

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2235
ANSWERED ON - 06/08/2026

PROMOTION OF SPORTS AND ATHLETE WELFARE

2235 # SHRI BRIJ LAL:
DR. PARMAR JASHVANTSINH SALAMSINH:
SMT. MAYA NAROLIYA:
SHRI SHAMBHU SHARAN PATEL:
DR. SANDEEP KUMAR PATHAK:
SHRI SADANAND MHALU SHET TANAVADE:

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

- (a) the current status of Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS), including number of athletes supported under the Core and Development Groups, sport-wise and State-wise;
- (b) the details of financial assistance, sports science support, international exposure, coaching and other assistance being extended to athletes under TOPS , Khelo India;
- (c) the measures taken to strengthen participation of women, rural and tribal sportspersons, para-athletes through initiatives such as ASMITA, Khelo India and Sports Authority of India training centres; and
- (d) whether Government has prepared a long-term roadmap to expand high-performance support, athlete welfare and talent development for 2032 and 2036 Olympic Games and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS

(DR. MANSUKH MANDAVIYA)

(a) to (c) Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) is the Government's flagship programme for enhancing India's medal prospects at the Olympic and Paralympic Games. Details of elite sportspersons supported under TOPS are at Annexure-I, while the list of 62 para-athletes inducted under TOPS is at Annexure-II.

During the current session, 90 para-athletes have been inducted under the Khelo India Scheme. Para Sports are being supported through the National Centres of Excellence (NCOEs), the details of which are attached at Annexure-V.

A total of 2,786 athletes are supported under the Khelo India Scheme. State-wise details are at Annexure-III, and discipline-wise details are at Annexure-IV.

Further, the Sports Authority of India (SAI) implements the NCOEs, SAI Training Centres (STCs)

including Extension Centres, and National Sports Talent Contest (NSTC), including Adopted Akharas, for identification and development of sporting talent. The sanctioned strength is 4,384 athletes under NCOEs and 4,824 athletes under STCs.

Further, 174 Khelo India Centres (KICs) are operational across 174 priority tribal districts, supporting 647 female and 664 male athletes.

To promote women's participation in sports, the Khelo India ASMITA League, launched in 2021, has conducted over 3,500 leagues across 700 cities in 38 disciplines, with participation of over 6 lakh women athletes. Additionally, over 450 ASMITA leagues have been conducted across 170 tribal districts in 30 States/UTs, covering 32 disciplines.

Selection of athletes, including women, rural, tribal and para-athletes, for competitions is the prerogative of the concerned National Sports Federation (NSF) as per its selection policy.

Under TOPS, para-athletes in the Core Group receive a monthly Out-of-Pocket Allowance (OPA) of ₹50,000, while the identified Khelo India Athletes receive ₹10,000 per month under the Khelo India Scheme.

(d) The Government has adopted a comprehensive approach to improve India's performance in major international sporting events, including the Olympic Games, through talent identification, world-class coaching and training, modern sports infrastructure, sports science and medical support, international exposure, and financial assistance under schemes such as TOPS, Assistance to NSFs, Khelo India, and NCOEs

ANNEXURE-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) to (c) OF THE RAJYA SABHA QUESTION NO.2235 FOR 06.08.2026 ASKED BY SHRI BRIJ LAL, DR. PARMAR JASHVANTSINH SALAMSINH, SMT. MAYA NAROLIYA, SHRI SHAMBHU SHARAN PATEL, DR. SANDEEP KUMAR PATHAK AND SHRI SADANAND MHALU SHET TANAVADE REGARDING “PROMOTION OF SPORTS AND ATHLETE WELFARE”.

Athletes under TOPS (Core & Development Group)

Number of Athletes	State/UT	Discipline	Inclusion Type
2	Andhra Pradesh	Archery	Core
2	Delhi		
1	Haryana		
2	Maharashtra		
1	Punjab		
2	West Bengal		
1	Haryana	Athletics	
1	Kerala		
1	Maharashtra		
3	Uttar Pradesh		
1	Goa	Badminton	
1	Kerala		
1	Maharashtra		
1	Punjab		
3	Telangana		
1	Uttarakhand		
1	Assam	Boxing	
3	Haryana		
1	Maharashtra		
1	Rajasthan		
1	Telangana		
1	Chandigarh	Shooting	
1	Gujarat		
4	Haryana		
1	Madhya Pradesh		
2	Maharashtra		
1	Punjab		
1	Telangana		
1	Uttar Pradesh		
1	Delhi		
2	Gujarat		
1	Maharashtra		
1	Telangana		
1	Manipur	Weightlifting	

