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Title: Regarding inclusion of Odisha under Special Category States to avail benefit of the National Electricity Fund Interest Subsidy Scheme.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK): Government of India has floated the National Electricity Fund(NEF) interest subsidy scheme linking it with the reforms undertaken. The financial implications of NEF would be interest subsidy aggregating to Rs 8466 cr spread over 14 years for loan disbursement amount of Rs 25000 cr for distribution schemes sanctioned during the years i.e. 2012-13 and 2013-14. The scheme covers both the public as well as private discoms. The criteria met by Odisha are: power sector Reforms in Odisha in place from mid nineties; dicoms are filling annual revenue requirements and Tariff petitions before the State Regulators and the same is being approved regularly on annual basis; State Commission has been approving the 5 years business plan of Discoms on regular basis.

Odisha has already put in place Rs 2400 cr CAPEX plan to develop and renovate the intra-state distribution system with equal contribution from the Government as well as Discoms. Therefore, Odisha should be included under special category States like Bihar and Jharkhand to avail the necessary benefit under the NEF interest subsidy scheme.

I urge upon the Government to accept the proposal of the State Government of Odisha at the earliest.