

Title: Need to sanction pending projects of KBK districts of Orissa for all-round development of the region.

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO (KALAHANDI): Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of the House the acute drought situation prevailing in the State of Orissa and in particular the districts of the KBK region, which are passing through an unprecedented shortage of drinking water, lack of work for people living below poverty line and shortage of funds to execute various projects. I demand for the early implementation of the Long Term Action Plan of KBK programme in totality. There have been alleged starvation deaths which have to be seriously looked into and steps should be taken so that incidents of starvation deaths are not repeated. Also, all irrigation projects pending clearance should be accorded clearance technically and financially both by the CWC and the Planning Commission, so that the long pending projects are taken up. Lift irrigation, which has a good potential in the KBK, should be implemented, the proposal sent to the Central Government should be approved and the funds should be placed directly with the Collectors of the respective districts.