

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2658  
ANSWERED ON 14.12.2021**

**Financial Assistance to Sports Persons**

**2658.SHRI PRADYUT BORDOLOI:**

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

- (a) whether the Government is considering any additional financial support to sports persons above and beyond the 5 lakhs p.a guaranteed by the Khelo India scheme, if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the Government ever conducted a survey to ask the sportspersons the facilities and financial assistance improvements they need to perform better in view of future sporting events; and**
- (c) if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS  
{ SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR }**

**(a) Under the “Support to National/Regional/State Sports Academies” vertical of the Khelo India Scheme, financial assistance of ₹ 6,28,400/-, including ₹ 1,20,000/- as Out of Pocket Allowance (OPA), per annum per athlete, is provided to the accredited academies for training of the Khelo India Athletes. Under the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS), the Government provides assistance to India’s top athletes in their preparations for Olympics and Paralympics. An OPA of ₹ 50,000/- per month is paid to the Core Group athletes. Apart from OPA, entire expenditure for the training plan submitted by the sportsperson is met under TOPS. Further, TOPS Development Group athletes receive an OPA of ₹ 25,000/- and customised training support at National Centres of Excellence.**

**(b) and (c) No specific survey has been conducted. However, as a part of interactions of officers of the Ministry and the Sports Authority of India with sportspersons during meetings and other occasions, feedback and views of the sportspersons are solicited and are taken into account while taking decisions and reviewing policies/schemes concerning sports facilities, training, competitions, financial assistance, etc.**

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