

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS
(DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS)
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1903
ANSWERED ON - 22/12/2022

INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPATION OF INDIA IN SPORTS

1903. SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV
SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR

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

- (a) the steps currently taken/being taken by Government to increase international participation of India in the field of sports;
- (b) if so, the efforts being made by Government in this regard;
- (c) whether Government is considering the need to build new sports stadia or sports complexes to increase participation of youth in sports and to encourage them in this field and if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise; and
- (d) the schemes being implemented by Government to increase the participation of youth in sports and provide benefits/facilities to the players along with the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS

(SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)

(a) and (b): The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports (MYAS) through Sports Authority of India (SAI) have undertaken several initiatives to ensure preparations for Olympic/Paralympic Games, Asian and Commonwealth Games and to increase the participation of our sportspersons in these events. In order to improve India's performance at Olympics and Paralympics, the MYAS also implements the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) since 2014. Under TOPS, the Government extends all requisite support to probable athletes identified for the major international events, including foreign training, international competition, equipment, services of support staff/personnel like Physical Trainer, Sports Psychologist, Mental Trainer and Physiotherapist besides out of pocket allowance of Rs. 50,000/- per month to Core Group athletes and Rs. 25,000/- per month to Development Group athletes.

Preparation of Indian sportspersons and teams to increase India's participation in international sports events is an ongoing process. The Central Government supports sportspersons (which includes Seniors, Juniors and Sub-Juniors) through National Sports Federations (NSFs) for their training, foreign exposures and competitions to enable them to obtain maximum quota for participation in Olympics and enhance their chances of winning medals. High priority category

has been created to put focus on and incentivize those sports disciplines played in the Olympics in which India has won medals in the Asian Games as well as Commonwealth Games or in which India has good chance of winning medals in Olympics.

(c): Sports being a State Subject, the responsibility to promote and develop sports in the country including building of new sports stadia/sports complexes to increase participation of youth in sports is primarily with the respective State/Union Territory (UT) Governments. The Union Government supplements their efforts by bridging critical gaps. Thus, under the component “Creation and Upgradation of Sports Infrastructure” of the Khelo India Scheme, 298 sports infrastructure projects of various sports disciplines have been sanctioned to different States/UTs of the country.

(d): MYAS implements various schemes for the development of sports and provide benefits/facilities among the youth across the country, viz.:

(i) Khelo India Scheme; (ii) Assistance to National Sports Federations; (iii) Special Awards to Winners in International Sports Events and their Coaches; (iv) National Sports Awards; (v) Pension to Meritorious Sportspersons; (vi) Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay National Sports Welfare Fund; (vii) National Sports Development Fund (NSDF); and (viii) Running Sports Training Centres through Sports Authority of India.

The details of the above schemes are available in the public domain on the websites of this Ministry and the Sports Authority of India (www.yas.nic.in/sports; www.sportsauthorityofindia.nic.in).