5	Haryana	Wrestling		
3	Chandigarh	Hockey		
1	Gujarat			
17	Haryana			
5	Jharkhand			
2	Karnataka			
3	Madhya Pradesh			
5	Maharashtra			
4	Manipur			
2	Mizoram			
7	Odisha			
12	Punjab			
1	Tamil Nadu			
8	Uttar Pradesh			
1	Uttarakhand			
1	Chandigarh		Archery	Development
3	Haryana			
2	Jharkhand			
3	Maharashtra	Archery	Development	
1	Punjab			
2	Uttar Pradesh			
1	West Bengal			
2	Andhra Pradesh			
1	Chattisgarh	Athletics		Development
1	Delhi			
4	Haryana			
1	Karnataka			
5	Kerala			
1	Maharashtra			
1	Odisha			
2	Punjab			
1	Rajasthan			
9	Tamil Nadu			
2	Telangana	Athletics	Development	
4	Uttar Pradesh			
2	Andhra Pradesh			Badminton

1	Chhatisgarh				
1	Delhi				
3	Haryana				
1	Hyderabad				
1	Karnataka				
1	Madhya Pradesh				
1	Maharashtra				
1	Odisha				
1	Punjab				
1	Tamil Nadu				
1	Telangana				
1	Uttar Pradesh				
1	Assam				
1	Delhi	Boxing	Development		
1	Gujarat				
14	Haryana				
2	Himachal Pradesh				
1	Punjab				
4	Rajasthan				
1	Uttar Pradesh				
1	Chandigarh	Shooting		Development	
2	Delhi				
7	Haryana				
2	Karnataka				
1	Kerala				
2	Madhya Pradesh				
1	Maharastra				
3	Punjab	Shooting	Development		
2	Rajasthan				
1	Tamilnadu				
2	Uttar Pradesh				
1	West Bengal				
1	Maharashtra	Squash			Development
1	New Delhi				
1	Tamil Nadu				
1	Maharashtra	Swimming			
4	Haryana	Rowing			
1	Kerela				
3	Maharashtra				
1	Manipur				
6	Punjab				

2	Rajasthan		Development
4	Uttar Pradesh		
1	Uttarkhand		
1	Karnataka	Table Tennis	
1	West Bengal		
1	Chandigarh	Wrestling	
6	Delhi		
15	Haryana		
1	Madhya Pradesh		

Target Asian Games Group (TAGG)

Number of Athletes	State/UT	Discipline
1	Delhi	Table Tennis (Youth)
1	Karnataka	
3	Maharashtra	
1	Odisha	
3	Tamil Nadu	
6	West Bengal	
1	Delhi	Golf
1	Haryana	
2	Karnataka	
1	Maharashtra	Sailing
1	Tamil Nadu	
1	Haryana	Fencing
1	Tamil Nadu	
1	Delhi	Equestrian
2	Haryana	
1	Karnataka	
3	Maharashtra	
1	Rajasthan	
1	Telangana	Equestrian
1	West Bengal	
1	Andhra Pradesh	Archery
2	Haryana	
4	Maharashtra	
1	Telangana	Archery
1	Kolkata	Squash
2	Tamil Nadu	
1	Gujarat	Swimming
3	Karnataka	
1	Tamil Nadu	
1	Haryana	Boxing
1	Arunachal Pradesh	Taekwondo
1	Assam	
2	West Bengal	Gymnastics
1	Himachal Pradesh	Judo
1	Kerala	Kayaking & Canoeing
2	Manipur	
2	Rajasthan	Cycling

1	Karnataka	Surfing
1	Tamil Nadu	Surfing
1	Gujarat	Tennis
1	Karnataka	
4	Maharashtra	
2	New Delhi	
2	Tamil Nadu	
5	Telangana	
3	Haryana	Wrestling

ANNEXURE-II

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) to (c) OF THE RAJYA SABHA QUESTION NO.2235 FOR 06.08.2026 ASKED BY SHRI BRIJ LAL, DR. PARMAR JASHVANTSINH SALAMSINH, SMT. MAYA NAROLIYA, SHRI SHAMBHU SHARAN PATEL, DR. SANDEEP KUMAR PATHAK AND SHRI SADANAND MHALU SHET TANAVADE REGARDING “PROMOTION OF SPORTS AND ATHLETE WELFARE”.

