## Sports Minister Vijay Goel reconstitutes committee to identify athletes under TOP Scheme

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The Union Minister of State (I/C) for Youth Affairs and Sport Shri Vijay Goel has reconstituted TOP committee with the objective of identifying and supporting potential medal prospects for 2020 and 2024 Olympic Games under the "Target Olympic Podium" scheme. The committee will select elite athletes to provided financial assistance for their customized training at Institutes having world class facilities and other necessary support.

The reconstituted committee is as follows:

1	Shri Abhinav Bindra, Olympic Gold Medalist	Chairman
2	Shri Anil Khanna, Sports Administrator	Member
3	Shri Prakash Padukone, Renowned Ex Badminton Player and Coach	Member
4	Ms. Karnam Malleshwari, Olympic Medalist (Bronze/ Weightlifting)	Member
5	Ms. P. T. Usha Renowned Olympian	Member
6	Shri Murlidhar Raja, President, Sports Administrator	Member
7	Ms. Anjali Bhagwat, Renowned Shooter	Member
8	Ms. Rekha Yadav, Secretary Railway Sports Promotion Board	Member
9	Dr. S.S. Roy, ED (Teams) SAI	Member
10	Shri Inder Dhamija, Joint Secretary (Sports)	Member Secretary

According to the Minister of State (I/C) for Youth Affairs and Sports Shri Vijay Goel Committee will decide on its own procedures and will be competent to invite subject experts as and when required. The Initial tenure of the committee will be one year from the date of notification.

A programme, namely TOP (Target Olympic Podium) Scheme was formulated within the overall ambit of National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) with the objective of identifying and supporting potential medal prospects for 2016 and 2020 Olympic Games. Under the scheme the selected athletes are provided financial assistance for their customized training at Institutes having world class facilities and other necessary support which is expected to result in improved performance and a higher position in medals tally for the country. Benchmark for selection of athletes under the scheme is in relation to international standards.

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