

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3357

ANSWERED ON:28.07.2009

WELFARE SCHEMES FOR SPORTS PERSONS

Rajaram Shri Wakchaure Bhausahab;Reddy Shri Mekapati Rajamohan;Sethi Shri Arjun Charan

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

- (a) whether the Government has formulated/proposes to formulate any welfare scheme for sports persons who have participated in national/international events;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has decided to hike the financial assistance provided to outstanding sports personalities in distress;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to give any financial benefits to distinguished sports awardees; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof, State-wise alongwith the other facilities provided to them?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL)

(a) to (d): There is a Scheme of National Welfare Fund for Sportspersons living under indigent circumstances, for providing them with financial assistance. The rates of assistance under the scheme has been revised with effect from 01-07-2008, as follows:

- (i) Eligibility Ceiling for outstanding sportspersons in indigent circumstances revised from Rs.36,000 per annum to Rs.2.00 lakh per annum.
- (ii) Assistance for fatal injury to a sportsperson raised from Rs.1.00 lakh to Rs.5.00 lakh.
- (iii) Assistance for sustaining injury other than a fatal injury enhanced from Rs.40,000 to Rs.2.00 lakh.
- (iv) Pension for permanently incapacitated outstanding sportsperson increased from Rs.2500 per month to Rs.10,000 per month (proposed to be replaced by ex-gratia).
- (v) Pension in other cases enhanced from Rs.2,000 per month to Rs.8,000 per month (proposed to be replaced by ex-gratia).
- (vi) Assistance to families of indigent sportspersons increased from Rs.40,000 to Rs.2.00 lakh.
- (vii) Assistance for medical treatment increased from Rs.40,000 to Rs.2.00 lakh.
- (viii) Assistance to eminent coaches, referees and umpires enhanced from Rs.20,000 to Rs.50,000.

As the amount of financial assistance have been enhanced substantially recently with effect from 01-07-2008, there is at present no proposal to hike the financial assistance provided to outstanding sports personalities in distress.

(e) & (f): The sportspersons/coaches conferred with Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award, Dronacharya Award, Dhyanchand Award and Arjuna Award are also given award money at the rates as indicated below: -

(Rs. in lakh)

Name of the award	Existing award money	Revised award money from 2009.
Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award	5.00	7.50
Dronacharya Award	3.00	5.00
Dhyanchand Award	3.00	5.00
Arjuna Award	3.00	5.00

Further, the Ministry of Railways provides 1st class/2nd AC complimentary card passes to Arjuna Awardees, Dronacharya Awardees,

Olympic Medalists, Asian Games and Commonwealth Games Gold medalists.