

**Government of India  
Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports  
Department of Sports**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2194  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.12.2024**

**Welfare of Athletes**

**2194. Dr. Jayanta Kumar Roy:**

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

**(a) whether the Government has taken steps to support the athletes for training and participation in sports competitions; and**

**(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?**

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS  
[DR. MANSUKH MANDAVIYA]**

**(a) and (b): "Sports" being a State subject, the responsibility of promotion and development of sports, including providing training facilities and resources to athletes and coaches, rests primarily with the respective State Governments. However, the Central Government (Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports) supplements their efforts through its various schemes.**

**Under the Scheme of Assistance to National Sports Federations (NSFs), the Government provides financial assistance to the recognized NSFs for preparation and participation of the Indian Athletes/Teams. However, 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.**

**Under the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (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 ₹50,000/- per month to the Core Group athletes and ₹25,000/- per month to the Development Group athletes.**

**Under the Khelo India Scheme, national-level competitions, i.e., Khelo India Youth Games, held annually for athletes under 18, offering a large-scale platform for young athletes and the Khelo India University Games, which focuses on enhancing sports performance among university-level athletes are held for high priority/priority/other sports disciplines. In addition, the Khelo India Winter Games, are organized for winter sports in regions like Jammu & Kashmir and Leh-Ladakh; and the Khelo India Para Games promotes inclusiveness by creating opportunities for athletes with disabilities. Through these events, 2,781 Khelo India Athletes (KIAs) have been identified and supported across 21 sports disciplines, including para-sports. These athletes receive high-quality training in 301 accredited academies.**

**Besides, Sports Authority of India (SAI) implements following Sports Promotional Schemes across the country to identify talented sportspersons of 12 years onward and nurture them to excel at national and international levels -**

- **National Centres of Excellence (NCOE)**
- **SAI Training Centre (STC)**
- **Extension Centre of STC**
- **National Sports Talent Contest (NSTC)**  
(its Sub-Schemes - Regular Schools, & Adopted Akharas)

**A total of 177 SAI Centres across the country including NCOEs and STCs, Extension Centres of STCs, NSTC schemes etc. are established for implementing Sports Promotional Schemes of SAI. Presently, 9416 athletes (5664 Boys & 3752 Girls) are being trained in 27 sports disciplines on residential and non-residential basis.**

**Under the SAI's Sports Promotional Schemes, the provision for competition exposure has been made as given below:**

**(a) Domestic Competition:**

- (i) ₹50000/- per athletes per annum for NCOE.**
- (ii) ₹6000/- per athletes per annum for STC**
- (iii) ₹8000/- per athletes per annum for athletes of STC in North Eastern States**
- (iv) ₹20000/- per athletes per annum for athletes of STC in Island Territories.**
- (v) ₹3000/- per athlete per annum for Extension Centres of STCs**
- (vi) ₹2000/- per athlete per annum for Regular School of NSTC**
- (vii) ₹3000/- per athlete per annum for Adopted Akharas of NSTC**

**(b) Foreign Competition/ Training Exposure:**

**Government has made a provision of ₹15.00 Crores per annum for foreign competition /Training exposure for the development and deserving athletes of NCOE & STC.**

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