

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
PLANNING  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:363  
ANSWERED ON:23.02.2011  
SPECIAL STATUS TO STATES  
Ponnam Shri Prabhakar

**Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government is granting long awaited special status to some States during the current year, paving the way for further acceleration of the pace of development;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (c) the actual demands pending from each State in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING, PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES(DR. ASHWANI KUMAR)

(a) to (c): Special Category Status for allocation of Central Assistance to State Plans has generally been granted in the past to States on the basis of a set of criteria. The decision to grant Special Category Status to any state is taken by the National Development Council, which is the sole body competent to do so.

At present there is a request for grant of Special Category Status from Government of Bihar.