

**Government of India
Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports
(Department of Sports)**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5332
TO BE ANSWERD ON 05.04.2022**

Paralympic Games

5332. SHRI SUBBARAYAN K.:

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

(a) whether the Government agrees with the view that since India has won more medals in the Paralympic Games than the Olympics last year, this should lead to more funding and creation of sports facilities that promote disabled athletes;

(b) if so, the details of initiatives taken/being taken by the Government in this direction; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS

[SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR]

(a) & (b) The Para-athletes are provided all requisite facilities at par with other sportspersons, besides their special needs. Indian para-athletes are being supported under various Schemes of this Ministry and Sports Authority of India (SAI). The identified promising sportspersons/teams, including para athletes, are provided all requisite facilities for their preparations, including a wholesome nutritious diet, equipment, state-of-the-art infrastructure, lodging, travelling facilities, services of reputed Indian and Foreign Coaches/supporting staff, scientific & medical support, sports kit,

etc., besides financial assistance for their training abroad and participation in international competitions in India and abroad.

The Para sports have been placed in the “Priority” category for financial assistance by the Government and all the requisite assistance is provided for training and competitive exposure of the para athletes, as per the norms laid down for this purpose.

All the SAI stadia and training centres have been made disabled-friendly and upgradation of the same is carried out from time-to-time. The Netaji Subhas Western Centre, Gandhinagar of SAI has been identified as the main centre for holding the sports activities pertaining to differently-abled athletes, which is well equipped for this purpose.

Under the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS), talented athletes are being selected and provided financial assistance like Out of Pocket Allowance (OPA), equipment Support, coaches etc. Athletes are being retained in the TOPS based on the regular assessment of their performance.

Under the Khelo India talent identification Scheme, talented players are selected and provided assistance towards their training, preparation including a monthly OPA.

Recently, the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports has revised the norms under the Scheme of Assistance to NSFs and increased the scale of assistance substantially.

(c) In view of the above, the question does not arise.
