

Seventeenth Loksabha

>

Title: Issue regarding erosion caused by rivers in many parts of West Bengal.

***SHRI KHALILUR RAHAMAN (JANGIPUR):** Hon. Speaker Sir, I convey my gratitude to you and all other respected members on behalf of my state. I thank Hon. Speaker as you have given me the opportunity to speak as I am a new member. The lives of people are at the brink of collapse because of the Ganga Bhagirathi erosion in many areas of Murshidabad, Malda and Nadia. Their existence is at stake. The erosion of river has devastating effect on the houses, agricultural tracts, educational institutions, livelihoods of thousands of people. People have lost everything today. The previous government had allocated some funds together with the state government, to control the menace of erosion. As a result the work of 40 km above and 80 km below the Farakka barrage was to be completed. But unfortunately, though the work was entrusted with the Farakka Barrage Authority, it did little work and then stopped it. Thus Ganga erosion is still going on. Compensation is generally paid for natural disasters like flood, drought, cyclone etc. But the people affected by Ganga erosion are never compensated or rehabilitated Sir, through you I urge upon the concerned minister to pay compensation to and arrange for rehabilitation of the affected persons. Steps should also be taken immediately to arrest erosion. Sir, few days back, some people from Raghunathganj assembly constituency's Giriya area came to me and said that though a little work has been done there, but whenever there is flood, many school buildings and some villages are washed away. So steps must be taken to deal with this problem. Sir kindly look into the matter. Lakhs of people will be benefitted and they will praise you wholeheartedly.

Thank you.