

**Participants :** [Choudhury Shri ABU Hasem Khan](#)

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Title: Water erosion caused by river Ganga in Malda constituency of West Bengal.

SHRI H. KHAN CHOWDHURY (MALDA): Sir, I, on behalf of the people of Malda, would like to make a representation to the Government about their sufferings caused to erosion and flood of the river Ganges. Over the last 25 years, this river has been flowing through the town of Malda and has, over the period, penetrated 35 kilometers inside the town. Thousands of people have become homeless and landless and have been rendered destitute.

Sir, the responsibility for managing and controlling erosion and flood has been assigned to the State Government of West Bengal. The State Government has repeatedly expressed their inability to manage such a huge task because of financial constraints. When Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi became a Central Minister he initiated certain steps and undertaken certain measures and work was also being done by the State Government of West Bengal. It yielded very good results. But since then nothing has been done.

The Farakka Barrage Authority also did a good job. It is believed that the problem of erosion in Malda takes place owing to Farakka barrage itself. Due to restrictions in the normal flow of water, the engineers believe the erosion is taking place in the area. I think, the Central Government should take over the entire responsibility of repairing and controlling the problem of erosion and flood in that area. The Government of West Bengal has been given the repair work but the methods employed by them are very old fashioned. [\[R19\]](#)

Again, when Shri P.R. Dasmunsi was the Minister, he wanted to have a pilot project with the new technology of geotextiles and geotechnology which are much cheaper and which are of American origin. Unfortunately for us, he was moved to the Ministry which he is now occupying. Also, the Task Force which went from the Government of India also said that geosynthesis and geotextiles may work there to control erosion. I sincerely believe that the Farakka Barrage should be given the entire responsibility of erosion and flood control of that area because they know the position well, they have their own resources and they know the behaviour of River Ganga.

So, I appeal to you to pursue the Central Government to take over the entire responsibility of flood control and erosion control of that area.

MR. SPEAKER: I compliment you for raising this matter.