

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SKILL DEVELOPMENT, ENTREPRENEURSHIP, YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4878
ANSWERED ON:12.08.2014
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO FORMER SPORTSPERSONS
Panda Shri Baijayant "Jay"

Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT, ENTREPRENEURSHIP, YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that some of the outstanding sportspersons of yesteryears are living in indigent circumstances;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government provides financial assistance to sportspersons of yesteryears under the National Welfare Fund for Sportspersons;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the other measures taken by the Government to enable/facilitate outstanding sportspersons of yesteryears to live a life of dignity?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR SKILL DEVELOPMENT, ENTERPRENEURSHIP, YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL)

(a) to (c): The Ministry is implementing a scheme named 'National Welfare Fund for Sportspersons' under which there is a provision for providing ex-gratia financial assistance to outstanding sportspersons of yesteryears, now living in indigent circumstances whose annual income is less than Rs. 2 lakh. As per objects of the scheme, the funds of the National Welfare Fund for Sportspersons can be utilized for the following purposes:

- (i) to provide suitable assistance to outstanding sportspersons now living in indigent circumstances;
- (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 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.

(d) Details of Sportspersons who have been given financial assistance from National Welfare Fund for sportspersons are given in Annexure.

(e) The Ministry is implementing another scheme titled "Scheme of Pension to Meritorious Sportspersons" from 1984 under which life time monthly pension is given to those sportsperons who have won Gold, Silver and Bronze in Olympic Games, Commonwealth Games, Asian Games and World Cups/World Championships (in Olympic and Asian Games disciplines) and Paralympic Games, after they attain the age of 30 years or retire from active sports, whichever is later, at following rates:

S.
No. Category of Rate of Pension
meritorious (Rs./per month)
sportspersons
1 Medalists 10000

at the
Olympic Games
2 Gold medalists 8000
at the World
Cup/World
Championships
in Olympic and
Asian Games
disciplines
3 Silver and 7000
Bronze
medalists at
the World
Cup/World
Championships
in Olympic and
Asian Games
disciplines
4 Gold medalists 7000
of the Asian/
Commonwealth
Games
5 Silver and 6000
Bronze
medalists
of the
Asian/
Commonwealth
Games
6 Gold Medalists 5000
of Para-Olympic
Games
7 Silver 4000
medalists of
Para-Olympic
Games
8 Bronze 3000
Medalists
of Para-
Olympic
Games