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Title: Erosion caused by river Ganges in West Bengal endangering Railway lines and National Highways.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (HOOGHLY): Sir, the river Ganges has been declared as a national river, and the Ganga Basin Authority has been set up now. As is known to this House – we have raised this matter several times in the past – that erosion of the banks of the Ganges is a major problem for any many parts of the country, particularly the districts like Murshidabad, Nadia Hooghly in West Bengal. It is affecting the railway lines and endangering the National Highways and also the power plants.

Sir, thousands of people are living in uncertainty and leading their life with fear and anxiety. I had seen for myself in my district, in a place called 'Bolaghar', which is a very famous place how people are living with full anxiety and fear throughout night that anything may happen to them because they are residing by the side of the Ganges.

Now that the river Ganges has been declared as a national river and the Ganga Basin Authority has been set up, it is the responsibility of the Central Government to just strengthen the embankment, to engage themselves for re-construction of erosion-prone areas, and also to arrange rehabilitation of these thousands of people who have been affected in these districts. .

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (BANKURA): Sir, we would like to associate with him on this issue.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Okay, please send your slip.