

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2883
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2012
FREE EDUCATION TO SPORTSPERSONS
Naik Dr. Sanjeev Ganesh;Sule Supriya

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to provide free education and other facilities in colleges and universities to the students who brought glory and honour to the Nation through sports;
- (b) if so, the names of the schemes/ programmes under which such facilities are being provided to the students;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to extend such schemes/programmes to the school level sportspersons of the country including remote and rural areas;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH)

(a) & (b): University Grants Commission has already introduced a new scheme titled 'Free Education for Sports Medal Winners/Participants of National/International Events' in August, 2012.

Aims and objectives of this scheme are to provide financial assistance to the medal winners/elite sportspersons studying in Universities/colleges leading to all the full time regular courses including Post Graduate Diploma and other professional courses and to motivate the sportspersons to achieve higher levels of performance by assisting them financially in relation to education and sports development. The scheme is applicable to sportspersons who are medal winners in National games or participants in recognized international sporting events.

(c) to (e): The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 already provides for free and compulsory education to every child of the age of 6 to 14 years in a neighborhood school till completion of elementary education.

The RTE Act, 2009 also provides for:

- (i) a play ground for each school;
- (ii) A part time instructor for physical education in upper primary school;
- (iii) Supply of play material, games and sports equipment, as required, to schools.