

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
(DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS)

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2391
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.08.2021

COVID-19 impact on coaches and sportspersons/athletes

2391 Dr. Banda Prakash:

Will the Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that coaches and sportspersons/athletes across the country faced financial hardships during the lockdown period;
- (b) whether Government has taken steps to provide financial assistance or relief to coaches and sportspersons to alleviate their financial hardships;
- (c) if so, the details thereof including quantum of funds provided and beneficiaries covered in this regard; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
(SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)**

(a) to (d) Sports is a 'State' Subject and development of Sports, including providing financial assistance to coaches and sportspersons across the country, rests with the respective State Government and National Sports Federations (NSFs). The Government of India supplements and complements the efforts of the State Governments and NSFs in this regard.

The major Schemes being implemented by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports that provide for grant of financial assistance or relief to coaches and sportspersons to alleviate their financial hardships are as under :

- i. Scheme of Assistance to National Sports Federations (NSFs) : The Department of Sports supports selected athletes/ campers through the, which includes medical insurance policy of ₹ 5.00 lakh and Personal accident policy (Disability/ Death) of ₹ 25.00 lakh. Since 01.06.2021 the Government has extended this facility to coaches, sports analysts, doctors, physiotherapists, masseurs etc. in National Camps held all over India, athletes undergoing training under Khelo India scheme, athletes and coaches in various training Centre of SAI, and sports science staff at various National Centre of Excellence (NCoE). Apart from this, under Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS), Government takes care of sudden and unanticipated requirements of elite athletes including their medical needs.
- ii. Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay National Welfare Funds for Sportspersons (PDUNWFS) Scheme : Under this Scheme, an assistance of upto ₹10 lakh is extended to ex-sportspersons who have retired from active sports and their family members for medical treatment and assistance of upto ₹5.00lakh is provided to families of deceased sportspersons. Under this scheme, assistance upto ₹ 5.00 lakh is provided to sportspersons who have been injured during training and participation in sports competitions on case to case basis.

Further, the coaches and athletes who were covered under various schemes of the Sports Authority of India (SAI), Khelo India and Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) continue to get financial assistance as per their entitlement and norms of the scheme, and no contractual coach was terminated by SAI during lockdown period.
