

SHRI AHAMED HASSAN (West Bengal): Sir, I too associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM (Kerala): Sir, I too associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD (Kerala): Sir, I too associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Whoever wants to associate may send in their slips. Now, Dr. Amar Patnaik would make a Special Mention regarding demand to adequately compensate farmers under PMFBY.

SPECIAL MENTIONS - *Contd.*

Demand to adequately compensate farmers under the PMFBY

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, this relates to crop insurance under the PMFBY, the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana.

The Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) was initiated as a scheme to give the vulnerable Indian farmers monetary assistance in the event of crop damage arising from natural calamities. However, reports have emerged that cite several instances of the application of incorrect calculation methods to deny the farmers in Odisha their legitimate claims for crop loss under PMFBY. This has precipitated regular protests as the claim settlements to insured farmers have been reduced. The Oriental Insurance Company (OIC) has applied an incorrect Area Correction Factor (ACF) and Yield Correction Factor (YCF) in four blocks of the Bargarh district, namely, Jharbandh, Padampur, Sohela and Bijetpur for Kharif 2018 season. A similar situation obtains in a number of blocks in Sambalpur, Kalahandi, Bolangir and Nuapada districts of the State.

The insurance company has not followed the operational guidelines under the PMFBY. The terms and conditions have been altered by the company after depositing premium under the scheme. There have also been threats by the farmers to gherao and shut down the district offices of this company. Despite this issue having been raised on multiple occasions in Parliament, the situation has, unfortunately, not been remedied.

I would, therefore, urge that the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare investigate the breach by OIC, issue directions on the application of ACF and YCF, implement corrective measures and ensure that the farmers who have received an inadequate amount under PMFBY are compensated with their legitimate dues.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

Demand to release pending payment to Andhra Pradesh under MGNREGS

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, MGNREGS aims at enhancing the livelihood security of people in rural areas by guaranteeing hundred days of wage employment in a financial year to a rural household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. This Scheme, therefore, forms an important source of income for the rural population of Andhra Pradesh. This year Andhra Pradesh was affected by dual calamities of drought and thereafter heavy downpour in the catchment areas of Godavari and Krishna river basins and incessant rains triggering floods. Therefore, due to this severe drought and thereafter heavy floods in Andhra Pradesh, the income from the MGNREGA Scheme has become all the more important.

It is very unfortunate that this demand for work under MGNREGA has not been met with a timely release of funds by the Centre. The funding responsibility by the Centre under the Scheme is 100 per cent of wages for unskilled manual work and 75 per cent of material cost of the schemes, including the payment of wages to skilled and semi-skilled workers.

Towards the State of Andhra Pradesh, the Government of India has a pending material and admin payments amounting to ₹ 2,246 crore including a pending liability of ₹ 1,447.96 crore pertaining to Financial Year 2018-19. Therefore, I request the Minister of Rural Development to intervene and ensure immediate payment of wages to the daily labourers.

SHRI P. WILSON (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.
