

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3467
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.08.2025**

Monthly Stipend for the Athletes

**3467. Shri Manickam Tagore B
 Shri Suresh Kumar Shetkar
 Shri Vijayakumar Alias Vijay Vasanth**

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

(a) the details of the funding source of the total budget allocated for providing Rs. 50,000 monthly assistance to 3,000 athletes and whether it is part of any existing scheme or a new initiative for the forthcoming 2036 Olympic games;

(b) the eligibility criteria for athletes selected to receive the Rs. 50,000 monthly stipend under the said scheme;

(c) whether junior, senior, and para-athletes all are included under this scheme;

(d) the manner in which the Government ensure that financial assistance provided to athletes is used for training and development and whether there is any audit or monitoring mechanism in place;

(e) the number of athletes receiving the monthly stipend, discipline-wise and whether any cap or quota for the specific sports and if so, the details thereof;

(f) the steps being taken by the Government to identify and support the talented athletes from rural, tribal and economically weaker sections; and

(g) whether there are any dedicated scholarships or mentorship programmes for athletes from disadvantaged areas?

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

(a) The athletes under Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) in Core Group are eligible for monthly stipend of Rs. 50,000/- as Out of Pocket Allowance (OPA) and this scheme is funded through the National Sports Development Fund (NSDF).

(b) Athletes are inducted under TOPS Core category when they satisfy benchmark criteria which are decided by the Mission Olympic Cell and are derived from the performance of the medal winning athletes at prominent events such as Olympic Games, Asian Games, World Championship etc., at International level.

(c) All athletes inducted into TOPS Core category are eligible for the monthly stipend.

(d) The monthly stipend is provided to cover the sports related ,day to day expenses of the athlete and no utilization certificate is sought for the stipend. Financial assistance under TOPS is also provided, in addition to the monthly OPA, for requirements related to training and participation in international competitions for which the athlete is required to submit utilization certificate in respect of the expenditure incurred.

(e) The monthly stipend is provided to the athlete as long as he / she is covered under the TOP Scheme and there is no cap or quota for specific sports under TOPS Scheme. The number of athletes receiving the monthly stipend is as per Annexure – I & II

(f) The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports implements various schemes to identify and support the athletes, including those from rural, tribal and economically weaker sections such as:

- **Khelo India - National Programme for Development of Sports;**
- **Assistance to National Sports Federations;**
- **National Sports Development Fund which also supports TOP scheme ; and**
- **Sports Authority of India related schemes.**

Details are available in the public domain on the website of this Ministry and of Sports Authority of India.

Further, Khelo India Programme encourages children/youth from rural/tribal areas and weaker sections through the following:

a) Khelo India Centres (1057 Notified) at the district level provide opportunity to be trained by a past champion athlete and aids preparation for participation in state/national level tournaments;

b) Khelo India State Centre of Excellence (KISCE): Provides high quality coaching, sports science manpower, to nurture and support the athletes. Currently, 34 KISCEs are notified in 33 states/UTs;

c) Khelo India Talent Identification and Development: Athletes are selected from various national championships, assessment camps etc. and 2808 such KIAs have been notified and are being trained in Accredited academies notified for this purpose. Support per trainee per annum is ₹ 6,28,400/-.

d) Khelo India Games: Acts as platform for athletes, including athletes from rural, tribal and economically weaker sections and 19 Editions of Khelo India Games have been conducted with the participation of more than 56,000 athletes so far.

e) Sports for Women: Khelo India Women's League are conducted and a total of 1310 competitions have been organized for Women athletes in 29 disciplines with 138875 participants.

(f) "Promotion of rural and indigenous/tribal games", sub component under the "Promotion of Inclusive through sports" component of Khelo India Scheme is specifically dedicated towards promotion of sports in rural and tribal areas.

Further, Sports Authority of India is operating SAI Training Centre (STC), Extension Centre of STC, National Sports Talent Contest (NSTC) (its Sub-Schemes - Regular Schools, IGMA & Akharas) across rural, tribal areas to identify talented sportspersons at grassroots levels.

Athletes are provided regular training on Residential and Non-Residential basis as per the approved norms of the Schemes. The details of SAI Centres in Rural, tribal and backward areas of the country are at Annexure-III. In addition to above, Come & Play scheme is functional in various SAI Centres across the country for the benefit of local athletes.

(g) The Khelo India scheme provides comprehensive support to athletes, which includes scholarships, specialized training and coaching facilities, exposure to international competitions, and access to world-class training facilities. Under this scheme ₹6.28 lakhs per annum are given per Khelo India Athlete (which includes ₹10,000 per month out-of-pocket allowance for each KIA). 2808 Khelo India Athletes are being provided with this support under Khelo India Scheme.

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Annexure I

ANNEXURE REFERED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (E) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3467 TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.08.2025 ASKED BY SHRI MANICKAM TAGORE B AND OTHERS REGARDING MONTHLY STIPEND FOR THE ATHLETES

Sl. No.	Sport Discipline	No. of Athletes
1.	Archery	10
2.	Athletics	3
3.	Badminton	7
4.	Boxing	2
5.	Shooting	18
6.	Table Tennis	2
7.	Weightlifting	1
8.	Wrestling	7

Annexure II

ANNEXURE REFERED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (E) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3467 TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.08.2025 ASKED BY SHRI MANICKAM TAGORE B AND OTHERS REGARDING MONTHLY STIPEND FOR THE ATHLETES

Sl. No.	Sports	No. of Athletes
1.	Para Archery	4
2.	Para Athletics	25
3.	Para Badminton	14
4.	Para Canoe	1
5.	Blind Judo	1
6.	Para Powerlifting	1
7.	Para Shooting	5
8.	Para Table Tennis	1

