

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

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.826  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.02.2020**

**Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS)**

**826. SHRI UNMESH BHAIYYASAHEB PATIL:**

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

**(a) whether the Government runs Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) and if so, the details thereof;**

**(b) whether measures are undertaken to provide financial and infrastructural support to Indian athletes who will compete in the Tokyo Olympics, 2020 and if so, the details thereof; and**

**(c) whether measures are undertaken to provide mental health support to the athletes and if so, the details thereof?**

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

**(a) & (b): Yes Sir. Preparation of Indian sportspersons / teams for international events is an ongoing process. Government provides assistance to elite sportspersons preparing for major international events such as Olympic Games, Asian Games, Commonwealth Games etc. through its scheme of Scheme of Assistance to National Sports Federations (NSFs).**

**In order to improve India's performance at Olympics and Paralympics, the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (MYAS) is also implementing Target**

**Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) since 2014. Under TOPS, the Government is extending all requisite support to probable athletes identified for the 2020 Olympic Games and Paralympic Games 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.**

**At present, 97 athletes across 13 sports disciplines for the Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics 2020 are included in TOPS.**

**With an aim to provide the athletes with the best of the ecosystem for their Pre-Games Training, reaching 15-20 days in advance to help our athletes to acclimatize and give their best performance. In this regard, Pre-Games Venue for Archery & Weightlifting in Tokyo have been booked for the Olympics 2020.**

**(c): Yes sir. Athlete Education workshops are being organized for the athletes on regular basis, that covers various aspects such as handling competition pressure, developing confidence, improving focus and concentration, interaction with press and general conduct. In addition, services of Mental Trainers and Psychologists are also being provided to athletes on requirement basis under TOPS.**

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