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Title: Need to release the amount of insurance compensation to the Potato growers in West Bengal.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (MIDNAPORE): During the last financial year the production of Potato and Boro harvest in the country was less than normal and the same was in West Bengal too.

The farmers, particularly the small and marginal, who took loans from Co-operative banks and Garmin banks and deposited the premium for Potato produce insurance with the competent authority, are facing great difficulty to get their compensation for the production loss. The total number of farmers to receive compensation stands at 5,09,516 in West Bengal alone involving an amount of Rs 381.59 crores.

Their compensation has to be borne by the Central Government, State Government and Insurance Companies together. Till date the West Bengal State has already released its share of Rs. 168.94 crores, but the Central Government's share of Rs. 134.83 Crore has not been released yet along with the amounts due from Insurance Companies, which has caused great difficulty for the farmers.

I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to release its share for compensation immediately and save the poor, small and marginal farmers of the region.

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