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Title: Need to release the second instalment of financial assistance under Indira Awas Yojana for the year 2006-07 to 23 districts of Orissa.

SHRI B. MAHTAB (CUTTACK): Even as the financial year is coming to an end, uncertainty looms large over Union Government releasing second dose of financial assistance under Indira Awas Yojana (LA.Y.) to 23 districts of Orissa. Although the second installment of the central assistance is generally released in December, only seven out of 30 districts have received funds under the scheme. Orissa has set a target to construct 80 thousand 228 houses during the current year. In the first installment the centre released its share of Rs 85.17 crore in April last year. The State had an open balance of Rs. 116.63 crore under the scheme including the State's share and the spillover amount from 2005-06. Orissa Government has claimed that 30 thousand 933 houses have been completed by December end, 2006 and the state submitted utilization certificate for Rs. 91.54 crore to the Union Government with a request to release the second installment.

However, the Government has refused to release the second dose of assistance citing reason that there is failure of non-submission of utilization certificates and audit reports for the special allocation of Central assistance during the super cyclone. The NDA government had given a special assistance for construction of 7 lakh houses under the scheme in the super cyclone affected districts. As the funding pattern under IAY is in the ratio of 75:25 between centre and the state and as the matching share of the state was to be released by February 28 and as the second installment by the centre is yet to be released, Orissa is going to lose around Rs 100 crore under this programme.

I would urge upon the Government to reconsider the case and release the second installment before the completion of this financial year which amounts to Rs 68 crores 34 lakh 65 thousand.