Annexure III

ANNEXURE REFERED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (F) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3467 TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.08.2025 ASKED BY SHRI MANICKAM TAGORE B AND OTHERS REGARDING MONTHLY STIPEND FOR THE ATHLETES

SAI CENTRES IN THE RURAL/ TRIBAL / BACKWARD AREAS OF THE COUNTRY

Regions	STC Centre Name	State	Tribal/ Rural/ Other backward areas
Zirakpur	Bilaspur	Himachal Pradesh	Rural
	Badal	Punjab	Rural
	Mastunasahib	Punjab	Rural
Guwahati	Kokrajhar	Assam	Tribal
	Solalgaon	Assam	Rural
Imphal	Utlou	Manipur	Rural
	Aizawl (Lunglei & Thenzawl)	Mizoram	Tribal
	Dimapur	Nagaland	Tribal
Kolkata	Nicobar	Andaman & Nicobar	Tribal
	Port Blair	Andaman & Nicobar	Rural
	Hazaribagh	Jharkhand	Rural
	Sundargarh	Odisha	Rural
	Lebong	West Bengal	Rural
Lucknow	Saifai	Uttar Pradesh	Rural
LNCPE	Androth	Lakshadweep	Tribal
	Mayiladuthurai	Tamil Nadu	Rural
	Extension Centres of STCs		
Gandhinagar	LBS Govt. Degree College, Kotputli	Rajasthan	Rural
Gandhinagar	Sri Kalyan Singh Rajkiya Sr.Sec. School, Jaipur	Rajasthan	Rural
Gandhinagar	Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Paota Jaipur	Rajasthan	Rural

Regions	STC Centre Name	State	Tribal/ Rural/ Other backward areas
Chandigarh	Govt. Sr.Sec. School, Dhawal, Mandi	Himachal Pradesh	Rural
Lucknow	Gurukul Archery Academy, Tikri, Meerut	Uttar Pradesh	Rural
Kolkata	Ramakrishna Mission, Raygada	Odisha	Tribal
Guwahati	Dakha Devi Rasiwasia College, Chabua	Assam	Rural
	Regular Schools of NSTC		
Imphal	Sainik School,Imphal	Manipur	Rural
Gandhinagar	Sri Gurunanak Khalsa School, Shriganganagar	Rajasthan	Rural
	IGMAs		
Zirakpur	International Fateh Academy, Jandiala, Guru, Amritsar	Punjab	Rural
Imphal	The Sofia English School,Wangmataba, Thoubal	Manipur	Rural
Imphal	Panthoibi Thang -Ta & Jagoi Sindam Shanglen	Manipur	Rural
LNCPE	Vyasa Vidya Peetham Kallekkad, Palakkad Distt.	Kerala	Rural
LNCPE	Sri Vivekananda Vidyalayam, Kandha Podikara, Ambur	Tamilnadu	Rural
Guwahati	Martial Authority of Assam Tengapara, Kokrajhar	Assam	Tribal
	Adopted Akharas		
Gandhinagar	Luv Kush Akhara, Bhilwara	Rajasthan	Rural

Regions	STC Centre Name	State	Tribal/ Rural/ Other backward areas
Gandhinagar	Rajkiya Sardar Hr. Sec. School Kotputli	Rajasthan	Rural
Gandhinagar	Rajkiya Balika Sec. School, Bansur, Alwar	Rajasthan	Rural
Gandhinagar	Govt. Sr. Sec. School, Bansur	Rajasthan	Rural
Gandhinagar	Govt. Adarsh Sr. School, Gunta, Shahpur	Rajasthan	Rural
Gandhinagar	Govt. Sr. Sec. School, Mardha, Kotputli	Rajasthan	Rural
Gandhinagar	Govt. Sr. Sec. School, Sunderpur, Kotputli	Rajasthan	Rural
Gandhinagar	Govt. Sr.Sec. School, Taskota, Kotputli	Rajasthan	Rural
Lucknow	Meghu Pehalwan Vyayamshala, Varanasi	Uttar Pradesh	Rural
Lucknow	Satayanarayan Singh Khel Vikas Sansthan, Mirzapur	Uttar Pradesh	Rural
Lucknow	Bachan Singh, Muzaffarnagar	Uttar Pradesh	Rural
Lucknow	Arya Vyayamshala, Chhaproli, Baghpat	Uttar Pradesh	Rural
Guwahati	Langhin Tinali Sports Asso., Langhin, Anglong	Assam	Rural
Mumbai	Jai Shivray Education Society, Kolhapur	Maharashtra	Rural
Mumbai	Jog Maharaj Vyayamshala, Pune.	Maharashtra	Rural
Mumbai	Kishanveer Akhara, Bhuij, Satara	Maharashtra	Rural

Regions	STC Centre Name	State	Tribal/ Rural/ Other backward areas
Mumbai	MN Deshmukh Arts Science College, Ahemadnagar	Maharashtra	Rural
Mumbai	L.T Ragnath Markad Krida & Yuvak Mandal, Pune	Maharashtra	Rural
Mumbai	Veer Hanuman Kala Krida, Sangli	Maharashtra	Rural
Mumbai	Vishwatmak Jangli Maharaj Wrestling Centre, Ahamadnagar	Maharashtra	Rural
Sonepat	Bhumanand Akahara	Delhi	Rural
Sonepat	Arya Samaj Mandir	Delhi	Rural
Sonepat	Shahed Bhagat Singh AkharaMirchpur	Haryana	Rural
Sonepat	Ch. Bharat Singh Akhara	Haryana	Rural
Sonepat	Lala Diwan Chand	Haryana	Rural
Kolkata	Gurukul Ashram, Amsena, Nuapada	Odisha	Backward area
