



SPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA

(An Autonomous Organization under Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India)
Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium Complex (East Gate)
Lodhi Road, New Delhi- 110 003

Date- 08.02.2023

No.2600(147-1)/SAI/CD/Rectt./2023

SUB: NOTICE INVITING APPLICATIONS FROM ELIGIBLE CANDIDATES FOR APPOINTMENT IN VARIOUS GRADES OF COACHING CADRE ON A CONTRACT / DEPUTATION (INCLUDING SHORT TERM CONTRACT) BASIS-REG.

SAI is an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports (MYAS) registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860, with the mandate of development and promotion of Sports in the country. Sports Authority of India invites applications from eligible candidates for appointment in grades of **Coach, Senior Coach, Chief Coach and High Performance Coach** on a contract and deputation (including short term contract) basis. Eligible candidates can apply online at <https://sportsauthorityofindia.nic.in/saijobs/> & applications can be submitted from 5:00 pm on February, 10th 2023 onwards. Last date to submit online applications is March, 3rd 2023 till 5.00 pm. More details are as follows.

1. DISCIPLINE-WISE VACANCIES:

Discipline-wise vacancies are as follows

SN	Discipline	Designations			
		Coach	Sr. Coach	Ch. Coach	HPC
1	Archery	4	2	1	2
2	Athletics	5	4	8	1
3	Badminton	1	0	0	0
4	Boxing	5	3	7	0
5	Cycling	5	2	1	2
6	Fencing	3	1	1	2
7	Hockey	3	2	2	2
8	Judo	4	2	3	0

9	Rowing	1	1	2	1
10	Shooting	1	1	2	1
11	Swimming	0	0	1	2
12	T Tennis	1	1	0	1
13	Weightlifting	3	2	4	2
14	Wrestling	2	1	3	2
15	Football	0	1	1	0
16	Gymnastics	1	2	3	1
17	Handball	0	0	0	1
18	Kabaddi	1	1	1	1
19	Kayaking & Canoeing	1	3	2	1
20	Kho-Kho	0	0	0	1
21	Taekwondo	2	3	3	0
22	Volleyball	0	0	1	1
23	Wushu	1	2	3	1
	Grand Total	44	34	49	25

Note: Number of vacancies are indicative actual number may vary depending on the functional requirement. The number of vacancies discipline-wise will be filled up as per the requirement.

2. MODE OF RECRUITMENT: Deputation (Including short term contract) and Contract

3. LAST DATE FOR RECEIPT

Candidates can submit applications from 5:00 pm on February, 10th 2023 onwards at <https://sportsauthorityofindia.nic.in/saijobs/>. Last date to submit online applications is March, 3rd 2023 till 5.00 pm.

4. PAY:

Position	Level and pay Matrix for Deputation	Consolidated Pay for Contractual engagement
High-Performance Coach	Level-13 (Rs. 123100-215900)	Rs. 220,000/-
Chief Coach	Level-12 (Rs. 78800-209200)	Rs. 145,000/-
Senior Coach	Level-11 (Rs. 67700-208700)	Rs. 125,000/-
Coach	Level-10 (Rs. 56100-177500)	Rs. 105,000/-

5. **AGE CRITERIA:** Maximum age as of the last date of submission on the application is as follows

HPC	Chief Coach	Senior Coach	Coach
60 Years	60 Years	50 Years	45 Years

Note: For deputation, age limit is 56 years on closing date of applications.

6. **ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATION & EXPERIENCE FOR *CONTRACTUAL ENGAGEMENT***

- (i) Essential qualification for Coaches in various grades of coaching cadre to be recruited on a Contract basis.

Sl. No.	Eligibility
1	Diploma or equivalent in Coaching from SAI, NS NIS, or from any other recognized Indian/Foreign University OR
2	Medal winner in Olympic/World Championship/ Twice Olympic Participation OR
3	Participation in Olympic/ Paralympics and International Event OR
4	Dronacharya Awardee

- (ii) Experience required for Coaches in various grades of coaching cadre to be recruited on a Contract basis.

