Title: Need to give special status to the residual state of Andhra Pradesh for a period of 15 years.

SHRI M. MURLI MOHAN (RAJAHMUNDRY): Respected Chairperson, thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak on the subject. While bifurcating the united Andhra Pradesh State, the earlier UPA Government assured the House of the People that a category of Special Status to the residual State of Andhra Pradesh will be given for a period of 10 years. I would request the Central Government, through you, the period of Special Status category may be extended to 15 years, instead of 10 years, keeping in view the financial crunch being faced by Andhra Pradesh Government. I would like to know from the Central Government as to why such permission is delayed in according a category of Special Status. Due to bifurcation, the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has lost majority of the revenue.

In this context, I understand that the present Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested the Central Government for a grant of Rs. 8,600 crore as an additional Central Assistance in order to meet finance and critical developmental projects. I also understand that the Government of Andhra Pradesh has sought the Central Government to sanction industrial incentives and concessions.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Tomorrow, on the discussion on General Budget, you can speak all this. Shri K. Ashok Kumar.