics U17 there were 1237311 men and 1045709 women making a total of 2283020 participants which is the highest among all disciplines, while Athletics A17 recorded 428028 men and 357462 women totaling 785490 participants. In Football U17 were 365949 men and 196083 women participated making a total of 562032 whereas Football A17 had only male participation with 174555 registrations. Kabaddi U16 showed near gender balance with 281969 men and 267745 women a total of 549714 and Kabaddi U20 had 153240 men and 143198 women totaling 296438. In Volleyball U17 there were 242160 men and 179053 women total with 421213 while Volleyball A17 had 133500 men and

94230 women totaling 227730. Swimming U14 recorded 272042 men and 188572 women total no. 460614 and Swimming U17 had 350573 men and 313838 women totaling 664411 showing strong female participation. In Road Cycling U14 there were 105509 men and 72094 women total no. 177603 Road Cycling A14 had 131738 men and 109877 women total no. 241615 and Road Cycling U17 recorded 117302 men and 95862 women total no. 213164. Lastly Chess (Open Category) included 329264 men and 275230 women making a total of 604494 participants. Overall the data has suggest that Khel Mahran 2.0 successfully ensured wide range of participation across multiple sports disciplines with team sports attracting the highest number of competitors and youth categories showing greater relatively strong male participation in several sports.

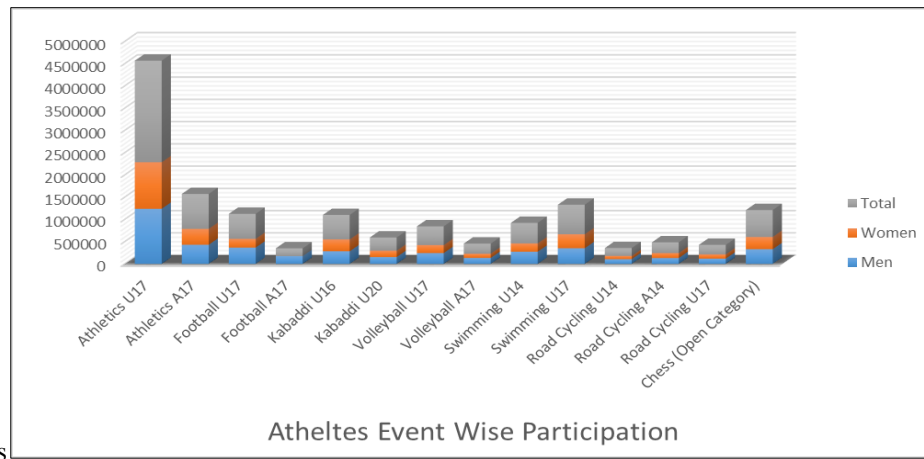


Fig 1: Graphical Representation of Athletes event wise Registration on Khel Maharan 2.0

Table No 2:

Sr No	District	Registration	Participation	Participation Percentage
1	Tamulpur	115039	102894	89.44
2	Nalbari	216729	184193	84.99
3	Darrang	203497	154064	75.71
4	West Karbi Anglong	111653	76570	68.58
5	Nagaon	319303	215130	67.37
6	Morigaon	271018	170283	62.83
7	Jorhat	283783	175271	61.76
8	Lakhimpur	192468	117313	60.95
9	Golaghat	279765	167688	59.94
10	Cachar	234015	135910	58.08

Table No-2: The table presents the district-wise athletes registration of Khel Maharan 2.0 the data reflects varying levels of participation efficiency across regions. Tamulpur recorded 115039 registrations out of which 102894 participants actually took part achieving the highest participation percentage of 89.44% indicating excellent engagement and organization. Nalbari also performed strongly with 216729 registrations and 184193 participants resulting in 84.99% participation. Darrang registered 203497 individuals with 154064 participating achieving 75.71%. West Karbi Anglong had 111653 registrations and 76570 participants with a participation rate of 68.58%. Nagaon despite having the highest registrations of 319303, recorded

215130 participants resulting in 67.37% participation. Morigaon showed 271018 registrations and 170283 participation (62.83%) while Jorhat recorded 283783 registrations with 175271 participants achieving 61.76%. Lakhimpur had 192468 registrations and 117313 participants (60.95%) followed by Golaghat with 279765 registrations and 167688 participation (59.94%). Cachar recorded 234015 registrations out of which 135910 participated resulting in the lowest participation percentage of 58.08%. Overall, the table reflects highest top districts like Tamulpur and Nalbari demonstrate high conversion of registrations into participation and others districts showing scope for improving actual turnout despite high registration numbers.

