

Title: Need to desilt the Sarasanka Dighi Tank at Dantan in Paschim Midnapore district of West Bengal owing to its utility in enabling promotion of agricultural activities as well as tourism. – Laid.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (MIDNAPORE): There is a large tank popularly known SARASANKA DIGHI at Dantan under Paschim Midnapore district of West Bengal. It is situated at Mouza Sarasanka and Ekmalipur JL No. – 120 and 123. Total area of this tank is roughly 150 acres. This tank is more than five centuries old and is recognized as largest Dighi in the State. It had never been excavated since its formation. Presently, it is almost silted. This huge tank may be used for irrigation works to facilitate more than 1000 acres of lands in the locality. It may be useful for developing horticulture, fishery and other agriculture related purposes. This tank is a sacred place of the pilgrims who used to visit and take bath on the date of Pouse Sankranti. More than three lakhs people join and perform their religious performance on that solemn occasion. This may be developed into a ideal place of tourism. The project for desilting this large tank is urgently needed. It would definitely generate employment at large in the rural area and thousands of youth may be benefited along with the farmers. Hence, I urge upon the Union Government to take up this project under their pilot programme this year as announced in the National Common Minimum Programme.