

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS
(DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS)
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3358
ANSWERD ON- 31/03/2022

TRANSPARENCY IN SELECTION OF ATHLETES

3358 SHRI SANJAY SINGH:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the measures Government has taken during the last five years to ensure transparency in the selections of athletes for various national and international level tournaments;
- (b) whether Government has introduced any incentives to bring more players from rural areas of the country to participate in national and international level tournaments; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS

(SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)

(a) The National Sports Federations (NSFs) are primarily responsible for judicious selection of national team for participation in major events based on merit, and with the objective of enhancing national prestige and bringing glory to the country. The Government does not interfere in the selection process of sportspersons. This Ministry has issued instructions to the NSFs in 2008 and 2018 to ensure that the selection process is fair and transparent, and that the selection criteria/norms are communicated by the NSFs to all concerned stakeholders viz., players, coaches etc., well in advance and are also uploaded on the website of the respective NSFs.

(b) & (c) Support from the Government towards training and participation of athletes, including those from rural areas is provided under the Scheme of Assistance to NSFs, Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS,) the Khelo India Scheme and other promotional schemes of SAI.

Majority of the sportspersons identified for support under these schemes belong to rural, backward and tribal areas of the country, and are provided support in the form of Out of Pocket Allowances (OPA), expert coaches, sports equipment, boarding & lodging, sports kit, competition exposure, etc. as per the approved norms of the Schemes.

Further, medal winning outstanding sportspersons, including those belonging from rural areas, are awarded with National Sports Awards and Special (Cash) Awards in recognition of their achievements in various international sports events.