Sl. No.	Eligibility	Experience (In years)			
		HPC*	Chief Coach	Senior Coach	Coach
1	Diploma or equivalent in Coaching from SAI, NS NIS, or from any other recognized Indian/Foreign University OR	15	10	7	5
2	Medal winner in Olympic/ World Championship/ Twice Olympic Participation OR	5	3	2	0
3	Participation in Olympic/ Paralympics and International Event. OR	10	7	4	2
4	Dronacharya Awardee	5	3	2	0

Note: (i) Coaching experience should be in respective sports discipline

(ii) Desirable experience for HPC is as under: -

a) A highest-level certification in relevant sports organized by the international federation.

b) 2 years' experience as a High-Performance Director/ Coach of the Senior National team in a relevant discipline.

c) A doctorate or management degree/ diploma in sports related field.

7. ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATION & EXPERIENCE FOR DEPUTATION (INCLUDING SHORT TERM CONTRACT)

(a) Essential qualification for Coaches in various grades of coaching cadre to be recruited on a Deputation basis.

(i) HIGH PERFORMANCE COACH

Sl. No.	Eligibility	Desirable Experience
1	Diploma or equivalent in Coaching from SAI, NS NIS, or from any other recognized Indian/Foreign University OR	5 Years
2	Medal winner in Olympic/World Championship/ Twice Olympic Participation OR	5 Years
3	Dronacharya Awardee	5 Years

(ii) CHIEF COACH, SENIOR COACH AND COACH

Sl. No.	Eligibility	Desirable Experience		
		Chief Coach	Sr. Coach	Coach
1	Diploma or equivalent in Coaching from SAI, NS NIS, or from any other recognised Indian/Foreign University OR	3 Years	2 Years	1 Years
2	Olympics/ Paralympics/ International Participation (as defined by SAI)	3 Years	2 Years	1 Years
3	Dronacharya Awardee	3 Years	2 Years	1 Years

(b) Eligibility for Coaches in various grade to be recruited on Deputation (Including short term contract):-

Sl. No.	Grade	Eligibility Criteria & Pay Levels
1	High Performance Coach	<p>Officers working under the Central Govt. /State Govt. /UT Administration (Including their attached or subordinate offices)/ PSUs / Autonomous or Statutory Organization/ Universities/ Educational & research institutions holding: Analogues post in their parent cadre/department or Officers with regular service of 5 years in the pay Level-12 i.e. (Rs. 78800-209200/-) <u>Pay</u> DoPT guidelines for pay fixation and the experience for deputation upon the level for which the application is made.</p>
2	Chief Coach	<p>Officers working under the Central Govt. /State Govt. /UT Administration (Including their attached or subordinate offices)/ PSUs / Autonomous or Statutory Organization/ Universities/ Educational & research institutions holding: Analogues post in their parent cadre/department or Officers with regular service of 5 years in the pay Level-11 i.e. (Rs. 67700-208700/-) <u>Pay</u> DoPT guidelines for pay fixation and the experience for deputation upon the level for which the application is made.</p>
3	Senior Coach	<p>Officers working under the Central Govt. /State Govt. /UT Administration (Including their attached or subordinate offices)/ PSUs / Autonomous or Statutory Organization/ Universities/ Educational & research institutions holding: Analogues post in their parent cadre/department or Officers with regular service of 5 years in the pay Level-10 i.e. (Rs. 56100-177500/-) <u>Pay</u> DoPT guidelines for pay fixation and the experience for deputation upon the level for which the application is made.</p>
4	Coach	<p>Officers working under the Central Govt. /State Govt. /UT Administration (Including their attached or subordinate offices)/ PSUs / Autonomous or Statutory Organization/ Universities/ Educational & research institutions holding: Analogues post in their parent cadre/department</p>

		<p style="text-align: center;">or</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Officers with regular service of 3 years in the pay Level-7 i.e. (Rs. 44900-142400/-)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Or</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Officers with regular service of 8 years in the pay Level-6 i.e. (Rs. 35400-112400/-)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Pay</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">DoPT guidelines for pay fixation and the experience for deputation upon the level for which the application is made.</p>
--	--	---

Note:

(i) Terms and conditions on Deputation for Government/Public Sector employees will be as per DOP&T's Guidelines and Circulars issued and amended from time to time.

