

Title: Need to take steps for de-silting of Damodar river near Durgapur barrage in West Bengal.

SHRI SUNIL KHAN (DURGAPUR): The Standing Committee of Water Resources Department already visited Durgapur barrage over Damodar River in West Bengal and also other bridge like Farakka. This is my 3rd time to raise this vital issue since, 1996. We witnessed unprecedented flood situation in the year 1978 and 1995 near Durgapur barrage over Damodar River. The tilled land on both the sides of the villages like Jallanpur, Telenda-Purnia-Mana of Mejhia Panchayats Samiti – Kuldiha-Pingrui, Madhavpur, Napara, Pakharna, Tajpur Bara-Mana, Majher Mana, Sitarampur Mana under Baroja Panchayat Samiti and Behari-Mana, Rupai sah of Sonamukhi Panchayat Samiti area of Bankura district in West Bengal were submerged as a result of silt and sand deposited over the land and also in the river. The river lost its capacity to retain sufficient water in rainy season and in lean season to supply water in Kharif Season.

In order to save the tilled land of nearby villages from the flood, there is need for the de-silting of Damodar river and adjoining areas. Further, the level of the road from Mejhia-Jallanpur to Napara by the side of the river needs to be raised keeping in mind the drainage system from the village to river. Also, the bolder setting on the edge of the river needs to be done because the river is on a higher level than road. So, I urge upon the Govt. to take steps for de-silting Damodar River besides setting up an enquiry committee for the withdrawal of Rs. 23 crore from Farakka Barrage repairing fund which has been utilized in another head diverted from Central fund.