List of 62 Para-Athletes currently supported under TOPS

Sn no	State	No. of Athletes
1	J&K	2
2	Andhra Pradesh	1
3	Bihar	2
4	Chhattisgarh	1
5	Delhi	1
6	Gujarat	3
7	Haryana	15
8	Himachal Pradesh	1
9	Karnataka	1
10	Kerala	1
11	Madhya Pradesh	3
12	Maharashtra	5
13	Meghalaya	1
14	Nagaland	1
15	Odisha	1
16	Punjab	1
17	Rajasthan	7
18	Tamil Nadu	6
19	Telangana	1
20	Uttar Pradesh	5
21	Uttarakhand	3

ANNEXURE-III

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) to (c) OF THE RAJYA SABHA QUESTION NO.2235 FOR 06.08.2026 ASKED BY SHRI BRIJ LAL, DR. PARMAR JASHVANTSINH SALAMSINH, SMT. MAYA NAROLIYA, SHRI SHAMBHU SHARAN PATEL, DR. SANDEEP KUMAR PATHAK AND SHRI SADANAND MHALU SHET TANAVADE REGARDING “PROMOTION OF SPORTS AND ATHLETE WELFARE”.

State-wise Khelo India Athletes

SN	State/UT	Total
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	7
2	Andhra Pradesh	57
3	Arunachal Pradesh	17
4	Assam	51
5	Bihar	19
6	Chandigarh	33
7	Chhattisgarh	34
8	Daman & Diu	1
9	Delhi	137
10	Goa	4
11	Gujarat	73
12	Haryana	534
13	Himachal Pradesh	31
14	Jammu & Kashmir	16
15	Jharkhand	46
16	Karnataka	148
17	Kerala	101
18	Ladakh	1
19	Lakshadweep	1
20	Madhya Pradesh	82
21	Maharashtra	286
22	Manipur	138
23	Meghalaya	6
24	Mizoram	12
25	Nagaland	3
26	Odisha	80
27	Puducherry	9
28	Punjab	146
29	Rajasthan	154
30	Sikkim	0
31	Tamil Nadu	172
32	Telangana	56

33	Tripura	3
34	Uttar Pradesh	182
35	Uttarakhand	43
36	West Bengal	103
Total		2786

ANNEXURE-IV

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) to (c) OF THE RAJYA SABHA QUESTION NO.2235 FOR 06.08.2026 ASKED BY SHRI BRIJ LAL, DR. PARMAR JASHVANTSINH SALAMSINH, SMT. MAYA NAROLIYA, SHRI SHAMBHU SHARAN PATEL, DR. SANDEEP KUMAR PATHAK AND SHRI SADANAND MHALU SHET TANAVADE REGARDING “PROMOTION OF SPORTS AND ATHLETE WELFARE”.

Discipline-wise Khelo India Athletes

SN	Discipline	Grand Total
1	Archery	152
2	Athletics	173
3	Badminton	133
4	Basketball	67
5	Boxing	146
6	Cycling	125
7	Fencing	149
8	Football	117
9	Gymnastics	88
10	Hockey	190
11	Judo	138
12	Kabaddi	100
13	Para Sports	80
14	Rowing	110
15	Shooting	216
16	Swimming	148
17	Table Tennis	118
18	Tennis	99
19	Volleyball	119
20	Weightlifting	144
21	Wrestling	174
Total		2786

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Details of Para Sports supported through NCOEs

Name of NCOE	Disciplines
Alleppey	Para Kayaking & Canoeing
Trivandrum	Para Athletics & Para Taekwondo
Aurangabad	Para Archery & Para Fencing
Bangalore	Para Athletics
Bhopal	Blind Judo & Para Canoeing
Gandhinagar	Para Athletics Para Badminton Wheelchair Fencing Para Powerlifting Para Swimming Para Table Tennis
Kolkata	Para Archery & Para Athletics
Lucknow	Para Powerlifting & Para Taekwondo
Patiala	Para Cycling
Sonepat	Para Archery
Indira Gandhi Stadium	Para Cycling
Dr. Karni Singh Shooting Range	Para Shooting