(ii) The pay and other terms and conditions of deputation will be regulated in accordance with DoPT's OM No.6/8/2009-Estt. (Pay-I) dated 17.6.2010 as amended from time to time.

(iii) The candidates may send an advanced copy, to reach the Dy. Director (Coaching), Sports Authority of India, Head Office, Gate No.10 (East Gate), Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003 on or before March 3rd 2023. Advanced copy can also be mailed at madhav.wanave@gov.in . However, their candidature will be subject to receipt of NOC, Vigilance Clearance, APAR from the parent department.

8. PERIOD OF DEPUTATION (INCLUDING SHORT TERM CONTRACT) & CONTRACT:

- (a) The normal **deputation tenure** for Coach and Senior Coach is 3 years, Chief Coach is 4 years and High Performance Coach is 5 years, which can be extended up to 7 years (as per Recruitment Rules of SAI), depending on the requirements, or till the age of 60 years, whichever is earlier. The personnel may be repatriated pre-maturely if the performance is not found to be satisfactory.
- (b) The initial **contract** shall be for a period of one year and extendable in a cycle of one year subject to a maximum age of 65 years. However, the contract can be terminated by giving a 30 days' notice period by either party i.e. SAI and the employee. In extreme cases the contract can be terminated by SAI with immediate effect without notice period. The other terms & conditions necessary for appointment in SAI will be mentioned in the detailed agreement that shall be signed by the selected candidate at the time of appointment.

9. INSTRUCTIONS ON RESERVATION: (FOR CONTRACTUAL ENGAGEMENTS)

- I. Reservation will be made for candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes and the Economically Weaker Sections in respect of vacancies as may be fixed by the Sports Authority of India.
- II. Relaxation in Age limit for SC/ST/OBC/Ex-Serviceman shall be as per DoPT OM No. 15012/2/2010- Estt(D) dated 27.03.2012.
- III. **Eligibility for Availing Reservation:**

- a) A candidate will be eligible to get the benefit of community reservation only in case the particular caste to which the candidate belongs is included in the list of reserved communities issued by the Central Government.
 - b) The OBC candidates applying for must produce OBC (Non-Creamy Layer) certificate based on the income for the Financial Year (FY) 2020-2021, 2019-2020 and 2018-19.
 - c) A candidate will be eligible to get the benefit of the Economically Weaker Section reservation only in case the candidate meets the criteria issued by the Central Government and is in possession of requisite Income & Asset Certificate based on income for Financial Year (FY) 2020-2021.
 - d) Candidates seeking reservation/relaxation benefits available for SC/ST/OBC/EWS must ensure that they are entitled to such reservation/relaxation as per eligibility. They should also be in possession of all the requisite certificates in the prescribed format in support of their claim as stipulated in the Rules/Notice for such benefits by the closing date of the application.
 - e) The closing date fixed for the receipt of the applications of this advertisement will be treated as the date for determining the OBC status (including that of creamy layer) of the candidates.
- IV. Candidates must ensure the community certificates that are to be produced for availing SC/ST/OBC/EWS reservation are as per standard format and proforma issued from time to time. **(Sample proformas and format are attached to this advertisement.)**

10. PROOF OF AGE AND COMMUNITY CERTIFICATES:

Proof of age and community certificates shall be produced in accordance with following DoPT [OMs:-](#)

- a) Proof of Age - OM No. 19017/7/79-Estt(A) dated 30.11.1979.
- b) Community certificates –
 - SC/ST – OM No. 36012/6/88-Estt(SCT) dated 24.04.1990
 - OBC – OM No. 36036/2/2013-Estt.(Res-I) dated 31.03.2016

11. Decision of SAI in all matters regarding eligibility, selection and posting would be final and binding on all candidates. No representation or correspondence will be entertained by SAI in this regard.

