

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS
(DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS)
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2393
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.08.2021

Incentives for Tokyo Olympics

2393 # **Shri Mahesh Poddar:**

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

- (a) the details of initiatives taken by Government in order to provide training, facilities and other incentives to Indian players for Tokyo Olympics and details of the amount spent for this;
- (b) whether Government has decided to give any incentive to medal winning players in various events in order to facilitate/ encourage them;
- (c) whether Government is considering on establishing/ expanding any new institution or institutions in order to prepare the players and provide them with training facilities for competition at Olympics level; and
- (d) whether Government would also consider including private sector as sponsors in the said continuous campaign?

ANSWER
THE MINISTER FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
[SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR]

(a): The Government has taken several steps to provide training, facilities and other incentives to Indian players for Tokyo Olympics as under:

- I. **Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS):** In order to improve India's performance at Olympics and Paralympics, the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports started the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) in September 2014. This was revamped in April 2018 to have a technical support team for managing the TOPS athletes and providing holistic support. The scheme is fully functional and has been extending all requisite support to probable athletes identified for Olympic Games and Paralympic Games including foreign training, international competition, equipment and coaching camp. Out of pocket allowance (OPA) is paid to TOPS athletes selected in Core Group at the rate of Rs.50,000 per month and to Development Group at the rate of Rs.25,000 per month. At present, 162 athletes and 01 Hockey Men's & 01 Hockey Women's teams are included in the TOPS Core Group and 254 athletes are included in the TOPS Development Group. The expenditure incurred under the TOP Scheme during the last three years and current year is given below:

Financial Year	Total Expenditure
2018-19	Rs. 14,31,60,496
2019-20	Rs. 12,41,38,012
2020-21	Rs. 15,65,86,361
Current year 2021-22 (as on 04.08.2021)	Rs. 12,48,66,670

II. **High Priority Category** of sports discipline has been identified to put focus on and incentivize those sports disciplines played in the Olympics in which India has won medals in the last conducted Asian Games as well as Commonwealth Games or in which India has good chance of winning medals in the upcoming Olympics of 2024 (Paris) and 2028 (Los Angeles). Presently, nine sports disciplines viz., (i) Athletics, (ii) Badminton, (iii) Hockey, (iv) Shooting, (v) Tennis, (vi) Weightlifting, (vii) Wrestling, (viii) Archery and (ix) Boxing have been categorised as High Priority.

III. **Scheme of Assistance to National Sports Federations (NSFs):** Government provides assistance to elite sportspersons preparing for major international events such as Olympic Games, Asian Games, Commonwealth Games etc. by providing funding support through its “Scheme of Assistance to National Sports Federations (NSFs)”, also known as ACTC (Annual Calendar for Training and Competition). As part of Scheme of Assistance to NSFs, they are provided funding for organizing training camps which includes training, accommodation and dietary costs as well. The expenditure incurred under Assistance to NSFs Scheme during the last three years and current year is given below:

Financial Year	Total Expenditure (In crores Rupees)
2018-19	243.63
2019-20	300.85
2020-21	151.80
2021-22 (as on 04.08.2021)	20.65

IV. **National Centre of Excellence (NCOE):** 23 SAI Centres have been designated NCOE across the country to impart specialized training to promising athletes in 14 priority disciplines and 10 additional disciplines. Funding for the above are allocated under Khelo India.

V. **Khelo India:** Khelo India Scheme continues to support approximately 3000 young athletes towards broad basing support for Indian sports. The mission is to encourage sports all over the country thus allowing the population to harness the power of sports through its cross-cutting influence, namely, holistic development of children & youth, community development, social integration, gender equality, healthy lifestyle, national pride and economic opportunities related to sports development. The identified athletes are provided a support of Rs.6.28 lakhs per annum which includes Rs.10,000/- per month per athlete as Out of Pocket Allowance in addition to the training support.

(b): Yes, sir. In order to incentivize the achievements of outstanding sportspersons, encourage and motivate them for higher achievements and to act as inspiring role models for attracting the younger generation to take up sports, the Government provides incentives through the following schemes:

- I. Scheme of Cash Awards to Medal Winners in International Sports Events and their Coaches
- II. Pension to Meritorious Sportspersons

- III. Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay National Welfare Fund for Sportspersons
- IV. National Sports Awards

(c): Under the “Support to National/Regional/State Academies” of Khelo India Vertical, 232 Academies, both in (SAI) and private, have been accredited for imparting training to selected players. Wide network of Khelo India accredited academies, along with revamped and improved training centres of Sports Authority of India (SAI) in the most remote areas of the country have ensured that a talent has access to training and sports infrastructure. It is an ongoing process.

(d): Under the existing schemes of National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) and Khelo India, there is provision for including private sector as partners. Many such projects are already operational.
