

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

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 421  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 30.11.2021**

**National Sports Awards**

**421. DR. AMOL RAMSING KOLHE:  
DR. DNV SENTHILKUMAR. S.:  
DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE:  
SHRI SUNIL DATTATRAY TATKARE:  
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:  
SHRI KULDEEP RAI SHARMA:**

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

**(a) the details of the number of sportspersons who have been shortlisted and given Khel Ratna National Sports Awards for the year 2021 by the Selection Committee;**

**(b) the details of norms formulated/criteria fixed for selection of sportspersons for receiving National Sports Awards;**

**(c) whether the Government has also awarded special honours and cash award to sportspersons who have brought glory to the country;**

**(d) if so, the amount of cash award announced and given to sportspersons during each of the last three years and the current year;**

**(e) whether the Government is providing any assistance for livelihood to sportsperson after their retirement or at elderly age, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and**

**(f) the details of facilities provided to sports persons under Khelo India Programme during each of the last three years and the current year?**

**ANSWER**  
**THE MINISTER FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS**  
**[SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR]**

**(a) Sir, the details of sportspersons who have been given the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award for the year 2021 are:**

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Name of the sportsperson (S/Shri)</b>	<b>Discipline</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Neeraj Chopra</b>	<b>Athletics</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Ravi Kumar</b>	<b>Wrestling</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Ms Lovlina Borgohain</b>	<b>Boxing</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Sreejesh P. R.</b>	<b>Hockey</b>
<b>5.</b>	<b>Ms Avani Lekhara</b>	<b>Para Shooting</b>
<b>6.</b>	<b>Sumit Antil</b>	<b>Para Athletics</b>
<b>7.</b>	<b>Pramod Bhagat</b>	<b>Para Badminton</b>
<b>8.</b>	<b>Krishna Nagar</b>	<b>Para Badminton</b>
<b>9.</b>	<b>Manish Narwal</b>	<b>Para Shooting</b>
<b>10.</b>	<b>Ms Mithali Raj</b>	<b>Cricket</b>
<b>11.</b>	<b>Sunil Chhetri</b>	<b>Football</b>
<b>12.</b>	<b>Manpreet Singh</b>	<b>Hockey</b>

**(b): The details of norms formulated/criteria fixed for selection of sportspersons for receiving various National Sports Awards are at Annexure-I.**

**(c) and (d): Yes, the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports gives cash awards to sportspersons for their winning medals in international**

**sports events in the form of incentive under the ‘Cash Awards to medal winners in international sports events and their coaches’ scheme.**

**The amount of cash award given to sportspersons during each of the last three years and the current year (as on 26.11.2021) is :**

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Number of sportspersons given cash award</b>	<b>Total amount of cash award (in crore Rs.)</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>2018-19</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>Rs. 24.86 crore</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>2019-20</b>	<b>599</b>	<b>Rs. 44.96 crore</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>2020-21</b>	<b>393</b>	<b>Rs. 15.48 crore</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>Rs. 16.41 crore</b>

**(e) Yes, sir. This Ministry is providing assistance for livelihood to sportspersons after their retirement in the form of monthly pension under the scheme ‘Sports Fund for Pension to Meritorious Sportspersons’.**

**Under the scheme, sportspersons who are Indian citizens and have won medals in Olympic Games, Commonwealth Games, Asian Games and World Cup / World Championship (in Olympic and Asian Games disciplines) and Paralympic Games, are given lifelong monthly pension ranging from Rs. 12,000/- to 20,000/-, after they attain the age of 30 years or retire from active sports, whichever is later. The pension payments are made through Life Insurance Corporation(LIC) of India, for which Ministry purchases annuities for individual pensioners by making onetime lump sum payment to LIC.**

**At present, 821 sportspersons are getting lifelong pension under the scheme.**

**(f) Under the Khelo India Scheme implemented by the Sports Authority of India (SAI), there are various verticals which provide elaborate facilities to sportspersons:**

**(i) The ‘Talent Search and Development’ verticals of the Scheme is for identification and nurturing sporting talent to attain excellence at international levels.**

**(ii) As of now, 2964 Khelo India Athletes (KIAs) selected in 21 disciplines including para sports are being trained at 237 academies accredited across the country, under the 'Support to National / Regional / State Sports Academies' vertical of the Scheme. A sum of Rs.6.28 lakh per annum per athlete is being provided to these academies as assistance.**

