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Title: Need to restore schemes like Special Plan for KBK, Backward Region Grant Fund and Integrated Action Plan for development of backward tribal regions in Odisha.

DR. PRABHAS KUMAR SINGH (BARGARH): Madam Speaker, thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to raise a very important issue related to a backward and Left Wing Extremism affected State.

This is regarding discontinuance of Central Assistance for Area Development Programmes. The economic divide emanating from asymmetric growth and backwardness of the regions dominated by tribals and vulnerable groups gives rise to regional imbalance, which calls for focused attention of the Government for achieving inclusive growth.

The Left Wing Extremism is one of the biggest internal security threats and poses a national challenge. Discontinuance of Central Assistance for Area Development Programmes like Special Plan for Kalahandi, Balangir and Koraput (KBK) districts of Odisha, Backward Region Grant Fund (BRGF) and Integrated Action Plan (IAP) for Left Wing Extremism affected districts has affected the developmental programmes for some of the most vulnerable and backward regions of Odisha.

The Government of India may restore the provision for these programmes or provide a special package to the State for continuation of these programmes from the budget provision available with NITI Aayog.

Therefore, Madam, through you, I would like to submit the following before the hon. Finance Minister. Will the Government of India, appreciating the genuine concerns of the State Governments like Odisha, restore the provision for the above noted programmes keeping in view the developmental needs of the most vulnerable and backward regions of Odisha? Or, will the Government of India plan to provide a special package to the State for continuation of these programmes from the budget provision available with NITI Aayog? Thank you, Madam.