

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF FINANCE  
DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1541**

Friday, March 4, 2016/Phalgun 14, 1937 (Saka)

**“Asia Specific Development Programme”**

**1541. SMT. PRATYUSHA RAJESHWARI SINGH:**

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any steps have been taken to continue Central Assistance for the Asia Specific Development Programme like Backward Region Grant Fund and Integrated Action Plan; and
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) & (b): Consequent to recommendation of 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission for increase in the States' share in divisible pool of Union taxes from 32% to 42%, Central Assistance to State Plans (CASP), including Backward Region Grant Fund and ACA for LWE affected districts (earlier known as Integrated Action Plan) has been subsumed in overall enhanced devolution to the States from Financial Year 2015-16. However, considering developmental needs of Backward regions, a provision of one time grant of Rs. 3583.79 crore has been made during 2015-16 for projects earlier sanctioned under BRGF including Special Plan for KBK districts of Odisha, Special Plan for Bihar, Special Plan for West Bengal and Bundelkhand Drought Mitigation package for Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh. Further, considering existence of LWE problem, a provision of Rs. 1000 crore under One Time Assistance to support for LWE districts has been made out of budgetary provision of Rs. 20,000 crore for financial year 2015-16 under special assistance head of Demand No. 37 of Ministry of Finance.

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