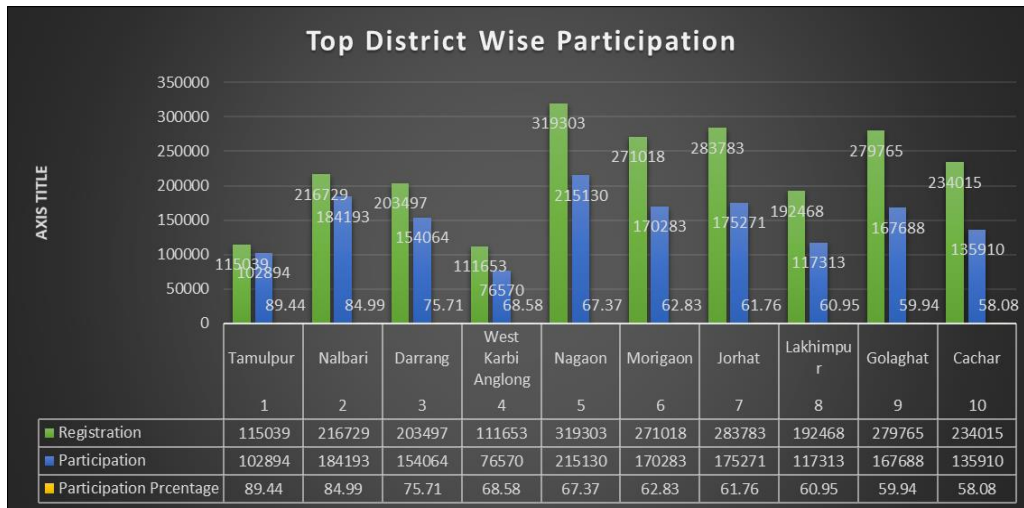


Fig 2: Graphical Representation of Top District wise Registration on Khel Maharan 2.0

Table No 3:

Distict	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total	Rank
Jorhat	12	15	05	32	1
Kamrup (M)	09	04	10	23	2
Dibrugarh	04	02	01	07	3
Kamrup	04	02	01	07	3
Sivasagar	04	-	08	12	4
Lakhimpur	03	05	01	09	5
Nagaon	02	02	-	04	6
Bajali	02	-	-	02	7
Sonitpur	01	02	03	06	8
Majuli	01	01	01	03	9
Baksa	01	01	-	02	10
Kokrajhar	01	01	-	02	10
Morigaon	01	01	-	02	10

Table No-3: Table presents the district-wise medal tally of Khel Maharan 2.0 highlights the competitive performance of different regions based on gold, silver and bronze medals. Jorhat secured the top position with an impressive 12 gold, 15 silver and 05 bronze medals making a total of 32 medals and achieving Rank 1. Kamrup (M) followed in second place with 09 gold, 04 silver and 10 bronze medals totaling 23 medals. Dibrugarh and Kamrup shared the third rank, each winning 04 gold, 02 silver and 01 bronze medal with a total of 07 medals each. Sivasagar stood at Rank 4 with 04 gold and 08 bronze medals totaling 12 medals. Lakhimpur secured Rank 5 with 03 gold, 05 silver and 01 bronze medal making

a total of 09 medals. Nagaon ranked 6th with 02 gold and 02 silver medals totaling 04 medals while Bajali secured Rank 7 with 02 gold medals only. Sonitpur achieved Rank 8 with 01 gold, 02 silver and 03 bronze medals totaling 6 medals. Majuli ranked 9th with an equal distribution of 01 gold, 01 silver and 01 bronze medal total 03. Finally Baksa, Kokrajhar and Morigaon shared Rank 10, each winning 01 gold and 01 silver medal with no bronze totaling 02 medals each. Overall, the data reflects that districts like Jorhat and Kamrup (M) dominated the medal tally while several other districts showed moderate yet noteworthy performances.

