

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS
(DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS)**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4395
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.03.2023**

Financial Assistance To Talented Sportspersons

†4395. SHRI VIVEK NARAYAN SHEJWALKAR:

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

(a) whether the Government provides financial assistance to talented sportspersons to impart them coaching from international level coaches to upgrade their play at the international level; and

(b) the number of sportspersons benefited from the said facility from Madhya Pradesh particularly in Gwalior and Shivpuri districts?

ANSWER

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

(a): Yes, Sir. Under the Scheme of Assistance to National Sports Federations (NSF), the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports provides the recognized NSFs with financial assistance towards training of Sportspersons/athletes, which includes all requisite facilities for their preparations including wholesome nutritious diet, food supplements, equipment support, state-of-the-art infrastructure, lodging, travelling facilities, services of reputed Indian and Foreign Coaches/supporting staff, scientific & medical support, sports kit, OPA (Out of Pocket Allowance) etc. besides financial assistance for their training abroad and participation in international competitions in India and abroad.

Under the 'Scheme of Cash Award to the medal winners for winning medals in International events, and their Coaches', cash awards are given to incentivize the achievements of outstanding sportspersons, based on their meritorious performance in the International Competitions, such as Olympics Games, Paralympics Games, Asian Games, Para Asian Games, Commonwealth Games, World Cup/

Championships, Asian Championships, Commonwealth Championships etc.

Further, under the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS), the Government provides assistance to India's top athletes in their preparations for Olympic and Paralympic Games. Out of pocket allowance (OPA) is paid Rs. 50,000/- per month to Core group athletes. Apart from OPA, entire expenditure for the training plan submitted by such sportsperson, which is considered and approved by Mission Olympic Cell (MOC), is met under TOPS. Also, under TOPS Development Group, athletes are given OPA of Rs. 25,000/- per month and customized training support at National Centre of Excellence (NCOEs).

Moreover, under the Khelo India scheme, talented athletes selected from various avenues, like Khelo India Games, National Championships conducted by the respective National Sports Federations (NSFs), etc. in 21 sports disciplines (including para sports) are provided sports scholarship in the form of financial assistance of Rs. 10,000 /- Per month as Out of Pocket allowance (OPA). Additionally, an athlete is also entitled for Rs. 5,00,000/- per annum for training purposes, including funding for coaching/sports science/management, diet charges, lodging charges, kitting, Insurance & Medical expense, if he/she opts to train in an accredited Khelo India academy.

(b):The number of sportspersons who benefited from the said facility from Madhya Pradesh particularly in Gwalior and Shivpuri districts, is as mentioned below:

S.No.	Name of the Athlete	Discipline	District	State
1	AishwaryaPratapTomar	Shooting	Khargone	Madhya Pradesh
2	Chinki Yadav		Bhopal	
3	Shreya Agrawal		Jabalpur	
4	PriyanshuRajawat	Badminton	Dhar	
5	Amit Kumar	Archery	Jabalpur	
6	Soniya Thakur		Mandla	
7	Prachi Yadav	Para Canoe	Gwalior	