

Title: Need to hand over the unused land under Farakka Barrage Project to the government of West Bengal in various developmental work.

SHRI ABUL HASNAT KHAN (JANGIPUR): During construction of Farakka Barrage project more than forty thousand acres of land was acquired in the district of Murshidabad and Malda in West Bengal. Now the construction work is over. There is no proposal of further construction of any kind. It is observed that few thousand acres of land are lying vacant as unutilised. Out of which hundred acres have already been occupied through unauthorised means. In this situation it will be appropriate to hand over the unutilised plots of lands to the Government of West Bengal from whom those plots of land were originally acquired. West Bengal Government badly needs a good quantum of land for various developmental works *viz.* setting up of medium and small scale industries, State Government office, hospital and rehabilitation programme.

I urge upon the Central Government to come forward with positive approach to hand over the vacant plots of lands in favour of the Government of West Bengal as early as possible.