

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1015
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.12.2024**

Preparing Athletes for Global Competitions

**†1015. SHRI LUMBA RAM:
SHRI DULU MAHATO:
SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:**

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

- (a) the details of various steps being taken by the Government to provide financial support, training and international exposure to prepare athletes for global competitions;**
- (b) whether the Government proposes to set up a national level sports academy to provide specialized training in specific sports, if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) the number of National Centers of Excellence built by the Government in the country at present; and**
- (d) whether the Government is contemplating to increase their number so that necessary sports facilities can be provided to the players and if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
(DR. MANSUKH MANDAVIYA)**

- (a) The primary responsibility of promotion and development of specific sports disciplines is that of the concerned NSF. Government of India is providing financial assistance to the recognized National Sports Federations (NSFs) for preparation and participation of the Indian Athletes / Teams.**

Preparation for International events is an ongoing and continuous process. Plans/Proposals of the NSFs relating to training, competitive exposure, Coaches and support personnel including foreign coaches, for preparing sportspersons/teams for the international sporting events are deliberated and finalized in the Annual Calendar for Training and Competition (ACTC) meetings.

The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports supports the Indian sportspersons/teams through various schemes, such as Scheme of Assistance to National Sports Federations and Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS). The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, the NSFs, including the Indian Olympic Association (IOA), and the Sports Authority of India (SAI) are working in close coordination for providing best facilities, training, equipment support as also a wholesome nutritious diet required for preparation of the teams and sportspersons for the forthcoming international sports events, including Olympics.

Under the TOPS, the Government extends all requisite support to probable athletes identified for the major international events, 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 to the Core Group athletes and Rs.25,000/- per month to the Development Group athletes.

(b) No Sir. However, at present under the Khelo India Scheme, 301 Khelo India Accredited Academies are being supported across the country.

(c) At present, 22 National Centres of Excellence (NCOEs) are functional across the country under Sports Authority of India.

(d) Currently, there is no proposal under consideration to increase the number of National Centres of Excellence (NCOEs).
