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Need to provide special financial package to autonomous district councils in Manipur.

SHRI THANGSO BAITE (OUTER MANIPUR): I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards an urgent public importance in respect of my Parliamentary Constituency in Manipur. There are six autonomous District Councils viz. (i) Senapati (ADC), (ii) Sadar Hills (ADC), (iii) Ukhrul (ADC), (iv) Churachandpur (ADC), (v) Tamenglong (ADC) and (vi) Chandel (ADC). It was constituted under the Manipur (Hill Areas) District Council Act 1971, passed by the Parliament while Manipur was still Union Territory of India. After attainment of Manipur Statehood in the year 1972, the Act itself was inherited by the State Government. The Councils for the past twenty years are non-functional as people want the council under 6th Schedule which has not been attained till date. In 2010, the councils were revived as there was no Local Self Government in the Hill Area and it became very problematic for the administration and in pursuit of development activities in the rural areas.

In spite of its importance (i.e. the Institution of Local Self Government), the Autonomous District Councils could not function properly owing to fund constraints and limited financial resources. In view of the stated facts, I would like to appeal that special financial package of at least Rs.1200 crores may please be awarded to the Councils to enable them to undertake multifarious developmental activities.