**(iii) 28 centres in 27 states / UTs are being upgraded to international standard with financial support for manpower, sports equipment, sports science etc. under the vertical 'State Level Khelo India Centres' of the Scheme as 'Khelo India States Centre of Excellence'.**

**(iv) All centres notified as Khelo India Centres are eligible to receive Rs.5 lakh per discipline as one time grant and Rs.5 lakh per discipline as recurring grant. As of now, 453 Khelo India Centres across the country have been established.**

**(v) Khelo India Scheme also promotes rural / indigenous and tribal games providing support to Mallakhamb, Kalaripayattu, Gatka and Thang-Ta, and 283 medal winners of these games have received scholarship (Rs.10 lakh per month per athlete) until the first quarter of the current year.**

**(vi) 267 infrastructure projects for sports have also been sanctioned under the Khelo India Scheme all over the country.**

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## **ANNEXURE-I**

**Annexure referred to in reply to part (b) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 421 for answer on 30.11.2021 regarding National Sports Awards by DR. AMOL RAMSING KOLHE, DR. DNV SENTHILKUMAR. S., DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE, SHRI SUNIL DATTATRAY TATKARE, SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE, SHRI KULDEEP RAI SHARMA.**

**(A) Scheme for the Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award (Amended as on 6.8.2021):**

**The spectacular and most outstanding performance in the field of sports by a sportsperson over a period of four years immediately preceding the year during which award is to be given shall be honoured with the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award for excellence in Sports & Games at international level i.e. Olympic / Asian / Commonwealth / World Games / Championships / World Cup and equivalent recognized international tournaments. During the years when Olympic Games, Commonwealth and Asian Games are held, achievements of the sportspersons in these Games and other abovementioned tournaments upto the conclusion of the Olympic Games / Commonwealth Games / Asian Games, as the case may be, will also be considered.**

**(B) Scheme for the Arjuna Awards for outstanding performance in sports and games (amended as on 7.9.2018)**

**To be eligible for the Award, a sportsperson should have had not only good performance over the previous four years at the International level but also should have shown qualities of leadership, sportsmanship and a sense of discipline. During the years when Olympic Games, Commonwealth and Asian Games are held, achievements of the sportspersons in these Games and other international tournaments upto the conclusion of the Olympic Games / Commonwealth Games / Asian Games, as the case may be, will also be considered.**

**The Government will only consider conferring Arjuna Award in the disciplines falling under following categories:**

- a) Olympic Games / Asian Games / Commonwealth Games / World Cup / Word Championship disciplines and cricket or any equivalent recognized international Tournament.**

- b) Indigenous Games.**
- c) Sports for physically challenged.**

**(C) Scheme for Dronacharya Award for outstanding coaches in Sports and Games (amended as on 7.9.2018):**

**To be eligible for the award, coach, whether he / she works full time or part time as coach, he / she should have produced outstanding achievement over a period of four years immediately preceding the year in which the award is to be given. During the years when Olympic Games, Commonwealth and Asian Games are held, achievements of the sportspersons, who have been imparted coaching, upto conclusion of these Games will also be considered. Nominated coach will have to submit details of periods for which he / she coached the disciple(s) in question against whose performance he / she is seeking the Award. The Ministry reserves the right to seek affidavit from the sportsperson concerned where it is found that more than one coach is claiming credit for achievements of a sportsperson.**

**For 2 awards earmarked for lifetime contribution in coaching, achievements of the coach in producing outstanding sportspersons over a period of 20 years or more will be taken into account.**

**Sportspersons who have already been conferred with Dhyanchand Award will not be eligible to apply for Dronacharya Award.**

**(D) Scheme for the Dhyanchand Award for Lifetime achievement in sports and games (amended as on 03.02.2016):**

**To be eligible for the Award, a sportsperson should have had not only good performance at international level but also should have continued to contribute to promotion of sports in his individual capacity even after his career as a sportsperson is over. A sportsperson should also have shown qualities of leadership, sportsmanship and sense of discipline.**

**Sportspersons who have already been conferred either with Major Dhyanchand Khel Ratna (earlier Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna), Arjuna Award or Dronacharya Award will not be eligible to apply for Dhyanchand Award.**

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