

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

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1774
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.11.2019**

National Sports Award to Sportspersons

**†1774. SHRI VISHNU DATT SHARMA :
SHRI REBATI TRIPURA :
SHRI DHANUSH M. KUMAR :
SHRI VIJAY KUMAR DUBEY :
SHRIMATI SANDHYA RAY :
SHRI SUBRAT PATHAK :
SHRI SELVAM G. :**

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

(a) the number of sportspersons who have been shortlisted and given National Sports Award for the year 2019 by the Selection Committee;

(b) whether the Government has also awarded special honours and cash award to sportspersons who have brought glory to the country and if so, the amount of cash award announced and given to sportspersons during each of the last three years and the current year;

(c) whether there is any scheme for providing assistance for livelihood to these sportspersons after their retirement or at elderly age;

(d) if so, the number of sportspersons benefited so far from this scheme;

(e) if not, whether the Government proposes to work out any such scheme in the future and if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the other steps taken by the Government for the welfare of sportspersons in the country?

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
[KIREN RIJIJU]

(a) : Information relating to number of sportspersons shortlisted for Sports Awards by the Selection Committee and of sportspersons given awards is as below :-

S. No.	Name of Sports Award	No. of Sports Persons Shortlisted	No. of Sports Persons given Awards
1	Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award	06	02
2	Dronacharya Award (Regular Category)	06	03
3	Dronacharya Award (Life Time category)	07	03
4	Arjuna Award	36	19
5	Dhyan Chand Award	08	05
6	Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar Award	09	03
7	Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (MAKA) Trophy	04	01

(b) : Cash award is given to the sportspersons for winning medals in international sports events under 'The Special Awards to Medal winners in International Sports events and their Coaches Scheme'. The information relating to the amount of cash award given to sportspersons during each of the last three years and the current year (as on 25.11.2019) are as under :

S. No.	Year	No. of Sportspersons/ coaches	Amount (in Rs.)
1	2016-17	854	20,95,82,321
2	2017-18	489	11,60,12,500
3	2018-19	307	24,86,20,000
4	2019-20	502	41,68,34,000

(c): Yes Sir. Ministry is implementing the Scheme of 'Pension to Meritorious Sportspersons' for providing lifelong monthly pension to medal winners of Olympic Games, Asian Games, Commonwealth Games, etc. after they retire from active sports and the Scheme of 'Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay National Welfare Fund for Sportspersons' (PDUNWFS) for providing financial assistance to sportspersons of yesteryears now living in indigent circumstances.

(d) : At present, 627 sportspersons are getting lifelong pension ranging from Rs.12000-20000 per month under the Scheme of 'Pension to Meritorious Sportspersons'. Details of financial assistance given to sportspersons under PDUNWFS scheme during last 3 years and the current years (as on 25.11.2019) are as under :

S. No.	Year	Number of sportspersons given assistance	Amount (in Rs.)
1	2016-17	03	12,85,000
2	2017-18	06	25,37,500
3	2018-19	12	66,00,000
4	2019-20	12	49,32,415

(e) : Does not arise.

(f) : Other steps taken by the Government for welfare of the sportspersons include the facility of complimentary card passes given by Ministry of Railways to Arjuna Awardees, Dronacharya Awardees etc., which entitle them lifelong free rail travel for self and for companion on attaining the age of 65 years and provision of upto 5% reservation in direct recruitment in Group 'C' posts for meritorious sportspersons in Central Government.
