

Bill No. 137 of 2024

THE SPECIAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO KBK
REGION OF STATE OF ODISHA BILL, 2024

By

SHRI SAPTAGIRI SANKAR ULAKA, M.P.

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BILL

to provide for special financial assistance to KBK region comprising the districts of Koraput, Rayagada, Malkangiri, Nabarangpur, Balangir, Subarnapur, Kalahandi and Nuapada of the State of Odisha for the purpose of promoting the welfare of Scheduled Tribes, Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Sections of the people and for the development, exploitation and proper utilization of its resources.

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Seventy-fifth Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Special Financial Assistance to KBK Region of State of Odisha Act, 2024.

Short title
and
commencement.

(2) It shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint.

Special
Financial
Assistance to
the KBK
region of the
State of
Odisha.

2. There shall be paid such sums of moneys out of the Consolidated Fund of India, every year, as Parliament may by due appropriation provide, as special financial assistance to KBK Region comprising the districts of Koraput, Rayagada, Malkangiri, Nabarangpur, Balangir, Subarnapur, Kalahandi and Nuapada of the State of Odisha to meet the costs of such schemes of development, as may be undertaken by the State with the approval of the Government of India for the purpose of promoting the welfare of Scheduled Tribes, Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Sections of the people and for the development, proper utilization and exploitation of the resources in KBK region of the State of Odisha.

Act not in
derogation of
any other law.

3. The provisions of this Act shall be in addition to and not in derogation of any other law for the time being in force.

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STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The KBK region comprising Koraput, Nabarangpur, Malkangiri, Rayagada, Subarnapur, Balangir, Kalahandi and Nuapada districts of the State of Odisha is one of the poorest and most backward regions of the country. Despite years of focused development intervention by both Central and State Government of Odisha, large proportion of rural poor and Tribals in the KBK region continue to face chronic hunger and reportedly starvation deaths. Reduced forest cover, farmer distress, no visible employment opportunity – people are forced to migrate to other States in search of jobs. As per one National Family Health Survey, only 47.38 per cent. women in the KBK region are literate against the State average of 67.4 per cent., while the literacy level among men in the region is 72.93 per cent. against the State's 84.3%. In case of institutional delivery, the region with 76.48 per cent. lags behind the State's average of 85.4 per cent.

Central assistance for Area development programmes like special plan for KBK, Backward Region Grant Fund (BRGF) and Integrated Action Plan have been discontinued. The Central Government has discontinued ST/SC scholarship scheme thus depriving beneficiaries in the tribal region. Some of the Schemes delinked from support of the Centre during the budget 2015/16: National e-Governance Plan, Backward Regions Grant Funds, Modernization of Police Forces, Rajiv Gandhi Panchayat Sashaktikaran Abhiyaan (RGPSA), Scheme for Central Assistance to the States for developing export infrastructure, Scheme for setting up of 6000 Model Schools, National Mission on Food processing and Tourist Infrastructure.

Though the State Govt. has launched its own Biju KBK Plan, this is not sufficient. Justice Puncchi Commission on Centre-State relation has recommended for higher Central transfers to backward States for improving the physical and human infrastructure. The economic divide emanating from asymmetric growth and backwardness, dominated by Tribals and vulnerable groups rise to regional imbalance and calls for focused attention of the Government for achieving inclusive growth.

It is, therefore, necessary that the Central Government should provide special financial assistance to the KBK Region of the State of Odisha for its all-round development including the welfare of weaker sections and for the development and exploitation of its vast natural resources. Such a step of providing financial assistance to this Region would go a long way in building this nation more and more strong.

Hence this Bill.

NEW DELHI;
July 18, 2024.

SAPTAGIRI SANKAR ULAKA

FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

Clause 2 of the Bill provides that there shall be paid such sums of moneys out of the Consolidated Fund of India, every year, as Parliament may by due appropriation provide, as special financial assistance to the KBK Region comprising the districts of Koraput, Rayagada, Malkangiri, Nabarangpur, Balangir, Subarnapur, Kalahandi and Nuapada of the State of Odisha to meet the costs of such schemes of development, as may be undertaken by the State with the approval of the Government of India.

The Bill, therefore, on enactment, will involve expenditure out of the Consolidated Fund of India for providing special financial assistance to the KBK Region of the State of Odisha. As the sums of moneys which will be given to the KBK Region of the State of Odisha as special financial assistance by appropriation by law made by Parliament will be known only after the welfare schemes to be implemented by the State Government with the approval of Government of India are identified, it is not possible to give the estimates of recurring expenditure, which would be involved out of the Consolidated Fund of India at this stage.

No non-recurring expenditure is likely to be incurred from the Consolidated Fund of India.

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(Shri Saptagiri Sankar Ulaka, M.P.)