

Title: Need to make comprehensive plan to prevent recurrence of flood at Itahar, Ratua, Kharba and Raiganj in West Bengal.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (RAIGANJ): Raiganj Lok Sabha constituency comprises of three districts of West Bengal, namely, Malda, Uttar Dinajpur and Dakshin Dinajpur.

The below poverty level population mostly among the Muslims, SC, ST and OBC, is at the highest level in this area without broad-gauge railway link between Calcutta and Raiganj. The only lifeline, National Highway No.34, remains pre-occupied with goods and passenger traffic between the North-East and the rest of India. In most places, the road is narrow and in between Nagar Bridge to Main point of Gajole and Itahar, it is so low that during monsoon and flood, it remains under water and the entire road communication gets blocked during this period. Unless the Mahananda division of Malda and the Irrigation Department together with the Water Resource Ministry of the Union Government, make comprehensive proposal to prevent the flood of Itahar, Ratua, Kharba and Raiganj Assembly segments, the entire agro-economic prospect and the rural habitation will be destroyed.