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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1589
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08/03/2021

Support to coaches and sportspersons affected during lockdown

1589. SMT. PHULO DEVI NETAM:

SHRI KUMAR KETKAR:

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH:

SHRI AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that coaches and sportspersons across the country faced financial hardships during the lockdown period;

(b) whether the Ministry 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; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
(SHRI KIREN RIJIJU)

(a) to (d) Sports is a State Subject and the primary responsibility of development of sports, including grant of financial assistance to coaches and sportspersons, rests with the State Governments and the National Sports Federations (NSFs) which are responsible for governance of individual sports disciplines. The Central Government, through the sports development schemes implemented by it and organizations functioning under its aegis, complements and supplements the efforts of the State Governments and NSFs in this regard.

Sports Authority of India (SAI), an autonomous body under the aegis of the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, implements various sports promotional schemes.

Athletes covered under the Khelo India - National Programme for Development of Sports and Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) being implemented by the Ministry and various schemes implemented by SAI, get financial assistance as per their entitlement and norms of the respective schemes. TOPS is currently supporting 104 athletes and 2 teams (Senior Hockey Men and Women) in the TOPS Core Group while identification of 269 best sporting talents has been completed under

the TOPS Development Group. Out of Pocket Allowance (OPA) of Rs.50,000/- and Rs.25,000/- is provided for the Core Group and the Development Group respectively. Under Khelo India Scheme, 2947 budding athletes have been identified. OPA of Rs.10, 000/- per month is being provided to identified athletes under this Scheme.

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