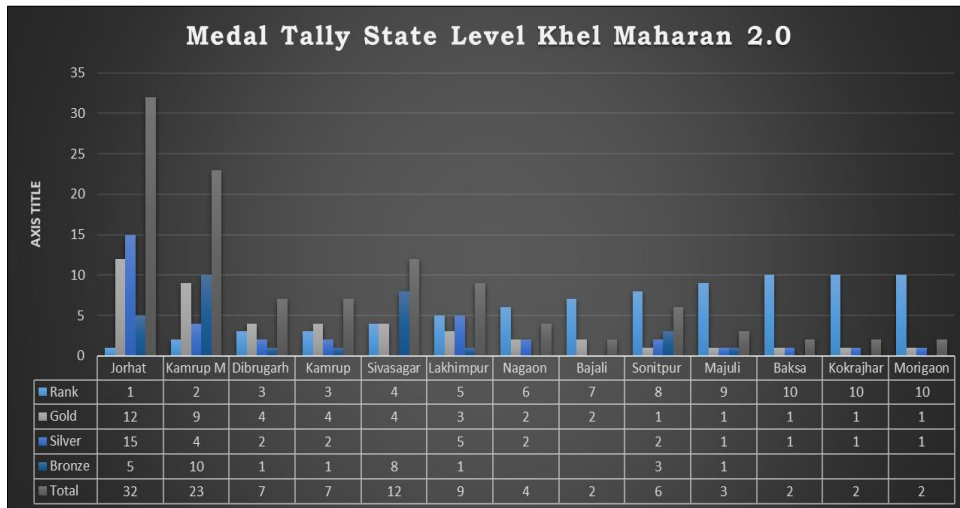


Fig 3: Graphical Representation of Medal Tally State Level on Khel Maharan 2.0

Result

The district -wise analysis of Khel Maharan 2.0 highlights a broad distribution of athlete's talent across the State Assam. Jorhat took the lead with an impressive 32 medals, it proved that their local sports programs are seriously effective for those 32 excellent players, followed by Kamrup (M), it also put up strong fight with 23 medals while Dibrugarh and Kamrup also had showed the great consistency of having same excellence of players with 7. The districts like Sivasagar (12) and Lakhimpur (9) are also demonstrating the great consistency. Nagaon (4), Bajali (2), Sonitpur (6) and even with a smaller region like Majuli are showing a substantial representation. Baksa, Kokrajhar and Morigaon altogether tied up and made their mark with 2 players contributing to the tally. The widespread success indicates that the talent identification was inclusive rather than centralized which proves the state's talent scouting is actually reaching everywhere and there is a healthy competitive balance throughout the state.

Discussion

The findings of the paper indicates that the Khel Maharan 2.0 has managed effectively to spread out the talent development across the Assam so evenly. The dominance of Jorhat in this year is producing the highest number of excellent players which suggesting the presence of stronger sports infrastructure coaching facilities and competitive exposure in the district even clearly leading the full pack right now the fact that some places like Kamrup (M), Dibrugarh, Kamrup and Sivasagar are also right on their heels to show the system is actually working among those areas. While it also proves that we don't have to be in a major metro region to get such noticed or find decent coaching. So this kind of multi-tier setup is what's needed exactly to build a solid sports foundation for athletes for the long period of run. Meanwhile, the approach of the identification of the Khel Maharan 2.0 of excellent players from diverse districts have supported in setting up a much better future for sports development in the long-term for the next-generation of top-tier talent.

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How to Cite This Article

Boro N, Brahma R, Basumatary N. A descriptive study on participation of grassroots level to state level competition in Khel Maharan 2.0 Assam. *Int J Phys Educ Sports Holist Dev.* 2026;2(1):14–18. doi:10.54660/IJPESH.2026.2.1.14-18

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