

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS  
(DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS)  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.588  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.02.2021**

**Junior Target Olympic Podium Scheme**

**588. SHRI HIBI EDEN:**

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

**(a) the current status of the scheme Junior Target Olympic Podium Scheme (J-TOPS) 2020-2021;**

**(b) whether the said scheme has been successful if so, the details thereof;**

**(c) whether measures have been taken to provide livelihood to athletes and sportsperson during the period of corona, during which all sports events in the country are put on hold; and**

**(d) if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

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

**(a) & (b): The existing Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) covers the junior and sub-junior athletes also. The young upcoming athletes categorised as Development Group under the TOPS are being groomed for Paris 2024 and Los Angeles 2028 Olympics Games. Under the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS), athletes deemed strong probables for the future Olympic Games Paris 2024 and LA 2028 are being identified for support under TOPS Development Group.**

**The talent identification of 269 best sporting talents has been completed for under mentioned 12 disciplines under TOPS Development Group for 2024 Paris Games and 2028 Los Angeles Games:**

<b>1. Archery</b>	<b>7. Rowing</b>
<b>2. Athletics</b>	<b>8. Shooting</b>
<b>3. Badminton</b>	<b>9. Swimming</b>
<b>4. Boxing</b>	<b>10. Table Tennis</b>
<b>5. Cycling</b>	<b>11. Weightlifting</b>
<b>6. Judo</b>	<b>12. Wrestling</b>

**TOPS Development Group athlete receive OPA of Rs. 25,000/- and customized training support at National Centre of Excellences (NCOEs) for preparation of 2024 Paris Games and 2028 Los Angeles Games. Scheme has been successful in providing assistance to athletes who have been found as probable medal winners. The TOP Scheme was initiated in the year 2014. In Commonwealth Games 2018, out of 66 medals won, 48 medals were secured by TOPS athletes. Similarly, in Asian Games 2018, 44 medals out of 69, were secured by TOPS athletes. Further, in Asian Para Games 2018, 18 out of 72 medals were secured by the TOPS athletes.**

**(c) & (d): Yes, Sir. 177 athletes covered under TOPS were provided Out of Pocket Allowance (OPA) of Rs.50,000/- & Rs.25,000/- respectively for core group and development group. Under Khelo India Scheme the identified budding athletes continued to get Rs. 10,000/- per month as Out of Pocket Allowance (OPA) during the period of Corona. Under Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay National Welfare Fund for sportspersons, financial help of Rs.1,01,30,000/- to 25 athletes/ former athletes/ coaches were provided, from March 2020 onwards, who were found to be living in poor condition.**

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