12. SAI reserves the right to modify or alter or restrict or enlarge or cancel the recruitment process, if need so arises without issuing any further notice or assigning any reason thereafter. **The decision of the SAI shall be final and no appeal will be entertained.**
13. Applications received after due date are liable to be summarily rejected. Sports Authority of India will not be responsible for any delay in the submission of online application form due to any reason.

Deputy Director (Coaching)
Sports Authority of India
Head Office, New Delhi 110003

COMMUNITY CERTIFICATE PROFORMA FOR OBCs

Proforma-II

The form of certificate to be produced by Other Backward Classes candidates applying for appointment to posts under the Government of India.

This is to certify that Shri/Shrimati/Kumari*.....son/daughter* of Shri..... of village/town*in District/Division*..... of the State/Union Territory*belongs to the.....Community which is recognised as a backward class under :

@ Government of India, Ministry of Welfare Resolution No. 12011/68/93-BCC (C) dated 10th September, 1993 published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary Part-I, Section-1, No. 186 dated 13th September, 1993.

@ Government of India, Ministry of Welfare Resolution No. 12011/9/94-BCC dated 19-10-94, published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary Part-I, Section-1, No. 163 dated 20-10-1994.

@ Government of India, Ministry of Welfare Resolution No. 12011/7/95-BCC dated 24-5-95, published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary Part-I, Section-1, No. 88 dated 25-5-1995.

@ Government of India, Ministry of Welfare Resolution No. 12011/96/94-BCC dated 9th March, 1996 published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary Part-I, Section-1, No. 60 dated 11th March, 1996.

@ Government of India, Ministry of Welfare Resolution No. 12011/44/96-BCC dated 6th December, 1996 published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary Part-I, Section-1, No. 210 dated 11th December, 1996.

@ Government of India, Ministry of Welfare Resolution No. 12011/99/94-BCC dated 11th December, 1997 published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary Part-I, Section-1, No. 236 dated 12th December, 1997.

@ Government of India, Ministry of Welfare Resolution No. 12011/13/97-BCC dated 3rd December, 1997 published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary Part-I, Section-1, No. 239 dated 17th December, 1997.

@ Government of India, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment Resolution No. 12011/68/98-BCC dated the 27th October, 1999 published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary Part-I, Section-1, No. 241 dated the 27th October, 1999.

@ Government of India, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment Resolution No. 12011/88/98-BCC dated 6th December, 1999 published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary Part-I, Section-1, No. 270 dated 6th December, 1999.

@ Government of India, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment Resolution No. 12011/36/99-BCC dated 4th April, 2000 published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary Part-I, Section-1, No. 71 dated 4th April, 2000.

@ Government of India, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment Resolution No. 12011/44/99-BCC dated the 21st September, 2000 published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary Part-I, Section-1, No. 210 dated the 21st September, 2000.

@ Government of India, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment Resolution No. 12015/9/2000-BCC dated 6th September, 2001 published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary Part-I, Section-1, No. 246 dated 6th September, 2001.

@ Government of India, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment Resolution No. 12011/1/2001-BCC dated 19th June, 2003 published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary Part-I, Section, 1 No. 151 dated 20th June, 2003.

@ Government of India, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment Resolution No. 12011/4/2002-BCC dated 13th January, 2004 published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part-I Section-1, No. 9 dated 13th January, 2004.

@ Government of India, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment Resolution No. 12011/14/2004-BCC dated 12th March, 2007 published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part-I, Section-1, No. 67 dated 12th March, 2007.

