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Title: Regarding need to check dumping of waste and restoration of waterbody named Rani Jhil in Howrah Division of Eastern Railway with a view to prevent the environmental pollution.

SHRI SWADESH CHAKRABORTTY (HOWRAH): Sir, a large water body at Bamungachi (Rani Jhil) under Howrah Division of Eastern Railway used to supply water to steam engines. The water was used also for cleaning of engines and bogies of Howrah Division by Eastern Railway. With the abolition of steam engines, this water body was used for other purposes by the Railways. This water body (Rani Jhil) also used to serve as a reservoir during monsoon and save waterlogging in Bagungachi Railway colony and railway tracks and adjoining locality. The surplus water from this Jhil ran through irrigation canal. Now this Rani Jhil has been turned into a huge dumping ground by the Eastern Railway. The garbage and other wastes are being deposited in this Jhil by the Railway. As a result of loss of this huge catchment area, the railway services are being suspended and the people in the adjoining areas and railway colony are suffering during rainy days due to waterlogging.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to take steps for the restoration of the water body immediately for protecting environment and improving drainage system and save the loss to both Eastern and South Eastern Railways due to suspension of train services.