

Member :

- Standing Committee on Labour, Textiles & Skill Development
- Consultative Committee on Rural Development



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Pradeep Purohit

Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha)
Bargarh (Odisha)

D.O No. PP/MP/LS/2026/435

Dated -27th Jul, 2026

Subject: Request for In-Principle Approval of a Special Development Package for Padampur Sub-Division, Covering the Six Blocks Paikmal, Padampur, Jharabandh, Sohela, Bijepur and Gaisilet in Bargarh District, Odisha, on the Lines of the KBK (Koraput-Balangir-Kalahandi) Special Development Programme for Inclusion in the Forthcoming Union Budget/Supplementary Demand for Grants;

Respected Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman ji,

I am writing to seek your kind intervention for extending a Special Development Package to Padampur Sub-Division of Bargarh District, Odisha, in the forthcoming Union Budget or through a Supplementary Demand for Grants. I also request that in-principle approval may kindly be accorded so that the Government of Odisha through the District Administration, Bargarh, may prepare and submit a Detailed Project Report (DPR) for appraisal and phased implementation by the Government of India.

Padampur Sub-Division covering six blocks have remained one of the most drought-prone and economically backward regions of Western Odisha for several decades. Despite its vast agricultural potential and hardworking farming community, the region continues to suffer from chronic drought, acute water scarcity, inadequate irrigation facilities, poor industrial development, and limited livelihood opportunities. Its geographical location adjoining the State of Chhattisgarh further strengthens the need for focused Central assistance to ensure balanced regional development and improve border area infrastructure.

Respected Madam, while the Government of India has successfully implemented focused development interventions in backward regions such as the KBK Region of Odisha, Padampur Sub-Division continues to face similar developmental constraints without the benefit of a dedicated area-based programme. Considering its persistent socio-economic challenges, all blocks deserve similar policy support.

The following issues deserve your kind consideration:

Firstly, Padampur Sub-Division experiences frequent and recurring droughts due to erratic and deficient rainfall. Agriculture in the region is predominantly rain-fed, making farmers highly vulnerable to crop failures almost every drought year. Repeated climatic shocks have adversely affected rural incomes and overall economic development.

Secondly, irrigation coverage remains grossly inadequate. A large portion of cultivable land continues to depend solely on monsoon rainfall because of limited canal

networks, insufficient lift irrigation projects, and inadequate water storage infrastructure. Expansion of irrigation facilities is essential to ensure sustainable agricultural production and improve farmers' livelihoods.

Thirdly, the region suffers from acute drinking water and irrigation water scarcity. During summer months, ponds, streams, and other traditional water sources dry up, while groundwater levels continue to decline. Many villages face severe shortages of safe drinking water, adversely affecting public health, agriculture, and livestock.

Fourthly, the economy of Padampur Sub-Division is predominantly dependent on agriculture and agricultural labour. Crop failures caused by drought directly impact household incomes, forcing many families into indebtedness and compelling seasonal migration in search of employment. Strengthening irrigation, promoting allied agricultural activities, and creating sustainable livelihood opportunities are urgently required.

Fifthly, industrial development in Padampur Sub-Division have remained minimal. The absence of agro-processing industries, MSME clusters, food processing units, and industrial infrastructure has severely limited employment opportunities for local youth. A dedicated development package can facilitate industrial investment, entrepreneurship, and value addition to agricultural produce.

Sixthly, the region has historically experienced recurring scarcity conditions, characterised by shortages of drinking water, irrigation facilities, fodder, and rural employment. These recurring hardships have reduced agricultural productivity, affected livestock, and weakened the local economy, requiring long-term structural intervention rather than temporary relief measures.

Seventhly, Padampur Sub-Division shares its boundary with the State of Chhattisgarh. Border areas require focused infrastructure development to promote balanced regional growth, strengthen connectivity, improve public services, and create economic opportunities. Targeted Central investment in this strategically located border region would contribute significantly to regional stability and inclusive development.

Respected Madam, a Special Development Package may broadly include investments in irrigation projects, drinking water supply, watershed development, groundwater recharge, rainwater harvesting, rural connectivity, agro-processing industries, MSME development, skill development, healthcare, education, digital infrastructure, climate-resilient agriculture, and livelihood promotion through horticulture, dairy, fisheries, and other allied sectors.

In view of the above, I earnestly request your good office to kindly:

- Accord in-principle approval for a Special Development Package for Padampur Sub-Division, Bargarh District, Odisha, on the lines of the KBK Special Development Programme.
- Provide suitable budgetary allocation in the forthcoming Union Budget or through a Supplementary Demand for Grants for implementation of the proposed package.

- Authorize the Government of Odisha through the District Administration, Bargarh, to prepare and submit a Detailed Project Report (DPR), along with sector-wise development proposals and financial estimates, for consideration by the Government of India.

Madam, this initiative will not only address the long-standing developmental deficits of Padampur Sub-Division but will also improve irrigation, drinking water availability, agricultural productivity, employment generation, industrial growth, and overall socio-economic development. More importantly, it will help reduce regional disparities and fulfil the vision of inclusive and balanced development envisioned under Viksit Bharat @2047.

I, therefore, humbly request your kind and sympathetic consideration of this genuine public demand and shall remain grateful for your favourable.

With highest regards,

Yours sincerely,


(Pradeep Purohit)
28/01/20

**Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman,
Hon'ble Union Minister of Finance,
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New Delhi – 110001**