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Title: Need to consider Gram Panchayat as the Unit of Crop Insurance under National Agricultural Insurance Scheme.

DR. PRABHAS KUMAR SINGH (BARGARH): National Agricultural Insurance Scheme has been implemented in Odisha from Rabi 1999-2000 to Rabi 2015-2016 season. From Kharif season - 2016 Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) has been introduced by Government of India and it is being implemented in our State. The Crop Cutting Experiments (CCEs) are conducted at Gram Panchayat level for Paddy crop and for other crops, it is at Block level. As per the scheme guidelines of PMFBY, the CCEs are to be captured by smart phones with GPRS facility and it is to be uploaded to the crop insurance portal. For purchase of smart phones funds are required. Technological development and its adoption for conduct of CCEs requires fund. The operational Guidelines of PMFBY stipulate that the States implementing PMFBY at Village/Village Panchayat level shall be entitled for 50% reimbursement of incremental expenses of CCEs and cost of smart phones / improved technology from Government of India.