

Title: Need to set up BSF posts at suitable points to ensure safety of the occupants of `Char lands" created by severe erosion in Murshidabad District, West Bengal.- Laid.

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN (MURSHIDABAD): The erosion caused by the river Padma in Murshidabad District in the State of West Bengal has assumed alarming proportion and brought in a new set of problems to the fore. Not only large tracts of land in several blocks in the district of Murshidabad are being wiped out every year thereby displacing thousands of villagers living in these blocks, but also new tracts of land known in local dialect as `char land" are raised as a result of this disastrous erosion. These `char lands" are mostly growing on the other side of the Padma river which is now flowing deep inside the Indian soil. While the river Padma after causing heavy erosion to our land is flowing along a new tract over our territory, the newly grown `char lands" are going over to Bangladesh, though these should legitimately belong to those people displaced by the capricious river Padma.

It is being increasingly felt necessary that the Government should take immediate steps to set up BSF outfits at suitable points along these `char lands" to ensure occupancy of these newly found lands by the victims of erosion, to protect the cattle and crops reared by these people on these tracts. Most important of all, such posting of BSF camps would serve the purpose of assuring rehabilitation to thousands of houseless and landless people as well as effectively tackling the law and order problem arising out of occupancy of the `char lands" on the other side of the river but very much within our country.