@ Government of India, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment Resolution No. 12015/2/2007-BCC dated 18th August, 2010 published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part-I, Section-1, No. 232 dated 18th August, 2010.

@ Government of India, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment Resolution No. 12015/2/2007-BCC dated 11th October, 2010 published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part-I, Section-1, No. 274 dated 12th October, 2010.

@ Government of India, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment Resolution No. 12015/15/2008-BCC dated 16th June, 2011 published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part-I, Section-1, No. -123 dated 16th June, 2011.

@ Government of India, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment Resolution No. 12015/13/2010-BC-II dated 8th December, 2011 published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part-I, Section-1, No.-257 dated 8th December, 2011.

@ Government of India, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment Resolution No. 12015/05/2011-BC-II dated 17th February, 2014 published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part-I, Section-1, No.-41 dated 17th February, 2014.

Shri/Shrimati/Kumari*.....and/or* his/her* family ordinarily reside(s) in village/town*of.....District/Division* of the State/Union Territory* of

This is also to certify that he/she* does not belong to the persons/sections* (Creamy Layer) mentioned in column 3 of the Schedule to the Government of India, Department of Personnel & Training O.M. No. 36012/22/93-Estt(SCT) dated 8-9-1993 O.M. No. 36033/3/2004-Estt.(Res.) dated 9th March, 2004 and O.M. No. 36033/3/2004-Estt.(Res.) dated 14th October, 2008 and O.M. No. 36033/1/2013-Estt.(Res.) dated 27th May, 2013.

Signature.....

**Designation..... (with seal of Office)
State/Union Territory

Place.....

Date.....

*Please delete the words which are not applicable.

@ Strike out whichever is not applicable.

NOTE : The term “ordinarily reside(s)” used here will have the same meaning as in Section 20 of the Representation of the People Act, 1950.

** Authorities empowered to issue Other Backward Classes certificates will be the same as those empowered to issue Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe certificates.

Note 1 : Candidates claiming to belong to OBCs should note that the name of their caste (including its spellings) as indicated in their certificates, should be exactly the same as published in the lists notified by the Central Government from time to time. A certificate containing any variation in the caste name will not be accepted.

Note 2 : The OBC claim of a candidate will be determined in relation to the State (or part of the State) to which his/her father originally belongs. A candidate who has migrated from one State (or part of the State) to another should, therefore, produce an OBC certificate which should have been issued to him/her based on his/her father’s OBC certificate from the State to which he (father) originally belongs.

Note 3 : No change in the community status already indicated by a candidate in his/her simplified application form for this examination will ordinarily be allowed by the Commission.

(B-1) The format of undertaking to be furnished along with the DAF by Other Backward Class candidates applying for appointment to posts under the Government of India.

Proforma-III

UNDERTAKING

I.....son/daughter of Shri.....resident of Village/Town/City.....District.....State/UThereby declare that I belong to thecommunity which is recognized as a backward class by the Government of India for the purpose of reservation in services as per orders contained in Department of Personnel & Training Office memorandum No. 36012/22/93-Estt(SCT) dated 8.9.1993. it is also declared that I do not belong to persons/sections (Creamy Layer) mentioned in Column 3 of the Schedule to the above referred Office Memorandum, dated 8.9.1993, O.M. No. 36033/3/2004-Estt.(Res) dated 9th March, 2004 and O.M. No. 36033/3/2004-Estt.(Res) dated 14th October, 2008 and O.M. No. 36033/1/2013-Estt.(Res.) dated 27th May, 2013.

