## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2127 ANSWERED ON:11.03.2013 PENSION TO SPORTS PERSONS Siddeswara Shri Gowdar Mallikarjunappa

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to give pension to the sports persons who have won medals for the country in major international sports events;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the number of sports persons granted pension under such scheme;
- (d) whether there is any other welfare policy for the retired and serving players of the country for providing financial assistance for treatment of serious injuries and other ailments;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government to encourage participation of women in sports?

## **Answer**

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

(a) & (b): There is already a Scheme titled "Scheme of Pension to Meritorious Sportspersons" under which medal winners in Olympic Games, Commonwealth Games, Asian Games and World Cups/ World Championships (in Olympic and Asian Games disciplines) and Para-Olympic Games, after they attain the age of 30 years or retire from active sports, whichever is later, are eligible for monthly pension at following rates:

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  No. Category of meritorious sportspersons Rate of Pension (Rs./per month)
- 1 Medalists at the Olympic Games 10000
- 2 Gold medalists at the World Cup/World 8000 Championships in Olympic and Asian Games disciplines
- 3 Silver and Bronze medalists at the World 7000 Cup/World Championships in Olympic and Asian Games disciplines
- 4 Gold medalists of the Asian/Commonwealth Games 7000
- 5 Silver and Bronze medalists of the 6000 Asian/Commonwealth Games

- 7 Silver medalists of Para-Olympic Games 4000
- 8 Bronze Medalists of Para-Olympic Games 3000
- (d) & (e): The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports has a Scheme of National Welfare Fund for Sportspersons, which provides for exgratia financial assistance to outstanding sportspersons of yesteryears, now living in indigent circumstances, whose annual income is less than Rs. 2 lakh for medical treatment etc. The funds from the National Welfare Fund for Sportspersons can be utilized for following proposes:
- (i) to provide suitable assistance to outstanding sportspersons now living in indigent sportspersons;
- (ii) to provide suitable assistance to outstanding sportspersons injured during the period of their training for competitions and also during the competitions, depending on the nature of the injury;
- (iii) to provide suitable assistance to outstanding sportspersons who bring glory to the country in the international field and who are disabled as an after-effect of their strenuous training or otherwise and to provide them assistance for medical treatment;
- (iv) to administrator and apply the funds of the Fund to promote the welfare of the sportspersons generally in order to alleviate distress among them and their dependents in indigent circumstances;
- (v) to administer and apply the funds of the Fund for active sportspersons individually or collectively as a group;
- (vi) to encourage and provide assistance in cash or kind (sports equipments, kit, etc) to budding sportspersons, in their pursuit for achieving excellence in sports;
- (vii) to do all other things which are incidental to the above objectives. Quantum of assistance admissible from the National Welfare Fund for Sportspersons is as follows:
- (i) Assistance to sportspersons living in indigent circumstances: A lumpsum ex-gratia financial assistance may be granted to an outstanding sportsperson now living in indigent circumstances, subject to a maximum of Rs. 5 lakh.
- (ii) Assistance for injuries sustained during training for and participation in international competitions: A lumpsum financial assistance to an outstanding sportsperson or his/her family may be granted under the Scheme:
- (a) in case of sustaining a fatal injury during training for, or participation in, an international competition, subject to a maximum of Rs. 5.00 lakh;
- (b) in case of sustaining injury other than a fatal injury, subject to a maximum of Rs.2.00 lakh provided that the assistance shall in no case be less than Rs. 10.000/-.
- (iii) Assistance to Families of Outstanding Sportspersons: A lumpsum financial assistance, not exceeding Rs. 2.00 lakh in each case, may also be provided to the families of outstanding sportspersons in indigent circumstances.
- (iv) Assistance for Medical Treatment: Financial assistance not exceeding Rs. 2.00 lakh may also be provided for medical treatment of an outstanding sportsperson in indigent circumstances.
- (v) Assistance to Sports Promoters: Lumpsum financial assistance, not exceeding Rs. 50,000/- may be provided to referees, coaches and umpires, who were eminent, but are not well off and are in indigent circumstances.

The Scheme of National Welfare Fund for Sportspersons also has a clause under which the Chairperson of the General Committee of National Welfare Fund for Sportspersons has the discretionary powers under which the Chairperson may sanction assistance in deserving cases even to those who, technically, are non-eligible, depending upon the facts and circumstances of each case. The Chairperson will have the discretion to decide the quantum of assistance.

(f) All schemes of the Ministry and the Sports Authority of India are inclusive schemes and are equally applicable to women sportspersons. Further, for encouraging sports among women, sports competitions are held at district, state and national levels under the scheme of National Championship for Women, presently merged with the scheme of Panchayat Yuva Krida aur Khel Abhiyan (PYKKA).