

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PLANNING**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1924
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.03.2018**

SPECIAL CATEGORY STATUS

1924. SHRI ANOOP MISHRA:
SHRI RAJU SHETTY:

Will the **Minister of PLANNING** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has fixed any criteria for providing special status to the States in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of States which have been given the status of special State so far by the Government along with the details thereof;
- (d) the State-wise details of the proposals under consideration of the Government for providing the said status to other States; and
- (e) the details of the steps taken by the Government in this regard so far?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING
AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS

(RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

(a) & (b) Special Category Status for plan assistance has been granted in the past by the National Development Council (NDC) to some States that are characterized by a number of features necessitating special consideration. These features include: (i) hilly and difficult terrain (ii) low population density and / or sizeable share of tribal population (iii) strategic location along borders with neighbouring countries (iv) economic and infrastructural backwardness and (v) non-viable nature of state finances. Special Category Status has been granted based on an integrated consideration of these criteria.

(c) The 11 States granted Special Category Status are Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura and Uttarakhand.

(d) & (e) No proposal for grant of special category status is under consideration of the Government.
