

Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title: Regarding grant of compensation to farmers whose crops are damaged due to cyclone 'Jamad' and implementation of PMFBY Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana in West Bengal.

**श्री एस. एस. अहलुवालिया (बर्धमान-दुर्गापुर):** धन्यवाद अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैंने बंगाली में बोलने के लिए अनुरोध किया है। उम्मीद करता हूँ इसके लिए इंटरप्रेटर की सुविधा होगी।

\_\_Honourable Speaker Sir, last week a cyclone named 'Jawad' struck the Bay of Bengal. This is an Arabic name. The meaning of 'Jawad' is liberal. But this cyclone was not that liberal with West Bengal and Odisha. This cyclone has affected vast tracts of cultivable land. The potatoes, paddy, mustard, onions grown on the land were completely destroyed. I am a Member of Parliament from Bardhaman. Bardhaman is known as the 'granary of West Bengal'. I represent that very part of Bengal in Lok Sabha. Lakhs of hectares of cultivable land have been damaged due to this cyclonic storm. Paddy crops have been hugely affected. Sir, I would like to tell you that a variety of rice called 'Gobindobhog' is produced in our Burdwan district. This rice is used as offerings to Lord Govinda. This variety is cultivated there, but this crop has been utterly damaged. But the most unfortunate thing is that the 'Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana' has not been implemented in the state of West Bengal. It is a matter of great concern. As a result, I would like to draw the kind attention of Hon'ble Prime Minister through you Sir to the fact that a high-level investigating team is required to be sent to West Bengal to get a clear picture of the actual loss due to natural calamity and also to find out how the hapless farmers can be

compensated. Since the 'Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana' is non-existent in that state, I request Honourable Prime Minister to send a high level investigating team and seek report on the ground reality. If this initiative is taken to extend a helping hand to the hapless farmers, the people of West Bengal would remain highly obliged.

Thank you Sir.\*