

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS
(DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS)
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1756
ANSWERD ON- 03/08/2023

PREPARATION FOR THE UPCOMING 2024 OLYMPICS

1756 SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:

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

- (a) the details of measures being taken by Government to ensure preparation for the upcoming 2024 Olympics to be held in Paris, France;
- (b) the progress made in this respect, sport-wise;
- (c) the measures being taken for the welfare of athletes, physical and psychological; and
- (d) the proposed measures to be taken in this respect?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS

(SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)

(a) to (d): Preparations for improving the performance of the sportspersons and teams of the country in international sports events, including the Olympics, is an ongoing exercise. Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, National Sports Federations (NSFs) and Sports Authority of India (SAI) are working in close coordination for preparation and training of Indian teams and sportspersons for the Paris Olympics, 2024. The Government under the Scheme of Assistance to NSFs is providing all requisite support and facilities to the athletes to enable them to do their best in the international sporting events. "High priority" category has been created to put focus on and incentivize those sports disciplines included in the Olympics, in which India has won medals in the last Asian Games as well as the Commonwealth Games or in which India has good chance of winning medals.

Further, in order to improve India's performance at Olympics and Paralympics, the Ministry is also implementing the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) since 2014. Under The 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 the Core Group athletes and Rs.25,000/- per month to the Development Group athletes.

At present, 103 individual athletes and 2 hockey teams (Men & Women) as part of the Core Group have been selected under the scheme. Under the Development Group to ensure a focused approach in India's Olympic preparation the talent identification of 166 best sporting talents has been completed. The TOPS Development Group athletes are receiving OPA of Rs.25,000/- and customized training support at National Centre of Excellence (NCOE), operated by SAI.

Mental health professionals such as Psychologists are also engaged with the Indian players during National Coaching camps, international exposures/ competitions and at the NCOEs.
