

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE
PLAN FINANCE-I DIVISION

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2136
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY THE 11th DECEMBER 2015 /
20 AGRAHAYANA, SAKA 1937

Special status to States

2136. SHRI M. CHANDRAKASI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the criteria/guidelines adopted by the Government for granting special status to States/UTs;
- (b) the details of States granted Special Category during the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to dispense with the system of according special status to States/UTs;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the details of special assistance granted to States/UTs not covered under the Special Status other than contingency and disaster funding?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF FINANCE
(SHRI JAYANT SINHA)

(a) to (d) Special Category Status for plan assistance was granted in the past by the National Development Council (NDC) to 11 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. Those 11 States are Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura and Uttarakhand. The Special

Category Status was granted to Uttaranchal (now Uttarakhand) at the 49th NDC meeting held on September 1, 2001.

Fourteenth Finance commission, in para. 2.29 of their report has stated that they have not made a distinction between special and general category states in determining norms and recommendations. However, the Committee constituted in NITI Aayog for deciding on the Sharing pattern of CSS has recommended that the funding pattern of the 17 core schemes, which form part of the National Development Agenda, will be retained with the sharing pattern of 60:40 between the Centre and the States (90:10 for the 8 North-Eastern and 3 Himalayan States). The funding pattern of the schemes namely MGNREGA, NSAP, UMBRELLA Programmes for development of SC, ST, differently abled person, minorities, backward classes and vulnerable group will remain unchanged. All other schemes will be optional for the State Governments and their fund sharing pattern will be 50:50 between the Centre and the States (80:20 for the 8 North-Eastern and 3 Himalayan States).

(e) Special Assistance of Rs. 20000 crore has been provided in Demand No. 37 (Transfer to State and Union Territory Governments) of Ministry of Finance in Expenditure Budget Vol.II of Union Budget 2015-16. The Central Govt. has approved allocation of Special Assistance as shown in the Annex-I. So far, an amount of Rs. 700 crore has been released to Govt. of Andhra Pradesh (Special Assistance of Rs. 350 crore @Rs. 50 crore per district for the development of 7 backward districts covering Rayalaseema & North Coastal region and Rs.350 crore for State Capital) and Rs. 552 crore has been released to the State Government of Tamil Nadu to deal with the post Fourteenth Finance Commission related issues. Also, Rs. 116.22 crore has been released to Uttarakhand for long term reconstruction package, 2013.

Annex-I**Annex referred to in reply to part (e) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question
No. 2136 for answer on 11.12.2015**

(Rs. in crore)

S. No.	Proposed support in brief	Approved amount
1	One time grant towards earlier sanctioned projects under BRGF-State Component (including KBK districts of Odisha , Special Plan for Bihar, Special Plan for West Bengal, Bundelkhand package for MP&UP), PMRP 2004 & Flood Rehabilitation Plan 2014 for J&K, Uttarakhand Medium & Long term Reconstruction Package 2013.	4950
2	One time assistance to areas covered under Sixth Schedule of the of the Constitution.	1000
3	Irrigation projects	2800
4	One time assistance towards support for LWE districts	1000
5	One time assistance towards support for developing water sources for arsenic and fluoride affected areas.	1000
6	One time assistance towards support for States covered by Andhra Pradesh Re-organization Act.	2000
7	One time assistance towards support to States to deal with post 14 th Finance Commission related issues (for projects to be posed by the States)	1500
8	Additional fund recommended for ICDS, NRDWP and Dept. of Health & Family Welfare	4750
9	One time assistance for Modernization of State Police Forces	700
Total		19700
