

Title: Need to consider the Panchayats as units under the Crop Insurance Scheme in Orissa.

SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU (BERHAMPUR - ORISSA): In my parliamentary constituency, Berhampur, Orissa, some areas have been affected by heavy drought. In the last month, on 29th, people had a demonstration before the Diggahandi Block which falls in my parliamentary constituency for immediate relief measures. Earlier, Panchayats were being considered as one unit under the Crop Insurance Scheme. Due to this, affected Panchayats could get full relief from the Insurance Company and from the Central or State Governments. But now blocks have been made as units for crop insurance due to which Panchayats affected by drought do not get the benefit of insurance.

So, I request, through you, Sir, the hon. Minister of Finance and the hon. Minister of Agriculture to reconsider and direct the insurance company to make Panchayats as units.