**COMMUNITY CERTIFICATE PROFORMA FOR
SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES**

PRESCRIBED PROFORMAE

Performa-I

The form of certificate to be produced by Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes candidates applying for appointment to posts under the Government of India

This is to certify that Shri/Shrimati/Kumari*.....
son/daughter* of of village/town*
..... in District/Division* of the
State/Union Territory* belongs to the..... caste/tribe* which is
recognised as a Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe* under:—

- @ The Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950
- @ The Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950
- @ The Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Union Territories Order, 1951
- @ The Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Union Territories Order, 1951

[as amended by the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes List (Modification) Order, 1956; the Bombay Reorganisation Act, 1960, the Punjab Reorganisation Act, 1966, the State of Himachal Pradesh Act, 1970, the North Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) Act, 1971, the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Order (Amendment) Act, 1976., the State of Mizoram Act, 1986, the State of Arunachal Pradesh Act, 1986 and the Goa, Daman and Diu (Reorganisation) Act, 1987.]

- @ The Constitution (Jammu and Kashmir) Scheduled Castes Order, 1956
- @ The Constitution (Andaman and Nicobar Islands) Scheduled Tribes Order, 1959 as amended by the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Order (Amendment) Act, 1976
- @ The Constitution (Dadar and Nagar Haveli) Scheduled Castes Order, 1962
- @ The Constitution (Dadar and Nagar Haveli) Scheduled Tribes Order, 1962
- @ The Constitution (Pondicherry) Scheduled Castes Order, 1964
- @ The Constitution (Uttar Pradesh) Scheduled Tribes Order, 1967
- @ The Constitution (Goa, Daman and Diu) Scheduled Castes Order, 1968
- @ The Constitution (Goa, Daman and Diu) Scheduled Tribes Order, 1968
- @ The Constitution (Nagaland) Scheduled Tribes Order, 1970
- @ The Constitution (Sikkim) Scheduled Castes Order, 1978
- @ The Constitution (Sikkim) Scheduled Tribes Order, 1978
- @ The Constitution (Jammu & Kashmir) Scheduled Tribes Order, 1989
- @ The Constitution (SC) Order (Amendment) Act, 1990
- @ The Constitution (ST) Order (Amendment) Act, 1991
- @ The Constitution (ST) Order (Second Amendment) Act, 1991
- @ The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Orders (Amendment) Act 2002
- @ The Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order (Amendment) Act, 2002
- @ The Constitution (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Orders (Amendment) Act, 2002
- @ The Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Orders (Second Amendment) Act, 2002

% 2. Applicable in the case of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes persons who have migrated from one State/Union Territory Administration to another.

This certificate is issued on the basis of the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes certificate issued to Shri/Shrimati*..... Father/Mother of Shri/Shrimati/Kumari of village/town* in District/Division*..... of the State/Union Territory*..... who belongs to the caste/tribe* which is recognised as a Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe in the State/Union Territory* of issued by the dated

% 3. Shri/Shrimati/Kumari*..... and/or* his/her* family ordinarily resides in village/town*..... of..... District/Division* of the State/Union Territory* of.....

Signature.....
**Designation.....

(With Seal of Office)
State/Union Territory*

Place:

Date:

*Please delete the words which are not applicable.

@Please quote specific Presidential Order.

% Delete the paragraph which is not applicable.

NOTE: The term “ordinarily reside (s)” used here will have the same meaning as in Section 20 of the Representation of the People Act, 1950.

**List of authorities empowered to issue Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe Certificate.

- (i) District Magistrate/Additional District Magistrate/Collector/Deputy Commissioner/Additional Deputy Commissioner/Deputy Collector/1st Class Stipendiary Magistrate/† Sub-Divisional Magistrate/Taluka Magistrate/Executive Magistrate/Extra Assistant Commissioner.
†(not below of the rank of 1st Class Stipendiary Magistrate).
- (ii) Chief Presidency Magistrate/Additional Chief Presidency Magistrate/Presidency Magistrate.
- (iii) Revenue Officers not below the rank of Tehsildar.
- (iv) Sub Divisional Officer of the area where the candidate and/or his/her family normally resides.
- (v) Administrator/Secretary to Administrator/Development Officer(Lakshadweep)