

SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL (DIBRUGARH): Hon. Speaker Sir, as you know, this flood and erosion problem in the State of Assam is of gigantic magnitude having inter-State and international ramifications that it needs to be recognised as a national problem.

Floods occur during the summer but erosion continues even in the winter. This is the situation in the State of Assam. There is a severe bank erosion by rivers in Assam. The Brahmaputra and its tributaries, especially Buri Dehing river, have been causing widespread erosion of its banks in the past couple of years. Throughout Assam, the Brahmaputra has been consistently eroding its south bank from Rohmaria in the Dibrugarh district up to Dhubri in the Dhubri district. As such, the severe erosion problem deserves national attention, to save lakhs of hectares of rich alluvial farmlands of the Brahmaputra valley.

In this context, a special mention has to be made about the serious erosion problem faced at Rohmaria, Bogibil, Khowang, Dirak, Sumoni, Gujjan-Dinjan of Dibrugarh, Tinsukhia district, Margrehta town, Sesani Hatibandha, Angooribari, Dibrugarh, Moran, Tingtonk, etc.

Sir, it has become necessary to take appropriate measures on a war-footing so as to save civilians, particularly human habitation, cultivable lands, tea-gardens, oil and gas reservoir and rich forestry, as well as Defence property worth thousands of crores of rupees. Unless, the situation is brought under control at Rohmaria, the day may not be far off when the historic 170 years old city of Dibrugarh also faces a bank erosion threat from the river Brahmaputra.

अध्यक्ष महोदय : हाथ उठाने से कुछ नहीं होगा, I have already said that I am considering it to refer it to the Committee of Privileges. You give me a little chance.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (CHANDIGARH): Sir, I have some words to say.