

**Title:** Need to take over Gopalpur Port in Orissa and develop it into an All Weather Port. - Laid

14.24 hrs.

SHRI ANADI SAHU (BERHAMPUR, ORISSA): Sir, Gopalpur-on-sea has a fair-weather port. It is situated in Ganjam district of Orissa. The sea is quite deep within a short distance of the shore. This port used to cater to the wartime needs of the British Government till 1942. At present, the fair-weather port is being maintained by Government of Orissa. The Government of Orissa does not have funds to convert this port into an all-weather port. The recent devastating cyclone on the Orissa coast has exposed the vulnerability of fishing trawlers and traditional fishing boats. If Gopalpur-on-sea is made an all-weather port with a fishing harbour, it will serve the maritime and strategic requirements of the eastern coast, particularly Andhra Pradesh and Orissa. It will also serve as a shelter during storms and gales. Government of India is requested to take over the Gopalpur port and develop it into an all-weather port.

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\*Treated as laid on the Table of the House.