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Title: Land erosion caused by rivers in the West Bengal.

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN (MURSHIDABAD): Sir, I would like to raise an important issue. Recently, a severe river bank erosion problem has arisen in seven to eight districts of West Bengal, particularly, Murshidabad, Nadia, Malda, Midnapore, etc. Sir, in the last two decades, lakhs of people have lost their residence. In different parts of these districts of West Bengal, river bank erosion is taking a serious shape.

Mangroves, irrigable land and the cattle-life have all been lost. It is not possible for the State Government of West Bengal to face the problem all alone. There should be proper assistance from the Government of India. Some years ago there was a programme of the Planning Commission; but it has not been implemented. Therefore, I urge upon the Government to take the matter seriously and provide adequate fund to the State Government of West Bengal to tackle this grave situation being faced by the people of the State.