

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS
(DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS)
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1917
ANSWERED ON- 16/03/2023

HONOURING INDIAN CONTINGENT OF LAST COMMONWEALTH GAMES

1917. DR. SONAL MANSINGH

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

- (a) the details of awards in the form of monetary benefit/job offers given to the Indian contingent of last Commonwealth Games by various States of the country;
- (b) the details of Central Government welfare schemes for them;
- (c) whether Government has noticed that disparity is prevailing among States in honouring sportspersons of Indian contingent; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to ensure uniformity in this regard?

ANSWER

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

(a) and (b): Sports is a State subject, and each state has its own Sports Policy and Award Policy to encourage and promote sporting excellence. The Central Government also provides incentives and awards to top-performing athletes under various schemes. The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports implements the scheme of Cash Awards to Medal Winners in International Sports Events and their Coaches in which the medal winners of last Commonwealth Games under individual category were given Cash Award of Rs.30.00 lakh for Gold Medal; Rs.20.00 lakh for Silver Medal and Rs.10.00 lakh for Bronze Medal. Further, for Team Championships, the Cash Award were given as per the latest scheme criteria.

There is provision for employment in Central Government for sportspersons who represents India in the Olympics. As per the guidelines of Department of Personnel and Training (DOP&T), meritorious sportspersons, including Olympians, are eligible for appointment under Sports Quota with provision for up to 5% reservation in Group C and Group D posts in Central Government Departments. As Sports is a State subject, State Governments

have their own policies for appointment of meritorious sportspersons in the respective State Governments.

The Central Government implements the following welfare schemes for the sportspersons:

(i) Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya National Welfare Fund for Sportspersons (PDUNWFS). The Objective of the scheme is to assist outstanding sportspersons living in indigent circumstances, for medical treatment, purchase of equipment etc. Under this scheme , financial assistance ranging from Rs.2,00,000/- to Rs.10,00,000/- is provided to the sportsperson/family member as per the provisions of the scheme.

(ii) Scheme of Pension to Meritorious Sportsperson. The objective of the scheme is to provide assured monthly income through annuity for outstanding sportspersons that has become imperative due to the fact that sportspersons spend prime of their youth in pursuit of intensive training, sacrificing other beneficial opportunities normally available. The assured monthly income will be a compensation for the opportunities spurned by them in pursuit of their high ambition and achievement in sports. Under the scheme monthly pension ranging from Rs.12,000/- to Rs.20,000/- is provided to the ex-sportsperson.

(c) and (d): Since sports is a State subject, each State has its own policy and incentive system for promoting and honoring sportspersons. Therefore, it is possible that there may be some variations in the awards and incentives offered by different states. However, to ensure uniformity in recognizing and honoring the achievements of Indian sportspersons, the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India, has established several national awards such as the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award, Arjuna Award and Dronacharya Award. These awards are given to Indian athletes, coaches, and sports personalities who have made outstanding contributions in their respective fields. The selection process for these awards is based on a set of criteria and guidelines laid down by the government.
