

Seventeenth Loksabha

>

: Regarding soil erosion and instant flood in Assam.

SHRI PRADYUT BORDOLOI (NAWGONG): Sir, I am very constrained to point out and regret to say that due to the apathy, indifference and inaptitude of the Ministry of Jal Shakti, a State like Assam has been continuously suffering as they have not been able to perceive the problem of flood and erosion in totality.

We have been trying to raise this problem again and again for the last couple of years. Almost 40 per cent of the land area of Assam is flood prone. Flood comes and goes away. But the phenomenon which affects Assam is river erosion and that problem of erosion has not been addressed. Assam has lost 4.4 lakh hectares of land to erosion. That is why, we have been trying to draw the attention of the Minister of Jal Shakti and we have been requesting them to address this problem in totality.

We have some suggestions to them. I will just read out those suggestions.

1. Including erosion in the admissible list of calamities for Government assistance under the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF)
2. Adding flood control and management including anti-erosion schemes to the Concurrent List.
3. Reactivate the model draft Bill for flood plain zoning and provide financial assistance especially to populous States to enact the same to facilitate compensation and provisioning of alternative lands to those displaced.

These problems have to be addressed and this is our earnest request. Thank you.