

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
(DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS)
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2262
ANSWERED ON 20/12/2022**

Classifying of Para-athletes

2262.SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY:

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

(a) the details of the number of national and international certified classifiers who have been trained to classify para-athletes for their intellectual, physical and vision impairment;

(b) whether there is a lack of qualified classifiers, both national and international in the country;

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to increase the number of national and international classifiers in the country;

(d) whether the Government has established a robust education system that prepares international classifiers in the country and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of the kind of support extended by the Government to para-athletes when they go abroad for getting classified?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
(SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)**

(a) The number of national and international certified classifiers who have been trained to classify para-athletes for their intellectual, physical and vision impairment are as under:

S. No.	Discipline and Level of Classifiers	No. of Classifiers
1	Para Athletics – Physical Impairment - National Classifiers	7
2	Para Athletics – Intellectual Impairment – International Classifier	1
3	Para Swimming – National Classifier	1
4	Para Swimming – International Classifier	1
5	Para Shooting – National Classifier	1
6	Para Badminton	3

(b) Yes Sir, there is a lack of qualified classifiers, both International and national, in the country.

(c) & (d): The first International Paralympic Committee (IPC) Educational Course for certification of classifiers, coaches and technical officials was organized at the Sports Authority of India (SAI) Centre, Gandhinagar, in December 2017 by the Paralympic Committee of India (PCI), which is the recognized National Sports Federation (NSF) for para sports, with the support of the Ministry and the SAI.

The Ministry under Human Resources Development in Sports Scheme provides assistance to the National Sports Federations, including the PCI, towards coach development/ classifiers.

(e) The PCI, being the recognized NSF for para sports, selects the players, which includes classified and non-classified para athletes based on Minimum Qualifying Standards (MQS) for participation in international events. During some of these international events, international classification is also done. A list of international sports events in which Indian para-athletes participate and get classified is approved as part of the Annual Calendar for Training & Competitions (ACTC) in consultation with PCI. International sports events included in ACTC are supported under the Ministry's Scheme of Assistance to NSFs.
