

## **Need to provide immediate relief to the affected families of Samserganj Block in Maldaha Dakshin Constituency**

**SHRI ISHA KHAN CHOUDHURY (MALDAHA DAKSHIN):** Madam, I rise today to bring to your urgent attention the dire situation faced by the residents of Shibpur in Chachanda Gram Panchayat, Samserganj Block, Murshidabad District of my Maldaha Dakshin Lok Sabha constituency.

On the 29<sup>th</sup> of July, ten concrete houses were lost to the river due to the relentless erosion caused by the Ganges. The situation is equally grave in Loharpur village of Pratapganj Gram Panchayat. On the 30<sup>th</sup> of July, erosion began in Loharpur, and many houses now stand perilously close, within 50 meters, to the eroding banks. As a result, 400 families from Samserganj Block have fled their homes, with no place to seek refuge. These displaced families are now facing severe challenges, including lack of shelter, drinking water crisis, and inadequate drainage systems. They need immediate relief.

Given that the Farakka Barrage Authority is controlled by the Government of India and the Farakka Barrage is the primary cause of river erosion caused by the Ganges, I again ask the Ministry of Water Resources to take full responsibility for anti-erosion work along the 120 kms long stretch of the Ganges ? 80Kms downstream into Murshidabad and 40 kms upstream into Malda ? from the Farrakka Barrage. This was the situation under the UPA Government from 2005 onwards. Immediate measures must be taken by the Central Government to prevent further erosion and immediate support must be given to prevent further erosion. The Government should provide immediate relief to the affected families of Samserganj Block, and work on preventing an imminent humanitarian disaster.